

Northwest Americana. The author was the engineer of the famous Columbia River Highway. Here is the record of its wonderful beauty. Among the illustrations is a full-page comparison of the Vendome Column and the Astoria Column, dedicated by the Great North Railway Company during its Columbia River Historical Expedition in 1926.

Our Sea Saga, The Wood Wind Ships. Edited by EDMOND OGDEN SAWYER, JR. (San Francisco: The Editor, 1929. Pp. 225. \$5.00).

Mr. Sawyer disclaims being an author, saying that he is in the trade paper field. He has had extensive newspaper experience on the Pacific Coast from Alaska to California. He was assistant editor of the *Seattle Star* in 1913-1914. The dedicatory page says: "To Miller Freeman. In other days you were part of our sea saga."

Mr. Sawyer regrets the decadence of the American merchant marine since the days of the Civil War. He hopes the young men and boys may again put out to sea. In a letter he says: "If this book tends to engender a little interest in the thought that we should maintain a position on the high seas comparable to our place in world commerce and manufacturing, it will have achieved its purpose."

The book may go far in that desired direction. It is profusely illustrated with pictures of ships and of seagoing men. The style is clear and direct. There is a copious index. Another advantage is its timeliness while nations are holding conferences to limit sea power.

Last Days of Sail on the West Coast. By WALTER MACARTHUR. (San Francisco: The Author, 1929. Pp. 138).

The colored frontispiece and photographic illustrations with added tables of many sailing craft are attractive features of this interesting record of San Francisco harbor. The last pages are devoted to Amundsen's sloop *Gjoa*, which will win favor in the Puget Sound region where the memory of Roald Amundsen, the great son of Norway, is held in high esteem.

Frontiers, the Genius of American Nationality. By ARCHER BUTLER HULBERT. (Boston: Little, Brown, and Company, 1929. Pp. 266. \$3.00 net).

Professor Hulbert has had an unusual preparation for work such as he has packed into these pages. He has traveled hundreds

of thousands of miles throughout the Republic and has published such works as *Historic Highways of America*, *The Making of the American Republic*, *Transcontinental Trails* and others. In this present book he spurns "preface" and "foreword" but in what he calls "Note" he quotes from Washington "Be a nation; be American and be true to yourselves." He then uses those three phrases as the titles to the three parts of his book. He seeks to analyze and interpret the frontiers, physical, commercial and spiritual, the conquest of which has made America. The spirit of the work is shown by a prominently placed quotation from Thoreau:

"The frontiers are not east or west, north or south, but wherever a man fronts a fact."

He treats the successive frontiers of the West (pages 127-128) and on page 165 is found the following: "No railway of the present bears the same strategical relationship to the Alleghenies that Nema-colin's Path once bore, nor one which singly serves so great a section as once did the Oregon Trail."

It is a useful book and carries a satisfactory index.

Vernon Louis Parrington, American Scholar. By JOSEPH B. HARRISON. (Seattle: University of Washington Book Store, 1929. Pp. 32. \$0.65.)

Friends and admirers of Professor Parrington will rejoice over the prompt appearance of this fine tribute to his memory in the choice series known as University of Washington Chapbooks, founded by a colleague, Professor Glenn Hughes, and held in high esteem by Professor Parrington. In fact he was the author of Number 5 in the series. It bore the title of *Sinclair Lewis: Our Own Diogenes*. Professor Harrison is also a watchful friend of the Chapbooks. He was the author of the first issue: *A Short View of Menckanism—In Menckenesese*.

In this present issue Professor Harrison has thrown his own soul into the attempt to evaluate the life and purposes of his colleague and friend. At the beginning is reproduced Professor Parrington's beautiful, self-revealing poem entitled: "Apologia Pro Vita Mea." Professor Harrison says: "No one who knew Vernon Louis Parrington well enough to write about him can do so without feeling the kindly restraint of his humorous eye upon the page. He was not a man who would have indulged very seriously any ambitious eulogy of himself or his work." In that vein follows the cordial and appreciative record of a notable career.