

Montana and the two Dakotas. The Lewis and Clark Expedition is well treated in Chapter VIII, where Jefferson's enthusiasm for the West is shown. He begins his tribute to California with: "The most attractive of all the sirens which lured wandering souls across the plains to the Far West was California." Readers in Washington will forgive the slight attention to the Evergreen State on account of the richness of the general theme.

The Great Crusade and After, 1914-1928. By PRESTON WILLIAM SLOSSON. (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1930. Pp. 486. \$5.00.)

The author, Preston W. Slosson, is Associate Professor of History in the University of Michigan. The book has a blurb title, "A History of America Since 1914." It is edited by Professor Arthur M. Schlesinger of Harvard and Professor Dixon Ryan Fox of Columbia who furnish a foreword and the remarkable series of eighteen illustrations.. Chapter XIV, "Science, Mistress and Handmaid" was written by Dr. Edwin E. Slosson, famous father of the author. The rest of the book is by Professor Preston W. Slosson.

The task is approached with a full realization of the difficulties and skepticism always associated with contemporaneous history, thought by some to be a contradiction of terms. Readers of this book will agree that the author has gathered materials and treated them with a spirit of detachment quite as efficiently as if he were seeking to evaluate letters, diaries, documents and newspapers of an earlier period of American history. As the editors declare, "the readers of this volume, for the most part, will have the engaging opportunity to see themselves as the data of history."

Surprise will be instant for those who follow these pages and learn the startling changes in science, business, sport, charity and social welfare work that have surged through sixteen years of American life.

The scientific method is well revealed by the chapter, "The Ways of Prosperity" and its illustration facing page 170, drawings that show the value of hospital property in 1916 as \$1,000,000,000 and in 1926, \$4,000,000,000; gifts to education in 1916, \$37,095,290, and in 1926, \$126,873,032; annual expenditures on churches, \$329,008,995 in 1916 and \$814,371,995 in 1926.

The author's style and open-eyed logic are set forth in his opening sentences: "In counting the annual rings that tell the life story of a fallen tree the forester can sometimes distinguish narrow,

crowded lines that testify to years of stress and drought. If trees had memory we can be sure that they would reckon events as they befell before or after the 'hard times.' The World War of 1914-18 marked five such bands of waste and suffering across the life of nearly every nation in the world. No other recorded human disaster, not even the Black Death of the fourteenth century, so intimately touched each race of mankind or created so general a brotherhood or suffering.* * * For America, as for Europe, it closed one age and began another."

The Governor and Company of Adventurers of England Trading into Hudson's Bay. By ROBERT WATSON. (Winnipeg, Manitoba: 1930. Pp. 30.)

The author, Robert Watson, is editor of *The Beaver*, a quarterly published in the interest of those who serve the Hudson's Bay Company. In this little pamphlet he has compressed an account of the greatest trading company on the American hemisphere, from its royal charter in 1670. It is a marvel of condensation. One of the choice bits is the following: "The Hudson's Bay Company motto, *Pro Pelle Cutem*, is supposed to signify, in simple language, 'skin for skin.' In other words, 'the trader risks his skin in procuring the animals' hides.'" The last page contains a helpful list of the twenty-nine Governors who have served the Company from His Highness Prince Rupert, 1670-1682 to Charles Vincent Sale, 1925 to the present.

The Pacific Basin. By GORDON L. WOOD. (Oxford: The Clarendon Press, 1930. Pp. 340. \$4.50.)

The author is an Australian economic geographer. Naturally, he gives the geographic background and then endeavors to describe the economic and other problems of each of the Pacific communities. The scope can best be visualized by the titles of the eight divisions of the book as follows: "The Pacific Environment: A General Survey," "Malaysia and the East Indies," "Australia," "New Zealand," "The Pacific Islands," "Asia," "North America," and "South America."

Many readers of this *Quarterly* have a maritime outlook. Such a book as *The Pacific Basin* will make a natural appeal to them, but each such reader will promptly test the author's capacity by judging the chapters embraced in "Part VII., North America." Again their prefatory vision will be aided by the author's titles. The