

BOOK REVIEW

THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST—John Wiley and Sons, New York, 1942.

Editors, Otis W. Freeman and Howard H. Martin

For the first time a thorough-going book on the resources of the Pacific Northwest is available to educators and laymen. This new book is the product of 30 specialists in the fields of resources, all of whom are living and working in the Northwest. The contributions of these thirty were integrated into a usable volume by the two-man editorial committee, both men being well known for their individual contributions to geographic study of the Pacific Northwest Region. While each chapter is a unit in itself, it is also a block in the pattern of resource information, making the new book a comprehensive account of our western region.

The book is interesting to read just for enjoyment. It opens with a chapter on Indian life of the Pacific Northwest, which upon reading stimulates interest in knowing more about the early inhabitants of our present home land. The second chapter takes up the early pioneers. While this book is essentially geographic in point of view, it is an excellent example of the fact that the history, the geography, the geology, the economics, the sociology, and to some extent the psychology of Northwest development cannot be separated when the complete story of our land is told.

542 pages contain a great store of verified data regarding the resources of the western states, something of western Canada and Alaska. In addition to the page content, there is tucked in a handy pocket on the back cover of the book a landform map three feet by two feet. This map helps to visualize some of the chapters which discuss the great variation in topography found in the Pacific Northwest.

An outstanding feature of the book is the large number of up-to-date pictures, diagrams, charts and small maps which illuminate the written discussion. The pictures are not just fillers to catch the eye, but are genuinely a part of the book.

This book is of value to several groups of people. It will be used extensively by college teachers and students, by planning councils and other social research groups. The book should be in every school library as a source reference. It should be easily available for elementary teachers to use for their reference in gathering suitable materials for study of conservation, the life of western people, the development of our own state and many other similar topics.

There is a complete indexing of materials which greatly helps in finding specific items. Following each chapter is a selected list of usable references, most of which can be found in the libraries of the Northwest.

The Pacific Northwest will be of great value in the study of the history of the State of Washington, as now required by law in our state.

The writing of this book was aided by a grant from the Trustees of the Northwest Regional Council and the contributions of the thirty resource specialists were made as a professional service for educators and others interested in the great Northwest. Members of the Northwest Scientific Association who contributed to the volume are: C. E. Deardorff, O. W. Freeman, A. L. Hafenrichter, C. S. Kingston, H. F. Raup, H. H. Rhodes, W. A. Rockie, R. M. Shaw, J. B. Appleton, E. T. Hodge, W. B. Merriam, W. D. Smith, S. N. Wyckoff, and J. D. Forrester.

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