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The Mescalero Apaches. By C. L. Sonnichsen. Norman, Oklahoma; University of Oklahoma Press, c., 1958. Pp. xii, 303. Bibliography, index, 2 maps, 22 illustrations. $5.75.

Since white contact with the Apache people in 1541, a grim struggle has taken place. First the Spaniards, then the Mexicans, and last, the people of the United States have tried to subdue by military action the resisting Indians of the Southwest to a status of subservience. Efforts have been made to force the Apaches to become agriculturalists or stock raisers instead of huntsmen and warriors. Through education and Christianity well-intentioned humanitarians have endeavored to change the culture of the Apaches, but success has been indifferent.

The Mescaleros are a band of Apaches with their traditional homeland in the southern New Mexico mountains between the Pecos and Rio Grande rivers. Their reservation, consisting of a half million acres of land, lies in the northeast corner of Otero County, New Mexico.

For over two centuries, the Apaches, including the Mescaleros, warred with their neighbors, not only the Spaniards and Americans, but also the Comanches and Navahos. Professor Sonnichsen's work is largely an account of this incessant struggle. The old generalization that this Indian group was less war-like than other bands of Apaches is not supported by the documented narrative encompassing twelve of the fifteen chapters in the volume under review. From the 1650's to the surrender of Geronimo in 1886, the Mescaleros were afforded only brief periods of respite in their struggle to defend their lands and their way of life, an effort which ultimately ended in a defeat and a reservation, set aside for them by presidential proclamation in 1873.

One episode reflects the administrative bungling of Indian affairs by officials of the United States. When some Mescaleros persisted in attacks upon American routes of communication during the early years of the Civil War, General James

Henry Carleton, commander of the California Column, ordered Kit Carson to kill all Mescalero warriors "whenever and wherever you find them" (p. 98). Cadete, the spokesman for the Mescaleros, asked for peace, but Carleton's conditions required the removal of the whole band to Bosque Redondo where Fort Sumner was erected. By March, 1863, four of the five hundred Mescaleros were at the reservation. During the following fall, General Carleton also decided to concentrate the Navahos at Bosque Redondo, thus adding nine thousand of those people to the Mescaleros already on the lands. Bosque Redondo might have supported the Mescaleros, but there was no hope of providing food for the Navahos. Disease, famine, lack of shelter, insufficient clothing, and the Navahos, hereditary enemies of the Mescaleros, were more than these Apaches could endure. On the night of November 3, 1865, the Mescaleros vanished into their mountain homes, terminating their acceptance of Carleton's senseless concentration system. Although Professor Sonnichsen has employed little new evidence, his critical evaluation of Carleton's Indian policies is much sounder than that found in Aurora Hunt's recent biography of General Carleton.

After 1865, Santana, Cadete, and Roman, the leading chiefs of the Mescaleros, endeavored to prohibit their young warriors from joining the Apache hostiles. Although largely successful, these chiefs could not prevent a small fraction of their band from joining Victorio, Nana, and Geronimo. The author thus has some justification for recounting again the well-known Apache campaigns of Crook and Miles. Since these events have been so thoroughly discussed in other works, however, a briefer synthesis could have been written so greater attention could have been devoted to the problems of the Mescaleros in their efforts to adjust to reservation life. The reviewer is of the opinion that Professor Sonnichsen's volume is out of balance. The resources are certainly available for the post-1880 period of Mescalero history, an era of their life with which the scholar and the reading public are largely unacquainted. Research in depth in the records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and other record groups in the National Archives would have enabled the author to detail

the problems of the Mescaleros in recent times. Such an effort still remains to be done by some scholar who will supplement this first history of the Mescalero Apaches. However, these observations are a matter of judgment and the fact remains that *The Mescalero Apaches* is skillfully written, its narrative unblemished by faulty prose. This volume will be read by many with great pleasure.

Norman, Oklahoma DONALD J. BERTHRONG

Strands From The Weaving. By Lucretia Garfield Comer. New York: Vantage Press. 1959. Pp. x, 73. $2.95.

The picturesque title aptly describes what President Garfield's granddaughter has done with her family's history. She has brought together an impressionistic series of vignettes gleaned from memory, family letters, and numerous diaries. The Garfields were avid diarists. Contrary to a subtitle printed on the dust jacket (but not on the title page) this is not "The Life of Harry A. Garfield," Mrs. Comer's father, although some of the information presented in this little volume would be indispensable to a complete biography of Harry A. Garfield whose interesting and distinguished career amply merits such a study. For Harry Garfield was more than a president's son. In his own right he became a prominent Ohio lawyer before he was called by Woodrow Wilson to become a distinguished professor of government of Princeton during the early years of the twentieth century; afterward (from 1908 to 1934) he was president of Williams College, Federal Fuel Administrator during World War I, and the founder of the International Institute of Politics at Williamstown which brought together scholars from around the world for summer conferences during the 1920's.

