

NEW BOOKS

AMERICAN INFLUENCE ON CANADIAN NATIONHOOD. By CARL G. WINTER. *Annals of American Research* (Public Affairs Press, 2153 Florida Ave., Washington 8, D.C.) Pp. 23.

TRANSITIONS IN AMERICAN LITERARY HISTORY. Edited By HARRY HAYDEN CLARK. Duke University Press. Pp. 479. \$6.00.

The chief criticism of Dr. Winter's pamphlet is its brevity. The pamphlet is a digest of the author's doctoral dissertation; consequently, many statements that must have been supported with much evidence are here almost too brief and unsubstantiated; there were probably other contributing factors to the development, but the nature of the dissertation and the subsequent condensation have pushed these forces into the background or out of the picture altogether. Once this point has been made, one has only admiration for the pamphlet. Dr. Winter is concerned with the growing national feeling in Canada from the accession of Laurier to power in 1896; this feeling showed itself in many ways—in relations with Britain and with the United States, in Canada's role in the First World War, and in her insistence on the Commonwealth, rather than Empire, concept. Dr. Winter is no jingoist: he can see that Americans made blunders in their attitude towards Canada—for example, the egregious Champ Clark in 1911—but even the blunders, as well meant actions, contributed in their way to the development of Canadian nationhood. The short, but useful bibliography is welcome. The pamphlet deserves wide reading in Canada.

Twenty-five years ago the Modern Language Association of America sponsored an important book on American literature: *THE REINTERPRETATION OF AMERICAN LITERATURE*. Now under the general editorship of that veteran student of American literature, Professor Hayden Clark, who unfortunately contributed only a brief preface, the MLA has sponsored another work consisting of seven lengthy essays by seven distinguished scholars in American literature. The essay headings are worth noting: "The Decline of Puritanism." "The Late Eighteenth Century: An Age of Contradictions," "The Decline of Neoclassicism, 1801-1848", "The Rise of Romanticism, 1805-1855." "The Rise of Transcendentalism, 1815-1860", "The Decline of Romantic Idealism, 1855-1871". and "The Rise of Realism, 1871-1891."

There can be no quarrel with the scholarship revealed by the book: every contributor seems to have done a thorough job, leaving no stone or even dead leaf unturned; the documentation is voluminous and sound; and for a scholarly work, the book is readable. The reader is told that the book is not concerned with the peaks of American literature but rather with the valleys, but just why Departments of Literature should be concerned with what died soon after birth—if we may change the figure of speech—or was still-born he is not told. Of course, we know that one cannot understand a masterpiece without knowing all the elements that entered into the background: literary scholarship has been saying this ever since it came under the baneful influence of German and scientific scholarly methods. If such material is neces-

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sary—and some of us doubt the theory to a great extent—why should not such work be done by the Departments of History, or why should not a new department—the Department of the History of Ideas—be created in our universities? Surely the prime function of the professor of literature—English, American, Greek, Chinese, or what not—is to make the young student share the emotional and aesthetic experience of the master writer, and we are so busy giving background that we devote no time to our real task. No wonder many graduates tell us that our courses in literature merely succeeded in killing their love of literature. It would be interesting to know how many graduates prefer Mickey Spillane to Emerson or Hawthorne.

The Canadian reader will note two elements in the book. Most of the contributors almost coyly point out English and other foreign influences that may have helped to change the pattern of American thought, but then the trap is suddenly sprung: the real driving force was indigenous and the change would likely have come even though American had been as isolationist in her intellectual life as in her foreign policy. The other peculiar view is expressed by at least two writers: The War of 1812 was a victory for the Americans and did much to stimulate national pride and self-reliance. Certainly Canadian and American textbooks in history must be very different. It is true that at sea, on the whole, America was successful, but it must be remembered that the British fleet had a bigger task: the saving of European nations from being permanently engulfed under a French dictatorship, a struggle that was much longer than 1812-1814. (To some, American intervention was almost like Italy's treacherous declaration of war during the late struggle.) On land, however, the Americans certainly came off second-best at the hands of a very small number of regular troops—who should have been employed in Europe—and the embattled farmers of the country, who fought with a rare determination born of their own and their fathers' experience of pledges made in 1783 for the protection of Loyalists and broken about as consistently as Communists are accused of breaking their pledges to-day. We have many international commissions at present; perhaps one more—to rewrite American and Canadian history—might be very useful.

One useful feature of the book might be mentioned in closing: for those who have not time or interest to read the chapters in their entirety, each of these has a synopsis of the argument and the points deduced. Perhaps busy undergraduates will not be the only ones to take advantage of this service.

B. M.

THE REBIRTH OF AUSTRIA. By RICHARD HISCOCKS. Oxford University Press, London, 1953, Pp. IX, 263.

This is one of few good works in English on conditions in Austria since World War II. The author, who is Professor of Political Science at the University of Manitoba, spent more than three years (1946-49) in Vienna, and therefore writes as a personal observer. He obtained additional information from unpublished official documents and



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through personal interviews. The result is a readable and informative book.

