Book Notes
BOOK NOTES

Among the really interesting books to come our way in a long time is a collection of Paul Crume’s columns from the *Dallas Morning News*. Anyone old enough to remember Crume, or any student of the English language, will relish this potpourri of the columnist’s best. The collection, *The World of Paul Crume*, was assembled by Marion Crume, and carries a Foreword by Lon Tinkle and an Introduction by Frank Tolbert, the latter two being associates on the *News* for years. It was published by SMU Press (Dallas, Texas 75275, $15). The selection headings include Boyhood Days, Flesheing Out the American Story, Mules and Other Antiques, The Male Animal, The Seasoned Householder, Anyone can Sing Underwater, Politics and the People, Patriots, Politicians, and History, The Perceptive World Collector, and Taming the English Language, among others. The volume’s greatest contribution, as Crume might have observed in his way with words, is his columns still give a person to think.

A timely tome recently arrived by Patricia Lasher and Beverly Bentley is *Texas Women: Interviews and Images* (Shoal Creek Publishers, Inc., P. O. Box 9737, Austin, Texas 78766, $7.95). They divided the work thusly: Lasher provided the words and Bentley photographed several of the state’s (and the world’s) leading women, including Lady Bird, Phyllis George, Sissy Farenthold, Oveta Culp Hobby, Gloria Scott, and many, many more. The text is based on interviews with the subjects, who also speak for themselves in quotations. The group is diverse: lawyers, educators, businesswomen, public officials, doctors, and entertainment figures, among other callings. They are all Texans, they are all important people, and they are all women.

George Norris Green’s *The Establishment in Texas Politics: The Primitive Years, 1938-1957* (Greenwood Press, 51 Riverside Avenue, Westport, Connecticut 06880, $22.50) examines the formative decades of modern Texas politics. Green states that before 1930 politicians, reformers and corporate interests shared control of Texas politics. Then, in the late 1930s, the corporations assumed the lion’s share of control and hang on with, to mix the metaphor, the grip of the proverbial turtle. He states that since then Texans have been governed by an unbroken line of conservative governors and legislatures, or what he terms a loose-knit plutocracy of oilmen, bankers, insurance magnates, ranchers, and other businessmen. The only significant change Green sees is the force of Lyndon Johnson/Sam Rayburn and the refreshing change of Ralph Yarborough, which was more surface than substance in his view. The Establishment, he finds, is still firmly in control. All may not agree with Green, some may feel he did not go far enough to suit them. For all, however, he provides a provocative look at two decades of Texas politics.

Would you like to know when all the "Days" are celebrated in Texas? I mean, just when or where is the Watermelon Thump, were is the next Chili Cookoff, where is the next bass tournament? Peter Morris' *Texas Day-ByDay* (Creative Answers, 4915 Milam St., Suite 4, Houston, Texas 77006, $6.95) can provide you with the poop. My 1980 edition will be out of date when you read this, but since it is the third annual, surely a fourth annual, brand new 1981 issue can be ordered to keep you from missing out on a frog jumping celebration somewhere.

Our Cajun friends at the Center for Louisiana Studies (USL, Box 4-0831, Lafayette, Louisiana 70504) sent two pretty and interesting volumes. *The Courthouses of Louisiana* by Glenn R. Conrad, Carl A. Brasseaux and R. Warren Robinson features illustrations, photographs, and textual coverage for each parish courthouse in the Bayou State, and Leonard V. Huber's *Creole Collage* is an illustrated account of creole Louisiana. Anyone who knows what a Cajun is will like this book; if you don't know what a cajun is, you need to read some book on the subject because you have missed one of life's delights.

Indian fighters, Attention! For the pure in heart, the Old Army Press (1513 Welch, Fort Collins, Colorado 80521, $12.95) has compiled a *Chronological List of Actions, &c., with Indians from January 15, 1837 to January, 1891* from Adjutant General's Office records, with an Introduction by Dale E. Floyd. Each entry contains the following information: date, name or place of action, troops engaged, commanding officer, number killed, wounded (both troopers and Indians), and source of information.

*Judges of the Republic of Texas, 1836-1846*, by member Joe E. Ericson (1614 Redbud, Nacogdoches, Texas 75961, $22.05), provides biographical and genealogical data on nearly 1500 men who served as judges during the period of the Republic of Texas. An introduction outlines the court system of the Republic, and each sketch is accompanied by a photo when available. Rosters of judges by county and office, and a bibliography on the men and the system, complete this volume.