

authors have been able to avoid many of the traditional errors that obtain in textbooks. One might object to the statement that the theology of Luther was substantially like that of Zwingli. Even though individual theological points may be identical, the *Ethos* of each system was quite distinct, which is a very important thing.

HENRY S. LUCAS

---

*The Road to Oregon, a Chronicle of the Great Emigrant Trail.* By W. J. GHENT. (New York: Longmans, Green and Co., April 3, 1929. Pp. 274. \$5.00.)

The author has chosen a title different from the old familiar "Oregon Trail." He justifies the change by devoting a page as a tribute to a worthy soldier, engineer and author—General Hiram M. Chittenden—from whose *American Fur Trade of the Far West* he selects and centers the following brief quotation: "The Santa Fe Trail being first established, a signboard was later set up to show where the Oregon Trail branched off. It bore the simple legend 'Road to Oregon.' . . . Surely so unostentatious a sign never before nor since announced so long a journey."

In the Introduction, the author makes this statement: "The sources for the present work are largely the journals and travel-books of the trapper era (which over a period of many years has been a favorite field of the author's) and the diaries and reminiscences of the emigrants published in the *Transactions* of the Oregon Pioneer Associations, the *Quarterly* of the Oregon Historical Society, the *Washington Historical Quarterly* and various California publications." He mentions other sources and expresses gratitude for aid extended by other experts in the field.

Mr. Ghent came to this present task by way of work as a printer, editor and contributor to newspapers and magazines. He is now on the staff of the *Dictionary of American Biography*, Washington, D.C.

*The Road to Oregon* is by far the most comprehensive and authentic work yet published on the subject. The history involved is briefly but adequately indicated. The Trail is carefully followed throughout and a most helpful map faces page 8. The numerous illustrations include reprints of rare old pictures as well as others of the present time. An appendix, "Monuments and Markers," gives an opportunity to trace the activities of Ezra Meeker and others who have devoted faithful years to identifying and marking the old Trail. Now that Mr. Meeker has passed away, this book may stimulate others to assume the responsibility of placing more

markers until the historic old Oregon Trail shall be thoroughly and permanently marked from beginning to end.

EDMOND S. MEANY

---

*National Park Service.* By STEPHEN T. MATHER, Director.  
(Washington: Government Printing Office, 1928. Pp. 33.)

As shown the report is a very slender one. The information is mostly compacted into tables of statistics. Table 6 shows the visitors to National Parks from 1913 to 1928. Mount Rainier National Park is shown to have developed from 13,501 visitors in 1913 to a total of 219,531 in 1928. In the brief narrative portion devoted to Mount Rainier National Park is found the following paragraph:

"The entire north side of the park covering about one-third of the total area, and three alpine park areas in the southwestern portion, have been designated 'roadless areas,' to remain free of road, hotel, pay camp, and other commercial developments, but open to hikers and horse travel. The areas so designated, together with the large central area to which it is practically impossible to build roads, definitely insure approximately 70 per cent of the total area of Mount Rainier National Park remaining accessible only to hikers or horse travel."

A great wave of opinion is now spreading over the country to save in our national parks portions in their wild or natural beauty. Such parts have been advocated under the term "wilderness areas." Perhaps the new term "roadless areas" will prove more effective.

---

*Universal Indian Sign Language.* By WILLIAM TOMKINS. . (San Diego: The Author, c1927. Pp. 96. Paper, \$1.00; Buckram, \$2.00.)

While appearing without imprint date, this edition is an enlargement and revision of the first printing which was noted in this *Quarterly* for January, 1927. The number of pages has been increased from 77 to 96 and the explanation of signs has been simplified and improved.

---

*Proceedings of the Nineteenth Annual Conference of the Pacific Northwest Library Association, August 30, 31 and September 1, 1928.* (Longview, Washington: The Association, 1929. Pp. 146.)

This volume recording the Proceedings of the Nineteenth Annual Conference was prepared by the retiring Secretary, Miss Helen Johns. In addition to the usual lists of officers, members, etc. and