The Frontier: Comparative Studies

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tucky rifle, or how a trapper takes a wife. The book goes beyond the usual topics to the everyday life of the pioneers. The work is further supplemented with excellent color illustrations, firsthand quotations, anecdotes, and newspaper accounts. A real credit to Reader’s Digest.


The third in a series of books about the “Authentic” Wild West the book contains 250 rare and heretofore unpublished photographs and documents which strip away much of the legend surrounding the outlaws of such fame as Jesse James and Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid.


The name Robert Redford is associated with movie acting, but in this, his first book, Redford shows his ability as a writer. Redford, who lives in Utah, has always been active in conservation of our natural environment. In this handsome volume, he shows his fascination with the West—its past and its future. He retraces the Outlaw Trail through Wyoming, Colorado, and Utah. He presents vivid images of the legendary outlaws—Butch Cassidy, Calamity Jane, etc. Yet he speaks to modern day men and women who tell of their concern for what the future holds for the land they love. This is Redford’s personal testimony to the dying of the Old West and his attempt to call attention to the beauty of the West he has come to dearly love. A provocative work and one that merits careful reading by historians, conservationists, and those interested in the West.

*Wheels West 1590-1900.* By Richard Dunlop. Foreword by Ray Allen Billington. (Chicago: Rand McNally and Company, 1977. 197 pp., illus., bibliography, index, $16.95.)

The author, an avid backpacker and nature-lover, describes the importance of the wheeled vehicle in the westward movement from Conestogas, handcarts, freight wagons, to buckboards, buggies, and the iron horse. The text is supplemented by numerous illustrations.

This book is part of an on-going interdisciplinary program of comparative frontier studies at the University of Oklahoma and contains essays on topics ranging from frontier demography and methodology to archaeological perspectives on social change.

*Great North American Indians, Profiles in Life and Leadership.* By Frederick J. Dockstader. (New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1977. 386 pp., illus., bibliography, index, $16.95.)

Three hundred Indian leaders are included and woven into the context of their time to provide more than biographies—presents a history of the total Indian experience. Emphasis is upon the lesser known individuals—those leaders in the social, medical, artistic aspects of Indian life as well as the political.


The second volume in the Studies in Mormon History Series, edited by James B. Allen, this book tells the story of the Deseret News (founded in 1850) and its importance as the mouthpiece of the early Mormon church. It was one of the first newspapers established in the Far West and "the first successful religious daily" in the English language.


An interesting collection of 17 essays about such Middle Border writers as Rølvaag, Garland, Manfred, and Cather.

*Wilderness Calling: The Hardeman Family in the American Westward Movement, 1750-1900.* By Nicholas Hardeman. (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1977. 357 pp., illus., maps, bibliography, index, $14.95.)

Three generations of a Tennessee family representing 150 years are presented in their trek westward. An excellent example of what can be done with family history using the method of oral tradition and cultural transmittal.