Oklahoma Books and Writers

GRANT FOREMAN, state pioneer and leading authority on the facts of Oklahoma history, has written 14 books that describe various phases of the unique and dramatic story of the Southwest. Now, out of his rich experience in research and in thinking about Oklahoma history, he has selected the most significant and the most interesting phases and has written a truly great book which has been published by the University of Oklahoma Press under the title A History of Oklahoma.

Although much has been published about the history of Oklahoma, including formal textbooks for school use, the state's development has been so rapid that there has been little time for the historian to assimilate and to organize the factual material.

A History of Oklahoma is not just a chronological account of events. It is not just a biographical work describing important individuals.

As Mr. Foreman himself says "It is my privilege to present a single volume in which I have endeavored to describe and place in their proper relation the principal facts of our history."

He writes of the Trail of Tears, the tragic migration of the Five Civilized Tribes; their readjustment to surroundings in this strange land; rebuilding of their homes, governments and schools; the establishment of army posts, activities of the military in setting up a new order in this country; attempts of the federal authorities to provide a government over this country; historic routes of travel, river navigation, industrial enterprises carried on by the Indians; involvement in the Civil War and alignment of the Indians in that disastrous conflict; problems of reconstruction after the war; ultimate recovery from the devastation occasioned by the war; revival of efforts towards a territorial government; coming of the railroads; intrusion of whites in this country guaranteed to the Indians, and a multitude of other vital steps that ultimately led to the opening of the country to white settlement.

Most of the book is devoted to the pre-statehood period—the period that is remarkably unique as compared to the early histories of other states. As Mr. Foreman points out, since statehood Oklahoma has become more like other states.

Cow Country

Edward Everett Dale's New Book

Cow Country is a different sort of book about the West. It is the story of that generation, from the Civil War until the nineties, which knew the free range and saw the transition from the great days of cattle and cowmen to the fencing of the free range, which ushered in the intensive cattle industry of today. It is written by an old cowhand who knew that period and has since become one of the leading authorities on the West. He is a story teller of rare ability.

OKLAHOMA: A Guide to The Sooner State is still a state best-seller. This is the book of which Kenneth Kaufman says, "Nowhere else is there so much about Oklahoma between book covers." Lavishly illustrated. $2.75.