Beginning with the close of World War I, Professor Hiscocks relates how Austria was reduced by the Treaty of St. Germain from the head of a large Empire to a small nation of 32,000 square miles and 6,000,000 people. The Republican Constitution of 1920 created a federation of eight small states, and the cost of maintaining a Central Government and the various Provincial Administrations placed an unnecessary burden on the unstable economy and empty treasury of the New Republic. Furthermore, the Austrian people had not been educated to the duties and responsibilities of self-government. The two major political parties, the Christian Socialists, supported by the Church and the Peasants; and the Social Democrats, whose support came from the Urban Workers, were bitter rivals, not only in the Legislature, but throughout the country, which they kept in a state of constant fear and turmoil by the use of armed supporters, riots and strikes. Later the nation fell a victim to Nazi aggression, and during World War II was exploited for the benefit of the war machine of Germany.

From this somewhat dismal past the author turns to the "Liberation" of 1945. When the Russian, British, and American troops crossed the Austrian frontier, they were welcomed and assisted by those patriots who had formed a part of underground resistance movement. Dr. Karl Renner, who had led the Austrian delegation to the Versailles Peace Conference twenty-six years before, emerged from retirement at the age of 74 to become Chancellor of the new Republic. As a Socialist he had the support of the Russians who were in possession of Vienna. Warned by the experiences of the past, Renner sought to avoid party conflicts by creating a Coalition Government. His Cabinet consisted of four Social Democrats, four members of the People's Party, and three Communists. This Government acted in both an Executive and a Legislative capacity pending the first general election which was held a few months later. One of the most prominent of Renner's associates was Leopold Figl of the People's Party, then 43 years of age. When Renner was elected to the Presidency, Figl succeeded him as Chancellor, and held the office for "seven fruitful years."

At first the Russians gave the new Government much needed support, but later they began a systematic confiscation of the nation's economic resources, which led thoughtful Austrians to exclaim that while the country might be able to endure a third World War it would be fortunate to survive a second Liberation.

Once the Allies were established in the country, many Austrian Communists returned from exile and hoped, with Russian support, to control the Government. In this they were disappointed. In the first election they won only four seats in a House of 165, and subsequent elections showed no substantial increase. Renner and Figl, however, sought their cooperation by giving them representation in the Cabinet.

Having described the parties and the reestablishment of the Republic, Professor Hiscocks discusses the Government's programme for bringing order out of chaos, and giving to an exhausted country a de-

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gree of freedom and economic security. By stupendous efforts food was found for the starving populace of Vienna, the Civil Service was restored, and new industries were established. Recovery would have been much more difficult, if not impossible, had it not been for the assistance of such outside organizations as the Red Cross, UNRRA, CARE, and the Marshall Plan. With this aid and certain internal legislation such as the Schilling Law for the stabilization of the currency, the Nation gradually recovered some of its former prosperity. The recovery was accompanied by social changes, and by a revival of culture. (Chapters 9 and 10).

One of the major obstacles to recovery and independence was the attitude of the Russians, who continued their seizure of economic assets, and refused to negotiate a Peace Treaty. Another problem has been the Allied occupation, which Renner described as the "four elephants" who stayed on board and "impeded the small vessel's progress."

The book has an excellent format, and the text is supplied with pictures, maps and footnotes. There is an adequate Bibliography.

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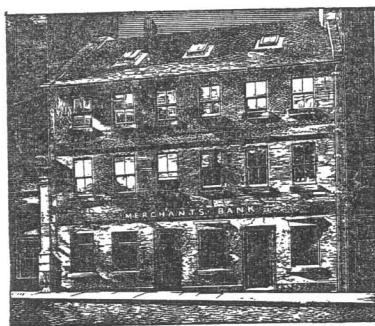
MODERN SAGAS. By THORSTINA WALTERS. North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies, Fargo, North Dakota. 299 pp. \$3.75.

Iceland of the Saga Age lives forever in those incomparable Old Norse narratives that are Europe's chief achievement between Vergil's *Aeneid* and Dante's *Divina Commedia*. Mrs. Thorstina Walters, a descendant of the old Viking race, gives us now an account of the sons and daughters of Iceland who came to North America between 1870 and 1900. The Icelandic Canadians of Manitoba are often included by indirection or association but her main interest lies with the adjacent settlement in North Dakota where her father became a pioneer farmer in 1878.

The style is not that of the ancient saga-writers but it is fluent and effective and the episodes that she describes are often of incomparable interest. Nothing, for instance, could be finer than the 30-page Introduction, with her account of the Dakotan home in which she was reared and of the two zealous pioneers—her father and mother—who did so much to perpetuate for her the spiritual and intellectual inheritance of the Icelandic past.

Much of the book is given over to a history of the institutional life of the immigrants and their children. The millenium-long pre-occupation of the Icelanders with literature and scholarship was still nourished in the log cabins of the West and led to early participation in the colleges and universities of the region. Religion was also a master passion. Mrs. Walters does not hide the bitterness of theological controversy that arose when a newly conceived Unitarian minority seceded from the predominantly Lutheran mass of the community.

