

The Eagle's Gift is a collection of folk tales, gathered by Mr. Rasmussen among the Alaska Eskimos, during his 1921-1924 expedition across Arctic America. In his preface, Mr. Rasmussen explains his interest in the stories and how he came to know them, in itself an interesting revelation of Eskimo customs and point of view. It is sad to realize that the influence of the white man's civilization and educational ideas have caused these stories to be scorned by the younger generation and remembered now only by the aged. Consequently, in collecting these tales, Mr. Rasmussen has preserved at least a part of a literature which is on the verge of extinction.

And the stories are worthy of preservation. One has a vivid sense of the beginning of all things, a feeling of solitude and desolation; then comes the eagle's gift of joy which brings human beings together, the first feast house, the beginning of barter, in the age when men and animals were still able to assume any shape they desired. Especially interesting is the series of stories about Wander-Hawk, a hero possessed of great magic, the doer of marvelous deeds and the center of wonderful adventures.

This collection, first published in Danish, was translated into English by Isobel Hutchinson, and illustrated by Ernst Hansen, both of whom know Eskimo life and custom at first hand. Careful co-operation has resulted in a book of unique distinction.

Another recent collection of folk tales is that of Warren E. Crane, called *Totem Tales*. These are stories found among the Indians of the Northwest. They are short, simply told, and adapted for children, mainly about animals, and often humorous in situation.

For children of the Northwest, there is also a book of true stories, called *Redskins and Pioneers*, written by Mr. J. N. Barry, Oregon historian, and Mr. H. M. Barr, of the Portland Public Schools. Grandfather Scott tells stories of the early days of Oregon and Washington to his grandson who has an intense interest in these truly thrilling, often moving stories of hardship and courage. The style is simple and conversational. At the end of each chapter there are references to the adult historical books from which the incidents are taken.

SIRI ANDREWS.

Early Catholic Missions in Old Oregon, Volume II. Edited by CLARENCE B. BAGLEY. (Seattle: Lowman and Hanford Company, 1932. Pp. 122. \$5.00.)

Volume I of the set contains reprints of two rare early narra-

tives of Catholic Missions. The present and concluding volume contains a translation into the English language of the rare *Notice sur le Territoire et sur la Mission de l'Oregon* (Bruxelles, 1847). The work comprises a valuable sketch of Catholic missions in the Old Oregon country, together with several letters of the Sisters of Notre Dame established at St. Paul on the Willamette, and an explanation of the "Catholic Ladder."

For the benefit of students who do not have access to the original edition, attention is called to the omission of the map opposite page 64 of the French text, and to the addition of occasional footnotes supplied by the translator. It should be noted also that in place of the "Explication de L'Echelle Catholique" of the original there has been included an explanation of "The Catholic Ladder" by Clarence B. Bagley, as first published in his *In the Beginning* (Seattle, Lowman and Hanford, 1905), together with a folded plate reproduction of the "Ladder" itself. Mr. Bagley's explanation of the use of the "Ladder" follows in part the "Explication" of the *Notice* but follows much more closely the superior account in F. N. Blanchet's *The Key to the Catholic Ladder* (New York, Strong, 1859).

Credit is due to Sister Daniels of St. Vincent's Home, Seattle, for the faithful smoothly flowing translation. The publishers have supplied good paper, excellent typography, and an attractive binding with cloth back and paper labels to match the first volume. We now have in modern form and dress three rare source items of Northwest history, that have hitherto been almost inaccessible. The publication of these two volumes brings to a fitting close the literary labors of the late Clarence B. Bagley.

CHARLES W. SMITH.

Snow Sentinels of the Pacific Northwest. By JOSEPH T. HAZARD.
(Seattle: Lowman and Hanford, 1932. Pp. 249. \$3.00.)

A member of the Mountaineers for about twenty years, with a distinctly enviable record as a climber and leader of climbing parties, Joseph T. Hazard is well qualified to give us a book on the exploration of the great snow covered peaks of the Pacific Northwest. This attractive volume is divided into nine parts. These deal with the Cascade Trail and the eight peaks—Olympus, Garibaldi, Baker, Glacier, Rainier, St. Helens, Adams and Hood.

Against an adequate historical background, Mr. Hazard has given us good descriptions of the scenic beauties of the various peaks and the country surrounding each, together with many prac-