

*Pennsylvania Songs and Legends*. Edited by GEORGE KORSON. (Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania Press, 1949. 474 p.)

This book is the work of fifteen authors who may be considered authorities on Pennsylvania songs, legends, and folk music; on oilmen, raftsmen, railroaders, carollers, and wagoners; and on Amish, German and Pennsylvania Dutch songs and hymns "of a state whose folklore has been enriched by many ethnic groups." Under the various headings are given a short history, the melody, and the words of each song, ballad, hymn, or recording.

Many readers will recognize in this volume the work of Samuel Bayard on the British folk songs as sung by Western Pennsylvanians; of Merle H. Deardorff and his history of the Complanter Indians; of Henry W. Shoemaker in his central Pennsylvania legends; of Jacob A. Evanson, collector of folk songs of the Pittsburgh region, many of which were sung at a meeting of The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania on October 18, 1951. Here, indeed, in attractive form is an entertaining, informative, and authoritative source of Pennsylvania's customs, traditions, and early culture that may well supplement many state histories in our schools, libraries, and historical societies.

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