Mrs. Comer unfortunately crowds her pages with many trivial details of family life which should have been relegated to a family album. There are, however, extremely interesting if brief accounts of General Garfield's life at his Mentor, Ohio, farm preceding his election in 1880, incidents of Harry Garfield's student days at St. Paul's private school in New Hampshire and at Williams College, a vivid election-night

scene in the Garfield family home, a description of the Garfields' attempt to adjust to life in the White House during the few months they lived there (Mrs. Garfield was suffering from malaria most of that time), a graphic description of the attack upon President Garfield in the Washington railway station, a portrait of the Harry Garfield family "at home" in the Berkshires during the summer of the Spanish American War, the opinions of Harry Garfield and others on imperialism and the Philippines presented at the Saratoga Conference where Carl Schurz was the principal speaker, some highly revealing comments on the professorial life at Princeton during the Wilson regime there, a few pages on the experiences of Harry Garfield and his wife when they were "trapped" in Europe by the outbreak of World War I in August, 1914, and, finally some rather didactic references to Harry Garfield's profound distrust of the Russians revealed to his daughter in the year of his death (1942).

This small volume has no documentation, bibliography, or other scholarly apparatus, but Mrs. Comer (wife of John P. Comer, Professor Emeritus of Political Science at Williams College) has presented some very interesting, at times unique, insights.

University of New Mexico G. W. SMITH

Who Rush to Glory: The Cowboy Volunteers of 1898—Grigsby's Cowboys, Roosevelt's Rough Riders, Torrey's Rocky Mountain Riders. By Clifford P. Westermeier. Caldwell, Idaho: The Caxton Printers, Ltd., 1958. Pp. 272. Illustrations, notes, bibliography, and index. $6.00.

To assess this book judiciously, one must consider it on two levels. As a popular account of the so-called Cowboy Volunteer Cavalry regiments in the Spanish-American War, it probably will satisfy the less discriminating reader and those concerned with Western memorabilia. New Mexicans in particular will be interested in recruitment of territorial volunteers for Roosevelt's "Rough Riders." As a scholarly monograph, "Who Rush to Glory" is something else again. Woven together in its 261 pages of text are hundreds of bits

and scraps of information gleaned from contemporary newspaper sources. In more general works such historical bric-a-brac would either be relegated to footnotes or be completely ignored. If this study contains anything that is significantly new or historically important, it is not readily discernible.

Heroes are made, not born, and Professor Westermeier seeks to create heroes out of his "immortal" cowboy warriors. "Brief though their glory," he writes, "the Cowboy Volunteers of 1898 ride in the annals of American history as gallant heroes, stalwarts of their Western heritage." Ringing words indeed, but to "what annals of American history" does Professor Westermeier refer? If he is talking about the type of filio-pietistic history dispensed to our children on the grade school level, then he is probably right. But if he is discussing history written for sophisticated adults, then he is essentially guilty of perpetuating a "patriotic" myth. For the simple truth of the matter is that there wasn't very much that was either excessively heroic or immortal about the "Cowboy Volunteers of 1898."

There is no reason to delude ourselves any longer regarding the nature of the Spanish-American War which was a disgraceful episode from its very inception. The war was politically and morally indefensible and militarily it demonstrated only incredible American military incompetence. The Cuban campaign, in which but a small part of the Cowboy Volunteers was involved, added little luster to the military annals of the United States and actually proved nothing insofar as the alleged superior fighting qualities of the Westerners were concerned. In point of truth, the campaign in Cuba, to which Professor Westermeier for some inexplicable reason gives short shrift, was almost a complete fiasco bordering on tragedy. Only the ineptitude of the Spaniards allowed the triumph of the equally inept American forces. One shudders to think what would have been the fate of the latter if confronted by more formidable opponents. It can be argued, I think, that the real heroes of the war were those brave Spaniards who fought to the death in the face of hopeless odds.

Professor Westermeier's account tells essentially of the

recruitment and training of the First, Second and Third United States volunteer regiments. These were commanded respectively by three Colonels: Theodore Roosevelt (who succeeded Leonard Wood), Jay L. Torrey, and Melvin Grigsby. Roosevelt's Rough Riders were the only Cowboy cavalry volunteers to get in on the military action. In large measure, this was due to his audacity in commandeering a troop transport at Tampa, a fantastic episode which goes undescribed in this book. The Second regiment, "Torrey's Terrors," came East from Cheyenne and sat out the war in complete frustration at Jacksonville, while the men of Grigsby's Third regiment, which was recruited at Sioux Falls, were among the victims of the various diseases that swept through the improvised and pestilential army camp at Chicamagua Park, Georgia.

