BOOK NOTES


This volume of the Old West Series is beautifully illustrated and interestingly written. From the frontispiece, an illustration of a tattered Lone Star flag, to the final photographic essay on the importance of cotton, this handsome book concentrates as does no other volume on Anglo-Texas from colonization through first statehood. No library of Texana will be complete without this book.


*Fires and Firemen of Nacogdoches* is an interesting and valuable contribution to the social history of the community on which it concentrates, but since it deals with a fundamental problem of all communities, it should prove of interest to others as well. The book consists of a narrative of fire fighting, a list of individuals engaged in the fighting for many years, and accounts of local fires gleaned from newspaper accounts. There are several illustrations, and the book is affectionately and appropriately dedicated to retired chief Delbert Teutsch.


A book collector's attempt to make information in his personal library of Texana more accessible is now available nearly a century after it was prepared in this facsimile edition of the original manuscript. The 332-page edition includes nearly 2,000 topics and provides assistance in locating information in a long list of nineteenth century publications. It may be purchased from the Archives Division, Texas State Library, Box 12927/Capitol Station, Austin, 78711.


This is the third volume of a projected ten volume series covering the colonial efforts of Sterling C. Robertson in Texas. "The Nashville Colony" covers the period from October, 1826 to April, 1830, when the Mexican government attempted to curtail Anglo settlement in Texas. It features the rivalry between Stephen F. Austin's colony and what eventually became Robertson's colony. It contains an introduction for the general reader, a calendar summarizing each document, and texts of each original document presented.


This is the tenth volume of the Webb Memorial Lectures, and the essays concentrate on the man himself, revealing his influence on later scholarship. Frantz discusses Webb's southern origins, Rundell recounts his early schoolteaching days, Hollon examines his arid-land thesis, and Jackson relates Webb's ideas to other historian's viewpoints on
their frontiers. Wolfski assesses the changes that have occurred in international law since the discovery of the New World and shows how they were affected by what Webb called the “great frontier.”


This volume was compiled to accompany an exhibition that was an “... eloquent testimony to the continuing vigor of American popular government. The energy, ingenuity, wit, and perceptiveness with which these artists observed the American scene are proof of the traditionally high level of interest Americans take in their political life. The long survival of the art of political cartoon-speaks well, too for the good sense, skeptical outlook, and jovial attitude of the artists’ audience.” (p. vi) The cartoons are the feature of the book, some are in color, and most are as interesting as your understanding of them.


A terrifying series of earthquakes jolted the American frontier in December, 1811. Continuing through the winter, the shocks could be felt over one million square miles. Drawing on newspapers and other accounts, Penick describes the brush of American frontiersmen with one of nature’s fiercest forces, and he provides a good historical perspective for the impact which it had.


To help celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the Grand Ole Opry, this is a lively collection of original essays on many of country music’s most important performers, past and present. From the early greats such as Jimmie Rodgers and the Carter Family to the popular stars of the seventies, including Johnny Cash, Loretta Lynn, Merle Haggard, and Charley Pride, leading authorities offer full and colorful portraits of the personal lives and careers of nineteen artists. Special emphasis is placed on the artists’ styles, repertoires, and significance in the history of the music.


This dictionary of the place names constitutes the culmination of more than fifteen years of research and preparation. It contains the origin, meaning, and historic importance of each name, as well as a listing of each locality in North America derived from the name. Over 20,000 places are listed, including cities, towns, counties, provinces, villages, parks, historic sites, and institutions. Every U.S. village and town with a population over 2,500, and every locality in Canada with a population over 2,000 is included, and smaller locations whose names are unique or historically interesting are also used. Profusely illustrated, it abounds with unusual and fascinating information, including variations of place names; locations of county seats; state and province emblems, flowers, and much more.

This is an interesting diary dealing with Civil War Virginia. The writer seems to have been in a position to observe much, and is of the stuff to make a good historical witness. The pathos of the war and its impact on Virginia civilians comes through as it can only do so from the pens of those who were there.


All American Presidents, Washington to Ford, are included in this fully illustrated collection of short biographies. The profiles give a concise, objective overview of the personality of each president along with the highlights of every administration. A portrait of each president is included.