In the latter part of the volume sketches are given of some of the most notable men and women who have been produced by the Icelanders in North America: folk like Supreme Court Justice Gudmundur Grimson, and Judge Sveinbjorn Johnson, the explorer Vilhjalmur



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The Icelanders of the New World have made a notable contribution to their foster homeland and Mrs. Walters' volume constitutes an invaluable introduction to their gifted community.

WATSON KIRKCONNELL.

NORTH OF 55°. Edited by CLIFFORD WILSON. Ryerson Press, Toronto, 1954.

This book containing 190 pages is divided into 16 chapters, each by a separate author. The editor states that it is written by specialists, for laymen. To this reviewer the result is not very satisfactory for some of the specialists have evidently a very low opinion of the mentality of the laymen for whom they are writing.

To write a book of this character is an extremely difficult undertaking for the specialist has to be also one who knows his audience. If the book is aimed at giving children of Grade 10 a quick view of the northern regions it has been successful, but if its aims are really for laymen and not laymen's children it has failed.

Two chapters can be excepted from this criticism—Flowers and Forests and Wings in the Arctic. Both of these are beautifully done and contain information which is of value not only to the layman but to the specialist in fields other than botany or ornithology.

The chapter on Defence of the Realm poses some of the problems of defence which all good citizens should try to understand.

The drawings by Clarence Tillenius and Terence M. Shortt are excellent. On the other hand the map at the end of the book is quite inadequate. Many of the islands of the northern archipelago are not even named. There is no reason to produce a map of that size where the spaces with no information whatsoever constitute most of the area. There is no scale, no north point, and no indication of the position of the north Magnetic Pole.

G. VIBERT DOUGLAS.

CANADA'S SOLDIERS 1604-1954: By GEORGE R. G. STANLEY. The MacMillan Co. of Canada 1954. Pp. 401. \$6.50.

This book is an interesting and readable outline of Canadian military history from the early days of New France to the present. To cover a period of 350 years in the space of four hundred pages required a careful evaluation of the emphasis to be placed on the various aspects of the subject. Professor Stanley has produced a remarkably well-balanced book.

The author is well-qualified for the task of writing a short history of the Canadian Army. Now head of the History Department of Royal Military College, Professor Stanley served in the Canadian Army for seven years during World War II. As a result his book is a scholarly, objective account of the vicissitudes of the Army under

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French and English colonial rule and the political stresses and strains subsequent to 1867.

It is probably true to say that Canadians generally are less familiar with the history of their own country than they are say, of England, the United States, or even France. This is due at least in part to the fact the other countries mentioned have utilized the moving picture and other media to glamourize and publicize their past to a far greater extent than has Canada. For the same reason Canadians know little about the background and tradition of their Army.

"Canada's Soldiers 1604-1954" offers Canadians a fine opportunity to acquaint themselves with the story of their Army. They will learn that it is a story of which they can well be proud.

The author begins his account with the struggle of the early French settlements on the St. Lawrence. In addition to the hardships of Nature, the first Canadians had to defend themselves from the fierce and war-like Iroquois. In their dual role as citizen-soldiers the Habitants established a tradition which forms the basis of the Canadian Army to-day.

Professor Stanley deals at some length with the basis on which the Militia of New France was raised, its weakness and its strength. The relations between the French regulars and the Canadian Militia are also dealt with as is the part played by both in the long struggle which ended in Canada becoming a British possession.

The organization and development of the Provincial Militia from 1763 to Confederation is interestingly described. The stimulus to public and official interest in the military which was provided over the years by war and threat of war with the United States is well brought out. The contribution which British military officials in North America made to Canada's Army is suitably recognized. The description of the rather reluctant acceptance of military responsibility by the Canadian government in the years following Confederation is particularly interesting.

The book contains descriptions of every action in which the soldiers of Canada have taken part. These range from border skirmishes with the Fenians to the magnificent efforts put forth in the First and Second World Wars. In summing up the Author says:

"For three centuries and a half Canadians have borne arms. Essentially a civilian people, and unmilitary people, they have through military necessity, fought to preserve their freedom and their identity. No men have fought better: no men have as quickly discarded the skills of war to return to the farms and factories of peace."

Professor Stanley points out in his preface that the book is "not a work of intensive, original historical research" and that it is based "partly upon documentary materials and partly upon secondary works." Throughout, however, the Author's method of presentation adds new zest to even the more familiar episodes of Canada's Military History. Apart from telling a story with which every Canadian should be familiar, this book should arouse in even an "unmilitary people," pride in their army and its traditions.

HUGH THOMPSON.



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THE WALKER EXPEDITION TO QUEBEC, 1711. Edited with an Introduction by GERALD S. GRAHAM. Toronto, The Champlain Society, 1953. Pp. xx, 441. Maps and illustrations.

