

be readily used by the student of folktales for his knowledge of the field shows him what to eliminate. For the non-scientist they give some conception of a people whose culture has practically vanished.

ERNA GUNTHER

Utah and the Nation. By LELAND HARGRAVE CREER. (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1929. Pp. 275. \$3.00.)

The author is Assistant Professor of History in the University of Washington. His monograph deals with the relations between the Federal authorities and the people of Utah from the call of the Mormon Battalion in the Mexican War to the establishment of a daily overland mail, expressed in year—1846 to 1861. While it is another study of the American frontier, the author is fully aware that Utah has been different from most of the other frontier communities. He says in his preface:

“On the other hand, there was much in Utah that was unique. Here we have a state that grew directly out of the founding of a new religion. So different from anything that had heretofore been known was that religion in its practices and pretensions that it was difficult for any who came in contact with the Mormons to become reconciled to them or to their creed. Hence, there developed a deep-seated prejudice against the Mormons which grew in intensity as their numbers increased and their influence became greater. This prejudice was early acquired by some of the non-Mormon federal officials of Utah. It is not unnatural, therefore, to find the relations between these unsympathetic officials and the Mormons, during this period, highly controversial and complicated.”

Such frankness does credit to Professor Creer and it appears to the present reviewer that he has gone forward with his difficult task in a spirit of commendable fairness and industry. In addition to Federal documents, Utah Territorial documents, newspapers, periodicals and other published materials, he had access to extensive Mormon Church manuscripts and forty-five manuscript documents in the Bancroft Library at the University of California. It seems unlikely that any important source has been overlooked.

The scope and thoroughness of the work may be judged from the titles of the twelve chapters as follows: “The Birth and Growth of Mormonism (1820-1846),” “The Great Basin Before the Coming of the Mormons,” “The Mormon Battalion,” “The State of Deseret,” “The Establishment of the Territory,” “The Administra-

tion of Brigham Young," "An Impending Crisis," "The Utah War," "Investigation and Reconciliation," "Federal Indian Policy," "The Mountain Meadow Massacre," "Utah and the Overland Mail."

While the main work has to do with the span of years, 1846-1861, those dates are not restrictive. The first two chapters are introductory and go back as far as 1776 and references are also made to statehood in 1896. Anyone wishing to verify the author's fairness should read Chapter XI, "The Mountain Meadows Massacre." Great controversy has characterized this subject in many discussions yet Professor Creer has calmly related the details of the tragic event without bias.

That all the Federal affairs were not prejudiced against the Mormons is shown by an incident related on pages 109-110. Owing to reports received and also to the official announcement of the Church in 1852 respecting the doctrine and practice of polygamy, there was a strong feeling in the National Capital that a non-Mormon should be appointed to succeed Brigham Young as Territorial Governor of Utah. It was then that President Pierce offered the office to Colonel E. J. Steptoe, who had arrived with his command at Salt Lake City, August 31, 1854, enroute for California. Professor Creer says: "Knowing, however, that Governor Young was the people's choice, the colonel refused to accept the nomination and joined with all the federal appointees, the officers of his command and all prominent citizens of the Territory in requesting President Pierce to reappoint Brigham Young Governor and Superintendent of Indian Affairs. The President responded by continuing the Mormon leader in office for a second term."

Soon after the above experience in Utah Colonel Edward Jevn Steptoe made a permanent place for himself in the history of Washington Territory. On October 27, 1856, he wrote to his sister: "Do you know where this place is? Look up the Columbia River on the map till you see its tributary, the Walla Walla, and on this latter 'The Mission.' About five miles above the last place I am erecting a Post." That was the real beginning of the City of Walla Walla, famous as the "Garden City" of Southeastern Washington. In its earliest days it was called "Steptoeville" or "Steptoe City." On May 17, 1858, Colonel Steptoe with one hundred and thirty dragoons suffered defeat from a superior force of Indians in a battle near the present City of Rosalia. The landscape in that vicinity was dominated by Pyramid Peak. That name was changed to Steptoe Butte and the Indian engagement has since been known

as the Battle of Steptoe Butte. There are also a town and a creek in Whitman County and rapids in Snake River bearing the name of Steptoe. It is fortunate that Professor Creer's graceful tribute to a generous act in Utah should call attention to an officer so effective on another portion of America's frontier.

EDMOND S. MEANY

The Story of the Red Man. By FLORA WARREN SEYMOUR. (New York: Longmans, Green and Company, 1929. Pp. 421. \$5.00).

Mrs. Seymour has undertaken an enormous work to treat in one volume a complete *Story of the Red Man*. She begins with "Los Indios!" as an exclamation by Columbus and ends with a Memorial Day celebration at the small Swinomish Reservation on the shores of Puget Sound. In between are her twenty compact and informative chapters. The publishers are confident. They say: "The race epic of the American Indian is told here for the first time. Here also is a new history of America, for our pageant of pioneering has never before been presented as it appeared to the Red Man."

Local readers will be especially interested in Chapter XI, "Oregon Country." It is a charming segment of the "pageant" from Lewis and Clark to Marcus Whitman and Peter Skene Ogden. If one be disappointed about the amount of information pertaining to the numerous tribes in the Oregon Country, he cannot complain about the quality. Mrs. Seymour has written other books about Indians and frontiersmen. She was appointed in 1922 a member of the Board of Indian Commissioners.

The publishers have given the work a beautiful format. There are thirty-one illustrations and twelve maps. The bibliographical notes and a copious index are valuable adjuncts.

History of Early Common School Education in Washington. By THOMAS WILLIAM BIBB. (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1929. Pp. 154. \$1.50).

This thesis submitted in candidacy for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy shows an extensive and painstaking amount of research. The word "Early" in the title means that the work begins with Indians, fur traders, missionaries and settlers and progresses with the first struggles for schools. The record ends with the admission of Washington to statehood in 1889. The bibliography reflects Professor Bibb's great industry in gathering his materials from about every possible source. He has blazed the way and set a rather