

Hatch Act is more inclusive than state laws. Whereas the Oregon Civil Service Act applies to classified employees, the Hatch Act would include unclassified employees of the grant-in-aid agencies as well.

#### Recruiter Added to Staff

Ralph Underwood was appointed to a position in the Civil Service Commission office in September. Underwood will be in charge of the Commission's recruiting activities. He formerly worked in the State Employment Service office in McMinnville.

## The Northwest In Books

By Loretta G. Fisher  
Oregon State Library

Now that the long evenings have come, many of us are thinking of the reading we'll be able to do this winter. Because it is particularly pleasant to read about places and things nearby and familiar to us, I have selected several recent books concerned with the Northwest that I'd like you to know about.

First and foremost is United States Justice William O. Douglas' **Of Men and Mountains**, which has proved so popular it has been on the best seller list continuously since its appearance last spring. Douglas writes in the foreword: "These pages contain what I, as a boy, saw, felt, smelled, tasted, and heard in the mountains of the Pacific Northwest." His experiences and the spiritual significance and philosophy he draws from them will be familiar to all men of the world who have walked in the mountains anywhere.

To these men and women, **Of Men and Mountains** will not only awaken memories of their own adventure, but will help them to see these experiences in a new perspective because he can express so beautifully and deftly the sensations and feelings most of us want to say, but are unable to put into words.

To the reader uninitiated in the ways of the mountains, the Douglas book will open new vistas. He will want to

go right over to the neighbors to borrow a sleeping bag for a week-end trip into the Cascades.

Most fishermen will appreciate Justice Douglas' accounts of fishing trips and agree with him that the adventure met and the pleasure of sharing it with congenial company is more important than a full creel.

Also appearing on the best seller list this spring was Mildred McNeilly's **Each Bright River**, a novel of the Oregon country between 1845 and 1854. If you want to visualize Oregon City, Fort Vancouver and Puget Sound as they were in those pioneer days, here are authentic and graphic descriptions.

The heroine, Kitty Gatewood, is a beautiful and wealthy Southern belle who comes around the Horn to Oregon City, seeking her prodigal fiance. The latter has taken an Indian woman, and commits suicide rather than meet Kitty. Kitty's negro slave runs away with her money, so that Kitty is stranded. But she meets with courage the problems of making a living and the hardships of frontier life, learning, in the meantime, to love the country. Another love, which she at first finds distasteful, is that of the arrogant but brave and capable frontiersman, Curt Fletcher, and from him she turns to Sunset Lee, an equally courageous and a more gentle mountainman.

The sorry condition of the overland emigrants upon arrival in the valley, the horror of the Whitman massacre, the Gold Rush fever, the antagonism of the British and the Americans over the boundary are all a part of **Each Bright River**.

Mrs. McNeilly was born on a Northwest ranch which her grandparents bought from the Indians for six deer-skins and a plug of tobacco. She was a reporter for a Seattle paper before moving to Pasadena where she now lives with her husband and daughter.

Jo Evalin Lundy's **Tidewater Valley** is a title in the **Land of the Free**, a series of junior historical novels. Although it is written for teenagers, I found this story of the Swiss in Tillamook county particularly interesting, and several other members of our staff

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