This volume comprises all extant primary sources for an account of the origin, course and consequences of the abortive expedition against Quebec in 1711, together with an introduction by Professor Graham, which skilfully summarizes and interprets this material. Specifically, it comprises the Journal of Admiral Sir Hovenden Walker, which was compiled several years after the event in self defence; the letters and memoranda exchanged between British and Colonial officials in preparation for the expedition in England and New England; correspondence of Admiral Walker, Brigadier Hill, and Colonel Vetch with St. John and the diaries of Hill and Vetch giving their accounts of the disaster; the correspondence of the Colonial governors and Assemblies with St. John and Lord Dartmouth showing the reaction of the colonies to the disaster; and finally, a group of miscellaneous documents containing, *inter alia*, French accounts of the wreck in the St. Lawrence and the articles of impeachment of Harley (Lord Oxford) and his reply.

Briefly, the story is this. In 1711 a joint expedition of Imperial and Colonial naval and military forces—the deferred fulfillment of a plan of 1709—was organized against Canada. A naval force of regulars, marines and New England troops was to proceed against Quebec by sea while troops recruited in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania were to create a diversion against Montreal by the Hudson-Lake Champlain route. Though inspired by the colonies as a defensive measure, it was taken up by the Tories in England under Harley and St. John, as much to counteract the popularity of Marlborough and the Whigs as to please the mercantile classes or to enable them to make a better treaty with France; and, while robbing Marlborough of five of his best regiments, they hazarded the success of the expedition from the beginning in an effort to deceive the French as to its destination, by supplying it with only enough provisions for a Mediterranean cruise and relying upon the colonies to make up the deficiency on short notice. As a result the fleet, which was delayed in setting out from England, was delayed further in Boston; and when it was ready to set out for Quebec had to commandeer pilots, none of whom proved efficient.

However, on July 30, the expedition of nine warships, two bomb ketches and 60 transports with some 12,000 men aboard (7500 troops and marines together with the sailors) set out on its fateful voyage. On August 23rd, before it had proceeded far into the mouth of the St. Lawrence, it was wrecked on Egg Island with a loss of seven transports and a store ship and nearly 900 souls (705 troops, 35 women, and 150 sailors). Contrary to the advice of Vetch, who was in command of the New England troops, a Council of War decided to retreat to Spanish River (Sydney Harbour) and consider an attack on Placentia; but when assembled there another Council of War decided to make for home. In the meantime, word was sent to New England to recall the troops sent overland under Nicholson against Montreal; arrange-

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ments were made to send the New England troops home in their own transports and to draft 400 men from General Hill's seven regiments to replace the garrison at Annapolis Royal; and both Admiral Walker and General Hill proceeded to find excuses for their failure. General Hill blamed it on "a stroak of Providence"; but Admiral Walker found excuses in the lateness of the season in setting out, due to the delays of New England in supplying provisions, and transports, and sailors to man them. He even goes so far as to suggest that this delay had been deliberate and inspired by Denys de la Ronde, a French agent from Placentia; and because of that he suggested that there was "as much occasion for securing those colonys to Her Majesty as undertaking to reduce the French." None of these excuses could have saved either Walker or Hill from punishment for incompetence had political conditions in England been otherwise; and to the Whigs under George I and to posterity the expedition appeared as one of the greatest fiascoes in history.

The very full accounts of this fiasco and the reactions of the colonies and all concerned to it make this volume one of the most interesting of the Champlain Society's publications.

D. C. H.

THE STORY OF MEDICINE. By ARTHUR L. MURPHY. The Ryerson Press, Toronto. 243 pp.

Not a text-book but an absorbing popular work which laymen and medical students alike will find rewarding is this amazingly comprehensive story, told economically in fewer pages than many a modern novel. Dr. Murphy is a dedicated member of his profession and one of those gifted professional men who can pass along in an articulate way their interest and enthusiasm.

In a fast-moving, readable book, Dr. Murphy presents to us the colorful pageant of medical history from the first groping, superstitious attempts six thousand years ago to the wonders of modern treatment and technique. It is a fascinating story of trial and error, of advance and retreat, of monstrous misunderstanding and of brilliant discovery.

We read of the famous practitioners of Ancient India in the pre-Christian era whose knowledge of medicine and surgery reached great heights, only to be lost in the Mohammendan invasion until painfully rediscovered through centuries which followed.

It is a book studded with great names: Hippocrates. . .Galen. . . Pare. . .Harvey. . .Leeuwenhoek. . . and many more. It is a book of exciting adventure, of social comment, of vital history. To say much more of the book is to present second-hand material which the reader will find more skilfully presented in the original.

It is enough, perhaps, to say that here is a book to fascinate everyone and a book which may well find its place in the lists of required reading for medical students as an introduction to the great traditions of their profession.

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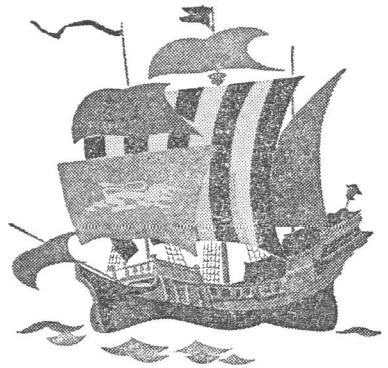
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THIRTY AND THREE. By HUGH MACLENNAN. Edited by DOROTHY DUNCAN. MacMillan, Toronto. 261 pp. \$3.75.

