

would have added one more element to this literary monument he has reared to his fame.

EDMOND S. MEANY,

Giants and Ghosts of Central Europe. By DAVID W. HAZEN.
(Portland, Oregon: Metropolitan Press, 1933. Pp. 197. \$2.00.)

The next best thing to visiting Central Europe in person is to visit it vicariously in this charming book. Mr. Hazen has given us a little volume brimful of humor, urbanity, and acute perception. The author, whether he tells of an interview with some great personage or of a Viennese barber shop, is often wise and always interesting. Some of the chapter headings give an inkling of the sprightly methods of Mr. Hazen—"Danzig: its future behind it," "Vienna: city of girls and ghosts," "Pilsen and its Bubbles," "Berlin: busy but not bizarre," "Twin Evils—Tipping and Soup."

The reviewer understands that Mr. Hazen is a reporter and therefore a trained observer. He can well believe it. Perhaps no one but a highly skilled reporter could have written this book with its vivid accounts of interviews, both casual and otherwise, and its delightful treatment of what in less skillful hands would be humdrum and commonplace.

C. EDEN QUAINTON.

Bethel and Aurora. By ROBERT J. HENDRICKS. (New York: The Press of the Pioneers, 1933. Pp. 324.)

This is an unusual book. The title page carries this additional phrase: "An experiment in communism as practical Christianity with some account of past and present ventures in collective living." The author dates his foreword at Salem, Oregon, July 15, 1933. Charles H. Carey, President of the Oregon Historical Society, in an appreciation says: "The true story of the successful Aurora cooperative colony, spiced, as this narrative is, with revealing imaginary conversations and incidents, introduces a new figure in American history. Dr. William Keil had rare qualities of leadership. He was a dictator, but his unquestioned control rested upon confidence and love, and not upon force."

The frontispiece is a portrait of Doctor Keil and he is easily the reason for the record and the book. Two other outstanding characters are John A. Roebing, genius of the Brooklyn bridge, and his sweetheart, Helena Geisy.

The preachers and leaders founded a cooperative colony at

Bethel, Missouri, but later decided to move on to Oregon, the date of starting being fixed at Wednesday, May 23, 1855. Doctor Keil's son, Willie, became ill and yet received the promise that he would go with the party. He died and the faithful father, always true to his promises, had a coffin lined with lead and filled with alcohol, in which he placed the body of his beloved boy. On page 53 we read: "And it was the strangest if not the only hearse that ever crossed the plains. It led the first and only covered wagon funeral train among all the plodding caravans which made that hard journey of over two thousand weary miles."

The story of the community at Aurora, Oregon, is followed by discussions of other efforts like "Sir Thomas Moore's Utopia."

History of the Pacific Coast. By JOHN WALTON CAUGHEY. (Los Angeles: The Author, 1933. Pp. 429.)

The author is Assistant Professor of History at the University of California at Los Angeles. While the title page shows him as publisher, the book was printed at the Lancaster Press, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. The dedication reads: "To my father and mother, Rudolph Weyerhauser Caughey and Emily Walton Caughey, in appreciation."

That the author senses the great scope of his purpose is revealed in the first sentence of his preface: "This book is the first attempt to relate the history of the entire Pacific Coast of North America." There is plenty of evidence of good hard work, especially in the portions dealing with California, where the book will undoubtedly receive its best welcome.

Chapter XXI, beginning at page 345, is entitled "The American Northwest Since 1846." The opening sentence: "Discovery of California's gold cost Oregon the leadership of the American West," is a well known fact but it ought not to result in the seeming unbalance of this book. At the foot of that same page is a table of census figures showing steady increases from 1850 to 1930 in both California and the Northwest (Washington, Oregon and Idaho). California, including the great growth of the last decade, has 5,677,251 in 1930, and the Northwest, 2,962,214. From the sheer force of population the Northwest ought to have had one-third of the book's space.

On page 357 is this statement: "The port, lumber, and salmon have been the principal factors in making Seattle the metropolis of the Northwest." It is a pity that the recognition of such a fact did not lead the author to fuller treatment of the Puget Sound region.