In retrospect, one wonders why the organization of cowboy cavalry regiments was even considered. The least amount of military common sense—and the war was conducted on this basis—would have indicated their absolute uselessness in a Cuban campaign. The Rough Riders, having left their horses behind at Tampa, fought as infantry men and by and large were not much better nor worse nor more heroic than their fellow soldiers. But unfortunately for the latter, they had no political fugleman for their leader nor have they had a historian to perpetrate and romanticize their limited exploits.

Boulder, Colorado HOWARD H. QUINT

The West Is for Us: the Reminiscences of Mary A. Blankenship. Edited by Seymour V. Connor; Introduction and Illustrations by Mrs. Doyle Thornhill. Lubbock: West Texas Museum Association, 1958. Pp. 125.

Andrew Wesley Blankenship and Mary Almor Perritt exchanged their marriage vows in a "buggy wedding" on December 15, 1895, in Erath County, Texas. On the day after Christmas, 1901, with their first child, they stowed their household essentials—coffee grinder to Family Bible—in a covered wagon and joined another wagon bound for Tahoka Lakes, a day's horseback ride from Lubbock, Texas. Eight

days and a gap of civilization later, they were "nesters" on the wide-flung prairie, its expanse broken only by the scattered windmills with their precious water, "landmarks and stepping stones on these great plains."

Mrs. Blankenship's record tells the simple story: from tent to half dug-out, to ranch house, to a home in Lubbock; from ranching and farming, and finally to family businesses and the establishment of the Town and Country Shopping Center, "a good neighbor" to the Texas Technological College. The detail of the early years wrenches us back into another age, the struggle with land and weather and loneliness never dimming the concern for school and church, for the close-knit neighborliness of these men and women as they shared the work of round-up and cattle trail and the homemade fun of games and dances and country gatherings. Nothing about this record is pretentious. It is direct and straightforward, written with life itself in a pattern from which boredom, softness, and sophistication are happily absent.

Mrs. Blankenship's story brings these short sixty years and the last of the pioneers astonishingly close, emphasizes once more the shock of our twentieth century leap into technological terror. More hearteningly, though, it reminds us that the old values are still close, too: "Courage and honor and hope and pride and compassion and pity and sacrifice which have been the glory of his past," as William Faulkner reminded the Nobel audience not so long ago. A fulfilled desire of Mrs. Blankenship's last years was a pilgrimage to hear Billy Graham. Perhaps it would not be amiss to suggest that a pilgrimage to the world of the Blankenships, a view once again of faith with works, is also a source of spiritual sustenance.

University of New Mexico KATHERINE SIMONS

The Confederate Invasion of New Mexico and Arizona 1861-1862. By Robert Lee Kerby. Los Angeles 41: Westernlore Press, 1958. Pp. xix, 136. Bibliography, index. $7.50.

Originally submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a master of arts degree at the University of Notre

Dame, this is a creditable work and the best printed summary of the Civil War in New Mexico. The author places the military operations in a background of grand Confederate strategy to seize the Southwest for immediate possession of military materiels and ultimate expansion to the Pacific coast. However, the study contains a number of questionable judgments and a few peccadillos.

Mr. Kerby presents the view that the Confederate campaign in New Mexico was significant, and that if successful the necessary resources might have been won to assure Confederate victory in the War. Furthermore, this western campaign was bound more closely to slavery expansion "than any other operation of the Rebellion. . . . It was not a mere sideshow." Since the author is not a native of the Southwest, but was born in New York City, he cannot be accused of too much local pride, which makes his judgment more deserving of respect, but the fate of the Southwest and the Confederacy rested upon the eastern battleground, not on what happened in New Mexico; the industrial strength of the North was more important in the long run than a supply of gold from the Far West or possession of west coast ports.

The New Mexico legislature did not have a "propensity for concentrating troops around the capital" at Santa Fe (p. 25) because troop movements were dictated by the United States War Department and, in reality, the soldiers were scattered among many posts from Tucson to Santa Fe and downstream from El Paso.

Canby was not isolated in a desert without funds and military resources (p. 37). The Santa Fe trail was open, Fort Union was a main supply depot, and he was able to draw upon the resources of New Mexico and Colorado. The author contradicts his own statement on p. 46.