Although Mr. MacLennan is known primarily as a novelist, in recent years short essays from his pen have appeared frequently in several magazines. Thirty-two of these, together with another which appears for the first time, have now been published in one volume—and a readable volume it is. Since their first appearance, the essays have been edited by the author's wife, "cut and sharpened" he says, and some thrown out. Occasionally a paragraph has been transposed. "The essays," says Mr. MacLennan, "were all made by me, but the book has been made by her."

No matter how the responsibility has been divided, the result is altogether satisfying. The essays are skilfully done, some provocative, some entertaining, all enjoyable. They discuss such varied subjects as lunatics and idiots, Sherbrooke Street, Hemingway, Mackenzie King, and Nova Scotia. Through them all appears the strong sentimental attachment which Mr. MacLennan bears for Montreal and for Nova Scotia, respectively his adult and boyhood homes.

Because it is a collection of short pieces on many topics, this is an excellent book for interim reading, something to pick up for refreshment during periods when a longer work palls. Which is not to say, in any sense, that it is trivial.

W. G. A.

STEPHEN LEACOCK, A CHECKLIST AND INDEX OF HIS WRITINGS. Compiled by GERHARD R. LOMER. 153 p. port. Ottawa, National Library of Canada, Dec. 1954. Available from The Supervisor of Government Publications, Queen's Printer, Ottawa, Canada. \$2.00.

This combined checklist and index is an important landmark in the progress of Canadian bibliographical endeavour. Dr. Lomer's research, to which he has devoted considerable time, has resulted in a checklist for which librarians and scholars everywhere will be grateful. It is thorough, accurate and both handsome and practical in type layout. This work is to be acclaimed further, as it marks the beginning of what one hopes will be a long series of bibliographical studies of Canadian writers bearing the imprint of Canada's National Library. It is fitting that this inaugural work should have been devoted to one of our most prolific and best known authors—Stephen Leacock of McGill. All connected with this enterprise deserve congratulation.

DOUGLAS LOCHHEAD.

WORLD HISTORY FROM 1914 TO 1950. DAVID THOMPSON. Oxford University Press. 6s. 1954. 256 pages. Table. Bibliographical Note. Index. Home University Library.

To condense the history of the world from 1914 to 1950 into 229 pages is no small achievement. Even so it would seem that the author would be compelled either to restrict himself to a summary of events

The background of the advertisement is a detailed black and white illustration of a classical building. On the right side, a large, fluted column stands prominently, with a decorative capital. A vine with leaves and small flowers is wrapped around the column. In the lower-left foreground, a lion sculpture is perched atop a rectangular pedestal. The building's facade in the background features several windows with decorative moldings.

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or to a discussion of only such events as he thought were of real significance. Dr. Thompson has certainly not attempted to do the first, and he has done the second with a difference. In spite of the brevity of the book you feel that here you have a competent survey of all the great currents of action and thought that buffeted the European scene like a great hurricane for over a third of a century. The two great World Wars fell within the period but the author does not aim to tell their story. Their significance is what concerns him. Such is the purpose all through the book. It is interpretation rather than narrative. Another virtue of the book is its impartiality and its objectivity. The author has no desire to preach, his aim is to make clear cause and effect, to understand, not to judge. This is history, not a moral essay. It is certainly a valuable addition to the Home University Library.

G. E. WILSON.

EMMANUEL MOUNIER: *PERSONALISM*. Translated by PHILIP MAIRET. 1952. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul. Pp. xx, 132. 15s. (In Canada, \$3.50).

The French original of this book was published in 1950 and in that year Emmanuel Mounier died at the age of 45. He died as he had lived in entire submission to his doctrine of total commitment. Eighteen years before he had given up his comfortable and congenial professorship of philosophy to become, as editor of *Esprit*, a political journalist. In thus choosing "engagement" as against "abstention", he deliberately chose at the same time to pay the full price in terms of comparative poverty, insecurity and disregard of personal convenience and even of his own health. We are told by Mr. Leslie Paul that "It was only on the day of his death that he had at last, under pressure from his friends, agreed to consult a doctor." It is a commentary on our age that such commitment should seem either heroic or merely foolish, for in either case we disclose by our surprise a hidden scepticism about the normality of a life of concern and its closing in this way with a kind of Socratic consent.

It is impossible to find in the English speaking world a counterpart of the Personalist movement in France, nor is there any equal, either in contents or influence, of the monthly journal *Esprit* which Mounier founded and edited. Personalism might be dismissed as merely one political movement of the left, influential at a time when leftist movements in general found in the disasters and sufferings of the depression and then of war, occupation and resistance, a more fertile soil than at present. But this is to overlook many things. Personalism has stood out valiantly against the tyranny, from every quarter, of collectivism and of the mechanisation and materialisation of life as violations of the sanctity of the person. During the occupation *Esprit* was suspended and Mounier was imprisoned, yet in the first number to appear after the liberation he spoke out against those who were crying for revenge on the collaborators and Vichyites. Personalism has striven for a resuscitation of Christianity by a personalist interpretation of its role in an "hour of Apocalypse." Personalism has never

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been a political party but a vehicle for the analysis and discussion of current social and political problems and movements from the point of view of a definite, if not always completely coherent, theory of the nature of the human personality.

