

NEWS DEPARTMENT

Death of Ezra Meeker

Ezra Meeker died in Seattle at 4 o'clock on the morning of December 3, 1928. He was born in Huntsville, Ohio, on December 29, 1830. He did not quite reach his desired centennary at which birthday he had planned to round out his writings with one more book. From his writings and from his long sustained efforts to mark the old Oregon Trail, he had become the best known pioneer of the Pacific Northwest. A bibliography of his writings is being prepared. That and a sketch of his life are to be published in the next issue of this Quarterly.

The Oregon Country

The Oregon Society of the Sons of the American Revolution met with such success in its first series of four lectures on the Oregon Country that a second series was scheduled as follows: "The Missions," by George H. Himes, October 11; "The Relations with the Indians," by Colonel W. H. C. Bowen, November 8; "The Scientific Investigators," by B. A. Thaxter, December 13; "The Growth of Agriculture," by J. Neilson Barry, January 10, 1929.

The first series consisted of the following: "The Period of Discovery," by Professor Robert C. Clark; "The Period of Exploration," by Lewis A. McArthur; "The Period of Settlement," by Leslie M. Scott; "The Period of Organization," by Richard W. Montague. The purpose of these lectures is to stimulate interest in American history.

Passing of a Prominent Idaho Pioneer

William S. Lewis, of Spokane, sends news of the death last October of John E. Rees, a pioneer of Idaho since 1877, who had wrought out a remarkably varied career. The *Idaho Statesman*, the *Blackfoot Register*, the *Salt Lake Tribune*, and neighboring papers have been devoting much space to his achievements and his influence as a citizen. He had written much about Idaho and at the time of his death was under contract with a New York publisher to write a complete history of Idaho. He had made