California events were to measurably assist the Union cause in the Southwest (p. 40) is not a sound statement. Canby had triumphed over the Confederates before California assistance arrived in New Mexico.

The reader might compare the discussion of Reily's diplomatic mission to Chihuahua and Sonora with the account

by Hall in the NEW MEXICO HISTORICAL REVIEW, July, 1956. The definitive account of the battle of Val Verde remains to be written. The moot point is responsibility for the loss of McRae's battery which the author has not explored sufficiently.

Territorial government for New Mexico was established in 1851 (p. 75). Jornado should read Jornada.

Mr. Kerby's story reads well and is a welcome addition to southwestern history.

F. D. R.

University of the Northern Plains: A History of the University of North Dakota. By Louis G. Geiger. The University of North Dakota Press, Grand Forks, 1958. Pp. 491. $5.00.

"On October 2, 1883, a group of dignitaries of Dakota Territory gathered on the windy, chilly prairie more than a mile west of the boom town of Grand Forks to lay the cornerstone of the first building of the University of North Dakota." The Grand Forks *Herald* described the occasion by saying that one of the "brightest, crispest, freshest, most palpably wholesome days of the most glorious autumn that even Dakota ever saw crowned the object of the day's proceedings with an approving and sunlit smile." As one reads the book, it soon becomes evident that not all was "sunlit smile" and "glorious autumn" for North Dakota's first and only state university. For during the next seventy-five years after its founding, this school faced and overcame about every kind of trouble a university can possibly experience: lack of adequate financial support; political maneuvering; absence and abuse of academic freedom; tornado and fire; meddling alumni; unwholesome competition among institutions of higher education within the state; overemphasis on varsity athletics; and incompetent administration.

The author's style holds the interest of the reader exceedingly well, even though he quotes frequently from well-documented sources, and notwithstanding the fact that seventy-five full years of educational history in North Dakota are covered in this book. One gets the impression and is

constantly reminded that at Grand Forks there is a real school—with real human beings struggling industriously as its administrators and teachers.

The circumstances surrounding the beginning of this university were meager. Indeed they were pathetic. "The nearest trees were the giant cottonwoods fringing the Red River, nearly three miles to the east," the author relates. He also mentions that the Territorial Assembly made the initial effort to begin the university by approving a bond issue "authorizing $30,000 for construction of a building." And yet enthusiasm and optimism were unlimited at the same time. Territorial Governor Nehemiah Ordway, in his speech at the dedication ceremony, said "the people of this valley would rise up and call those who had laid the foundation of this institution today, blessed." And David Kiehle, in giving the main address of the occasion, outlined the conditions upon which the institution would prosper: (1) "pure and intelligent administration; one that will not allow its plan and aim to be disturbed by diverting influence, personal, political, or sectarian." (2) "its curriculum should be broad and generous, in that it shall provide the culture that will promote scholarship in every department that affects human happiness." (3) "that which deserves the rank of university must recognize man in his widest relations as a social and religious being, and cultivate intelligence which shall fit him for his highest good here, and, at least, be in harmony with his great future lying just beyond the horizon of mortal vision."

Local reporters called it a large crowd at this laying of the cornerstone, "but a photograph of the gathering reveals less the crowd they professed to see than the vast emptiness of the Dakota prairie."

The author seems to have a good understanding of the frontier—of the agricultural, political, and economic development of the Dakota territory. The reader is constantly aware of the expert way in which Mr. Geiger relates the progress of the University to the setting in which it is found. This is done factually and yet with an ease of expression that is not without its humor. For example, his description of some Grand Forks happenings in the 1880's livens up the

first chapter. "Life in such an atmosphere," the author tells us, "furnished its excitement and its contrasts. The newspapers regularly reported events from the rough side of the community: a hair pulling brawl over the distribution of fees at the establishment of 'Big Kate,' the best known madam in town, an after-midnight wedding at one of the 'houses' witnessed by a large gathering of the 'fast and fancy' set, the suicide of the 'frail but beautiful' Mrs. Burdick, a 'private courtesan,' a lynching off the Red River bridge, the discovery on a doorstep of the dead body of a 'victim of dissipation,' and the drunkenly hilarious drenching of a half-breed's hair and beard with kerosene and setting it ablaze in a saloon."

"Yet Grand Forks also possessed a solid core of permanent citizens," we are told by the author. "The six churches were full. More than 300 children were reported enrolled in the city schools in February, 1882. . . . The Masonic Lodge came in 1880, a chamber of commerce was formed in 1881, and a racing association laid out a track in 1882. . . . The Pioneer Club, also founded in 1879, was restricted to a hundred members possessing the proper qualifications of money or manners. . . . They were also the town's civic and cultural leaders. Most of these people were small scale *nouveau riche* who had made good in the boom, but included also was an unusually large number of well-educated and gently reared men and women, among them three of the first Board of Regents of the University, Twamley, Collins, and Teel."