It was this philosophy of the person that first awakened my own interest in Mounier's thought and since his books have begun to appear in English translations I have urged all my students in psychology to study them as complementary to the numerous "theories of personality" put forward by contemporary psychologists. For it has become evident to me that it is only in a restricted and technical sense that what we today call psychology deals with the problems of human personality. It seems indeed to illuminate not so much what human personality is in its fulness and completeness as negatively to demonstrate what people would be like in its absence. By making behaviour the material of his study the psychologist tends to deal with people not as persons but as the products of impersonal biological and sociological "determinants." He thereby loses much of the subtlety, the spontaneity, the unsociological reserves and privacies, the unbiological generousities, so evidently characteristic of truly personal existence. An American psychologist, Solomon Asch, has said: "Modern psychology has often drawn, I suspect, a caricature rather than a portrait of man." He asks whether this distortion "does not have its roots in a certain decadence and anti-human orientation for which the subject-matter itself is not responsible, and whether the simplicity and apparent freedom from presuppositions may not hide a dogmatism all the more inflexible because it speaks in the name of science." I know no nobler portrayal of what is involved in the richness and complexity of man's personal existence and no more splendid corrective against this reductionist tendency in contemporary psychology than Mounier's *Personalism*.

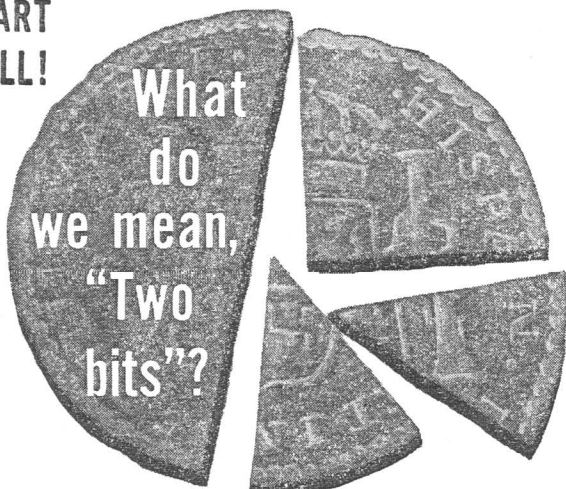
F. HILTON PAGE.

DICTIONARY OF EUROPEAN HISTORY. Compiled by WILLIAM S. ROEDER. Foreword by HARRY ELMER BARNES. Philosophical Society, New York, 1954. 316 pages.

This is a reference book and nothing else. Its purpose is to be a help in time of trouble to any busy professor or journalist or even the casual reader who wishes to get quickly a brief account of any person or historical event in the history of Europe since the year 500 A.D. The author's aim has been to be more comprehensive as he approached the present and to put more emphasis on political history than on other branches of human activity. The book is undoubtedly useful but, of necessity, has its limitations. It is impossible to put everything in that a reader might expect. The present reviewer would not sell the book "with a guarantee" but he might sell it "with a recommendation" if it were not for the coarse paper on which it is printed. It would be a much more attractive book, and certainly much more pleasant to handle, if it were printed on fine paper and reduced to half its present size.

G. E. WILSON.

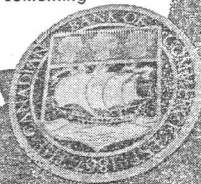
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BAUDELAIRE, A STUDY OF HIS POETRY. By MARTIN TURNELL. British Book Service, Toronto. \$4.25.

The final three chapters of this book which deal with Baudelaire's poetry, with *Fleurs du Mal*, are revealing and helpful for the most part. Mr. Turnell, however, has not been able to resist the temptation of examining, just once more, the old bones of the celebrated case-history of ". . . the greatest poet of his age." It is in his first three chapters that Mr. Turnell ambitiously undertakes to "place" Baudelaire, to sum up the entire Romantic Movement and to talk about the many interesting writers of 19th century France, before he gets down to what the title says the book is all about. It is an impossible task and as a result we are presented with much bewildering over-simplification. It makes for uneasy reading. But the chapters about *Fleurs du Mal* are obviously the work of an enthusiastic and sympathetic critic, and except for occasional lapses of rather obvious paraphrase, the reader is incited to go back to the poetry itself. This surely was Mr. Turnell's purpose and these chapters make the book worthwhile.

