

labor, for it was necessary, when attempting to recount the entire procedure of each burial, to quote from several narratives, and then a vast number of records left by early missionaries and explorers were utilized.      ELINOR K. FORD

*Petroleum and Natural Gas in Indiana.* By W. N. LOGAN, State Geologist, Published by the Department of Conservation, State of Indiana, Division of Geology, 1920, pp. 279.

This is a technical handbook of the oil and gas industries, so far as they are affected by the science of geology. There is no attempt to advertise the resources of the state beyond what is shown in a scientific study of its geology. On the other hand, it is hoped that such a report will tend to restrain the drilling of wells where geological conditions warrant no hope of success. It is doubtful if enough money has been made in the oil and gas industry to pay for drilling the wells. Chapter one is a caution to the "wild cat" prospectors who rouse excitement in a community, raise ten to twenty thousand dollars, waste it in drilling a dry hole and pass on to grill another community. There follows a discussion of the properties and origin of gas and petroleum. Chapters follow on the geologic structures favorable to gas and oil and the best methods of prospecting. The body of the report is taken up with a description of structure and the development of the industry in each county. Records of one or more wells are given for each county, showing depth of each stratum. Sixty-three maps and diagrams, including five folding maps, illustrate the report.

*A Short History of the Great War Dealing Particularly With Its Military and Diplomatic Aspects, and the Part Played in it by the United States,* by WILLIAM L. MCPHERSON, Military Critic of the New York Tribune. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1920, pp. 410.

Anyone wishing to secure a readable history of the military operations of the great war, probably cannot do better than to read this short history. It is not a book setting forth the stratagems of the war, but rather one setting forth a fairly "clear and accurate running account of the war's origin and progress." The chronological form of treatment has been

more or less closely followed, and while the work cannot be considered valuable as a prolonged narrative; as an epigrammatic "outline story" of the war it deserves credit.

Whether this history or any of its contemporaries will remain important as historical statements after four or five years have passed, cannot as yet be foretold. Not only will our judgment as to many important factors be changed by growing viewpoints concerning the Balkan situation, economic phases, et cetera, but there will be revelations, both official and personal, that will modify many statements made immediately following the war's close; for instance, the change of administration either in England or the United States would perhaps clarify our vision of the underlying causes both for the beginning and end of the conflict.

There are many matters which are omitted, or mentioned with very little reference—no doubt intentionally—which seem to me to be of great significance in regard to the diplomatic phase of the war, such as the Zimmerman note to Mexico, exit of Dr. Dumba, and the real story of peace negotiations conducted in Switzerland in 1917-18.

This short history relating chiefly to the military facts of the world war contains forty-two rather concise chapters each of which deals with some significant phase. While those phases which are discussed are ably handled, and while some are by their very nature excluded, others such as the diplomatic phases seem to be greatly underestimated.

The least complete part of the history is that which tells of America's participation in the struggle. Only ten pages are devoted to the actual participation, three of which are given over to a complete statement of President Wilson's Fourteen Points. Possibly it was very well that the author chose to speak but briefly of the part played by the United States, for a fuller expression of America's part could have been given only at the risk of seeming partisan. That he kept close to his idea of a "running account" is to be greatly commended.

Up to this time there is probably no other history of this kind which will give to the reader a more comprehensive view of the military tactics and operations, and their natural linking together. Although the results which this book accom-

plishes in the way of new light are negligible, yet as regards the interlacement and significance of military and diplomatic affairs and their final outcome it can be recommended.

JAMES L. GOFF

*The Old Northwest*, by FREDERICK AUSTIN OGG, Professor of Political Science at the University of Wisconsin. Vol. 19 of the *Chronicles of America Series*, edited by Allen Johnson, New Haven: Yale University Press, 1919.)

This volume of Mr. Ogg's presents a most interesting account of the general history of the Northwest covering the period from 1760, the fall of Montreal, to 1849, when Minnesota, the last of five commonwealths, was given territorial organization.

The difficulties that beset the early settlers in their control of the Ohio valley and beyond are graphically portrayed. Especially vivid is the full account of the early relations of white men and red men, to which fully one-half of the book is devoted. The entire book reflects the life and spirit of the people. Chapter seven is especially rich with this information. Not only does Mr. Ogg give us here an intimate acquaintance with their mode of living and thinking, but we can readily appreciate the dangers and anxiety with which life on the frontiers are filled. An excellent account is given of the migration to the west which even the wretched facilities of transportation could not restrict. Emphasis is placed on the consequent great divergencies which grew up among the settlers. And, says Ogg, "Nowhere else was the road for talent so wide open, entirely irrespective of inheritance, possessions, education, environment. Nowhere outside of the trans-Alleghany country would the rise of a Lincoln have been possible."

The narration is lucid, vivid, and interesting. The progress of the Old Northwest in losing its frontier character—first the Ohio country and later the upper Mississippi country—and the ultimate attainment of statehood is the theme of the book. The work is admirably done.

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