Though meager the beginning and rough the long road for the next seventy-five years, this University of North Dakota has emerged, Mr. Geiger asserts, into a reputable institution of higher education which serves its state well.

At first there were only a college of liberal arts and letters and a normal college. Later, these two units were changed and renamed, and other schools and colleges were added. Science, Literature and Arts, Engineering, Medicine,[1] Law, and Education were organized between 1899 and 1905, while

1. It is interesting to note that when the legislature first established the medical school, it appropriated a total of $1,000 for its support!

the College of Business and Public Administration was added later to complete the organization of a full-scale university.

William Blackburn, a clergyman from Ohio, was the University's first president, and he was followed by eight more presidents during the first seventy-five years, George W. Starcher being the last of these and currently in office at the time of Mr. Geiger's writing in 1958.

This brief review cannot include details of the administrations of these men. It might be helpful to point out, however, that after its first three presidents (Blackburn, Montgomery, and Sprague) the University settled down somewhat in 1891 and during the next eighteen years under Pres. Webster Merrifield made its greatest growth and progress. It was during this period that it blossomed into a full-fledged university, modeled chiefly after the University of Wisconsin and Cornell University. Much of this was accomplished under Merrifield despite severe money troubles during the early and middle 1890's. In fact, in 1895, the school was about to be closed—at least temporarily—because of inadequate financial support, when Governor Allin took special and drastic steps to keep it open.

Supporting Merrifield and giving much of his time, money and talent to the University was William (Billy) Budge, a trustee from 1891 to 1907. A consideration of the school at the turn of the century would be most incomplete without including Budge's many contributions under Merrifield. The author devotes much time to the "team of Merrifield and Budge," and rightly so, because these two men were certainly stalwarts in the development of the University.

Following Merrifield in 1907 as president was Frank L. McVey, who later (in 1917) became president of the University of Kentucky (1917-1941). McVey's contributions were mainly to raise academic standards and to reorganize the University for more efficient and effective operation. According to the author, the faculty and students were indeed sorry to lose McVey, the scholar, in 1917.

An interesting part of the University's development was the change in modes of transportation between Grand Forks and the campus, about a mile and a half apart. First walking

and then bicycling; then an omnibus, "Black Maria," in 1899; and then a trolley line, begun in September, 1904. "The trolley and the sewer," Mr. Geiger declares, "were major factors in the residential development that presently began in the University neighborhood."

The University underwent its most tempestuous times during the administration of Pres. Thomas F. Kane, who succeeded McVey in 1917. Well educated and highly recommended when he was employed, Kane soon came into disfavor with his faculty. In fact, it was during his regime that the matter of academic freedom was most bitterly debated. Geiger tells in a vivid and exciting way how the faculty rose up and defied Kane. He was at the point of being dismissed on several occasions. Feelings were high and words were sharp. Kane himself accused the board of regents of political maneuvering, and he severely criticized certain faculty members in public. Geiger says of this man, "Worst of all, the president was more than a little careless with the truth, or told it only incompletely." Totten and Muir (regents at the time—1920) "appeared on the campus, briefly investigated charges formally filed by a faculty group, and . . . then asked Kane to resign, all within a few hours." A group of faculty members shortly afterward issued a 12 page document of severe criticism of the president. This paper was entitled, "Memoranda of the Unfortunate Happenings at the University of North Dakota." It was never published, however, and it has now disappeared from the Board's records.

Kane survived the many storms and continued as the school's controversial president until 1933, when he was forced to resign. But it is Geiger's conclusion that little progress and few changes were made during his administration.

The rest of this very well written book deals with many aspects of campus life under Pres. John West and Pres. George Starcher. Successes and failures in varsity athletics are discussed by the author, but in a very balanced way. Alumni activities (good and bad) are also included, as the author describes the frequent and persistent pressures which were brought to bear on the school's administrators and faculty. The reader who is aware of today's pressures on such

institutions will cringe with understanding, and yet will enjoy Geiger's account of these things at North Dakota. In fact, in the last paragraph of the book, one finds the author (presently a member of the University's History Department faculty) still saying (in 1958) "Many problems loom ahead," but he also goes on to say that the "future [of the University] seems bright indeed."

Here is a well-written history of a great school. It should be enjoyed by scholar and layman alike. Congratulations to its author, Mr. Louis Geiger, for a job well done.

University of New Mexico CHESTER C. TRAVELSTEAD