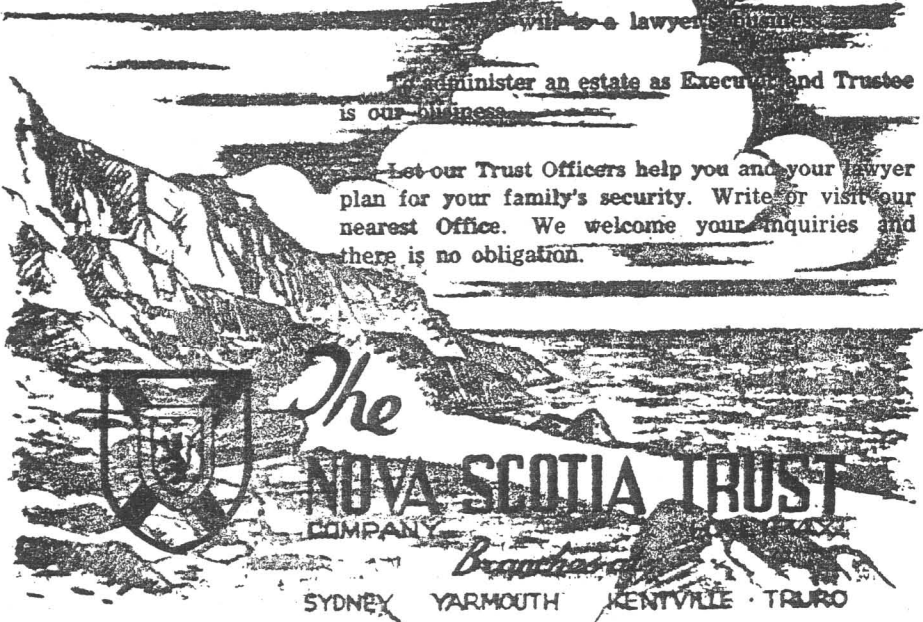
DOUGLAS LOCHHEAD.

ART OF ASIA. By HELEN RUBISSOW. Philosophical Library Inc. \$6.00.

This book is better than it appears to be at first sight. But it must be admitted that a first examination does anything but prejudice a reviewer in its favour. The dust cover is disagreeable in colour, amorphous in design, undistinguished in typography and incorporates a *cropped version* of a most interesting modern Indian picture. Such a cover is unforgivable in a book of art. One is further surprised upon looking inside to find that "Asia" includes all continental countries east of the Dardanelles except the USSR. that almost half of the book deals with the countries of the near and middle east (west of India and south of the U.S.S.R.) and that most of this section deals with extinct civilisations. In fact there is as much archeology as art in the book. What is one to think of a book which mentions Korean ceramics but not Chinese; which mentions only the prehistoric pottery in Japan; which describes the great temple at Angkor-Vat as a supreme achievement of art in Indo-China, but does not mention architecture at all in the chapter on India; which gives an account of the art of Tibet without mentioning the Tibetans' masterly work in bronze teapots and other utensils; which declares that painting is to be the main theme of the book but reproduces paintings in only half of the illustrations (the remainder being given over to mosaics, bronzes, sculpture, pottery, fabrics, etc.)? The truth is, of course, that you cannot give a satisfactory account of the Art of Asia in 230 pages (33 to India, 23 to China, 23 to Japan, 8 to the Hittites, 11 to the Art of Islam and so on.) It is neither very clear what purpose the book is intended to serve nor for what audience it is designed. Satisfactory descriptive books on art are usually either books which deal thoroughly with a certain artist or group of artists, or a certain period, or a certain country; or books which follow a rigidly restricted theme over a certain period of time. And there is always room for a text-book which covers


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thoroughly in outline some chosen field. But "Art in Asia" does not seem to fit into any of these three categories.

There are, however, many good things in the book. There are plums in the pudding. The accounts of the masterly pre-Greek statuettes from Harappa; of miniature painting in India; of the colour woodcuts in Japan; of the Luristan bronzes; of book decoration in Persia—all of those whet the appetite for more. The highest praise we can apply to the book is that enunciated by Sam Weller in slightly different circumstances, "She vish there vos more, and that's the great art o' letter-writing."

The book contains over eighty illustrations well reproduced and many of them of considerable interest.

A. S. MOWAT.

EMILY CARR AS I KNEW HER. By CAROL PEARSON. Clarke Irwin & Co. Toronto 1954. \$2.50.

This is a pleasant chatty book about Emily Carr. The author took art lessons from Miss Carr for seven years as a child and lived with her in the studio on Simcoe Street, Victoria, for over three years until her marriage. Thereafter she corresponded with Miss Carr and visited her frequently. The book is to be respected for its honesty. These are Mrs. Pearson's recollections set down in her own words. They are not very well organised and literary artifice would suggest the avoidance of words like "nice" and "awful" and the elimination of sentences such as "they were wonderful days and Miss Carr a wonderful woman." But, although there have been a number of articles about Emily Carr as painter or author, this is the only book about her published so far. It confirms the impressions of a vivid, independent and vigorous personality revealed in Miss Carr's own books "Klee Wyck", "The House of All Sorts", "The Book of Small", and "Growing Pains". These remain and perhaps always will remain the best introduction to her genius. Those who wish to acquaint themselves with Miss Carr and her work should first of all read her own books and look at her pictures. After that a perusal of Mrs. Pearson's book will be a pleasant experience.

It is a pity that a book about an artist should have a dust cover with rather disagreeable typography, lay-out and colouring.

