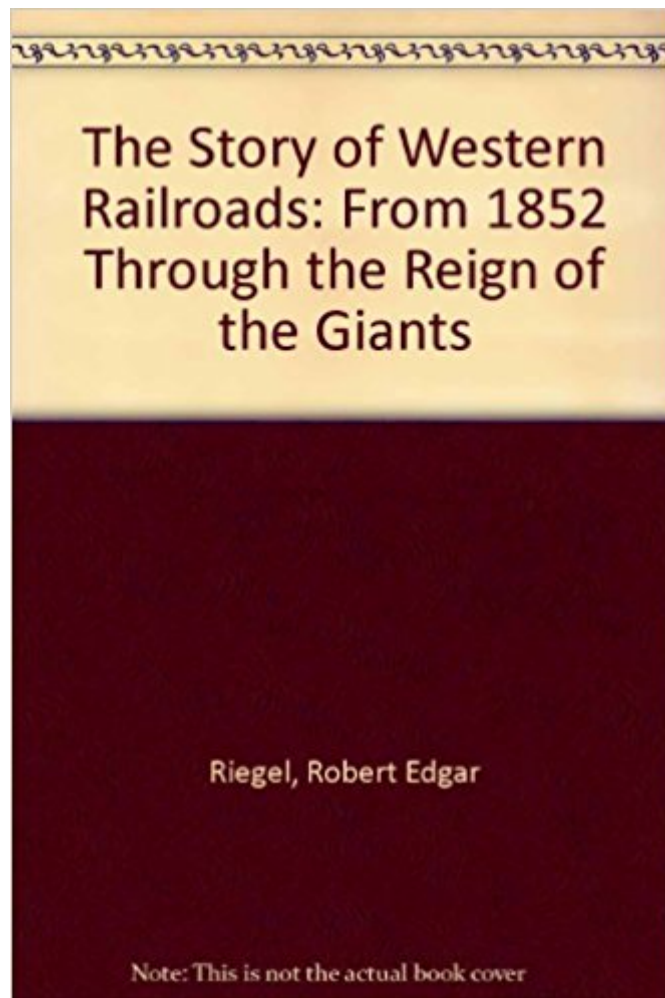




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The Story Of The Western Railroads: From 1852 Through The Reign Of The Giants



Synopsis

On December 23, 1852, the first train on the first railroad west of the Mississippi River steamed proudly from St. Louis to Cheltenham—the immense distance of five miles. In that moment of exaltation, writes Robert Edgar Riegel, "flags waved, bands played, and orators prophesied the flowering of the West under the beneficent influence of the steam locomotive. For once the orators were right. An epoch was marked. Twenty-five years earlier the musical whistle of the locomotive was as yet unheard in the United States. Twenty-five years later steel tracks spanned the continent from New York to San Francisco." In this account of the railroad conquest of the United States, the author is primarily concerned with the western phase of the story. He follows the Iron Horse west through Indian trouble, labor difficulties, civil war, and farmer disillusionment to the completion of the western railroad net. All aspects of the subject—financial, industrial, engineering, as well as the development of railroad regulation—are covered in this classic work.

Book Information

Hardcover: 277 pages

Publisher: University of Nebraska Press (November 1, 1976)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0803209037

ISBN-13: 978-0803209039

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 5.8 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #607,499 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #124 in Books > Travel > Food, Lodging & Transportation > Railroad Travel #171 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation > History > Railroads #293 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation > Railroads

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Fun read. Great book on some levels for train history

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