A. S. MOWAT.

JOHN RAE'S CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY ON ARCTIC EXPLORATION, 1844-1855. Edited by E. E. RICH, assisted by A. M. JOHNSON. With an Introduction by J. M. WORDIE and R. J. CYRIAX. London, The Hudson's Bay Record Society, 1953. Pp. cvi, 401. Frontispiece and maps.

This is the 16th volume of the Hudson's Bay Record Society's studies though only the fourth published by the Society—the first twelve having been published by The Champlain Society. It is one of the most interesting of their publications, because it deals with the

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Hudson's Bay Company's contribution to Arctic exploration and the search for the North West Passage; and links the activities of Rae in this respect with the expeditions for relief of Sir John Franklin or the discovery of his fate. In doing this the editors have omitted many lengthy letters of Rae that did not bear upon this subject, while the authors of the introduction, preparatory to an account of Rae's explorations and achievements which the correspondence reveals, have given a lucid sketch of Arctic discovery between 1818 and 1839—the period when the north coastline of America west of Baffin Land had been roughly pieced together by Parry, Franklin, Richardson, Back, Beechey, Elson, Sir John Ross and his nephew James Clark Ross, Dease and Simpson and others—and have followed this by a detailed discussion of Rae's four expeditions, 1846-47, 1848-49, 1851 and 1853-54. As the introduction also gives a summary account of both Rae's earlier and later life, it constitutes a concise biography of the explorer, who actually found the first evidence of the fate of the last Franklin expedition and the approximate location of the disaster, and was "the foremost practical exponent as an explorer" of the policy of "living on the land"—that is, of relying on hunting and fishing for subsistence in Arctic exploration.

To the 297 pages of Rae's correspondence, in which he recounts in detail his experiences and achievements on the four expeditions, the editors have added 100 pages of appendices and biographical notices of men mentioned in the text, two maps to illustrate these and other Arctic expeditions, and an excellent index, all of which should equip the serious reader thoroughly for the mastery of a difficult subject—the long story of the search for a north-west passage and the conquest of the Arctic.

D. C. H.

THE PRESENT STATE OF HUDSON'S BAY. By EDWARD UMFREVILLE.
Edited with an introduction and notes by W. STEWART WALLACE. The Ryerson Press, Toronto. Pp. xv, 122. \$10.00.

The original book, of which the full, long title appears after page 14 of this volume, was published in London in 1790; and because of its rarity and value has been republished for the first time by The Ryerson Press, as Volume 5 of *The Canadian Historical Studies*, under the editorship of W. Stewart Wallace, who has written so widely on the fur-trade.

Of the early and later life of Edward Umfreville, the author, little is known; but he was definitely in the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company from 1771 until 1782, when he was taken prisoner by the French at York Factory and carried to France. On his release he had some misunderstanding with the Company and came to Canada to join forces with the North West Company, with whom he remained four years. At first he was employed by the latter in surveying an alternative to the Grand Portage route from Lake Superior westward; and later he was in charge of a post far up on the Saskatchewan, where he did a profitable business until 1788, when he left the North West Company, being "tired of the Canadian Masters"; and applied to the



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Hudson's Bay Company for reemployment. Unable to come to terms with the latter he published his rather critical account of the Company and the fur trade, and then passed out of history. As Umfreville had experience in the employ of both companies and was not entirely happy in his final relations with either, he could hardly be expected to pull any punches in dealing with their respective merits. None the less, in the opinion of Dr. Wallace, his book "gives a clear and impartial picture of the methods of the fur-trade at the end of the eighteenth century"; and is of "especial value for anyone who wishes to study the story of the struggle for supremacy between these two organizations."

The format of this slender volume is attractive; but the price puts it beyond the average reader, certainly beyond the student. Incidentally, on pages xiv and xv of the Introduction the date 1889 should have been 1789.

D. C. H.

THE POWER OF EMERSON'S WISDOM. By HUGH P. MACDONALD.
Pageant Press, New York, 180 Pages.

When Hugh MacDonald, whose home is in Pittsburgh, was a lad in Ontario, he discovered Emerson for himself. Later, in Toronto University, he heard Professor Robert Law, whom he held in great veneration, say "Sometimes I feel that one has not lived who has not read or studied Emerson's essays on 'The Conduct of Life' ". After graduation he turned his attention to business and rose to an executive position in a firm of international renown. In spite of the demands of his office, he continued to indulge his love for Emerson, and he has now publicly declared himself a disciple of the celebrated American sage by publishing this compendium of almost twenty-five hundred striking texts, covering many topics, which he has gleaned from the entire range of Emerson's writings in the course of more than a quarter of a century. He holds that Emerson wrote with deliberate purpose to "nerve (his fellowmen) with incessant affirmatives", and that his "hopeful affirmative thinking" constitutes the "power of his wisdom". The comments on life and its abiding values which Mr. MacDonald has included in his collection provide strong confirmation of this judgment. His book is obviously intended for men and women who are looking for not entertainment but insights by which to live, and it provides these in rich abundance.

A. E. K.



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