

NEW BOOKS

JOSEPH HOWE: A Study in Achievement and Frustration. By James A. Roy, M.A. (Edin.) Toronto. The Macmillan Co. of Canada.

It would have pleased Joseph Howe to know that after his death there would appear in print several biographies of him, many short sketches of his life, and not a few magazine articles extolling his merits; for publicity and praise were never annoying to him. In his lifetime no one did more to advertise Howe than did Howe himself. Shortly after his death, Dr. George M. Grant, his pastor (if he can be said to have had one) in a brilliant magazine article gave us what is probably the best study of Howe that has so far appeared. George Johnson wrote a *Life of Howe*, which has never been printed; and G. E. Fenety, an old employee of Howe's, printed a *Life*, which ought never to have been written. Mr. Justice Longley is the author of a short biography, written in a slap-dash style and somewhat careless in its statements of fact, but nevertheless quite interesting. Each of these admirers had the advantage of acquaintance with Howe and with most of his contemporaries in the Province. We now have a valuable contribution to the growing literature concerning the Nova Scotian statesman from Prof. Roy of Queen's University. He has laboured under the handicap of not having personal acquaintance with the man of whom he writes, and of being unfamiliar with the surrounding tradition in which Howe grew up. He has had, however, the advantage, denied to the earlier biographers, of having full access to the Howe papers, letters, diaries, etc., carefully preserved by Howe and his son, and now in the Dominion Archives at Ottawa. Of this material Prof. Roy has made ample use. While the work claims to be merely a study of Howe, the man, rather than Howe, the statesman and orator, the principal events are so fully embodied in the study that it is in substance a comprehensive *Life*. The Howe that emerges from this study is not the Howe whom so many Nova Scotians idolized; there is much disclosed to show flaws which his admirers are wont to overlook or forget. There is indeed enough to enable an enemy to make a devastating onslaught on our idol.

The first years of his life are those in which he did his best work. The libel prosecution and his triumphant acquittal, his moving speech in his own defence, the splendid fight for responsible government, the able work in editing a paper which became the most notable in British North America, his magnificent speeches and lectures, and the impetus he gave to literary and other intellectual study in his native Province, are told in detail and accurately. All this redounds immensely to the credit and fame of the Nova Scotia tribune. But there is another side to the picture. After he succeeded in what remains his greatest work, and gained for us our constitutional rights, he seemed wanting at times in loyalty to his nominal chiefs. His incursion into

the United States to recruit for the Foreign Legion was not to his credit. His action was a gross violation of the accepted principles of international law, as well as a crime under the law of the neutral nation of which he made himself temporarily a guest. Growing out of this episode and for the purpose of winning an election, he started a bitter and unfair religious agitation which threw the Province into turmoil and created dissensions which it took years to compose. No sooner did he win the election than he abandoned the proscription which he encouraged and, again for political purposes, he offered place and position to the Hon. Hugh McDonald, one of his opponents in the House of Assembly. This offer was spurned. Realists can apply a harsh name to the offer. But, perhaps, where he showed his greatest weakness was his action in regard to the question of the confederation of the British provinces.

The author gives an account of the visit to Halifax of the McGee party, who were entertained at a banquet at Prince's Lodge on August 13, 1864, at which Howe in a speech said:

I am not one of those who thank God that I am a Nova Scotian merely, for I am a Canadian as well. . . Join the Maritime Provinces if you can; but, at any rate, stick together. . . hold your own. . . In conclusion, I am pleased to think the day is rapidly approaching when the Provinces will be united, with one flag above our heads, one thought in our bosoms, with one Sovereign and one constitution.

He filled at this time an office as Fishery Commissioner under the Imperial Government, and was not able to take part as a delegate to the Charlottetown Convention to which he was invited. On Sept. 20th, he wrote to his wife from St. John's, Nfld.; "I have read the proceedings of the delegates, and I am glad to be out of the mess. My whole summer's work would have been broken up, had I gone to P. E. I."

He returned to Halifax on Nov. 2nd. On December 19th a meeting was held in Halifax to protest against the Quebec scheme, which was very unpopular among the Halifax merchants. Howe was present, as he was at some subsequent meetings, but did not speak or take any part. It was not until January following that he yielded to the current feeling and began to write against the scheme, to which in the previous August he had given his approval. Then followed the vehement campaign against Confederation, and the futile efforts to repeal the Confederation Act. It is hard to believe that Howe was sincere in his opposition to Confederation. And when his arduous efforts failed, he accepted the situation and took office under the hated Canadians. Within the years immediately following, many of the stalwarts who were ready to fight Confederation to the last ditch were appeased by offices of emolument under the new Government. Indeed, whispers emanated from Government House that one sea-green incorruptible applied at the dispensing quarter for a seat in the Canadian Senate, and finding his application too late, because all the seats had been filled, he never accepted the situation. The manner in which Howe was treated by his late friends after the Better Terms affair is,

Prof. Roy's book reveals some circumstances not generally known to Howe's admirers, namely, that he was for years an applicant for office under the Home Government. To further his aim in that direction, he published his *Speeches and Public Letters*, and circulated copies where he thought they would do most good. He borrowed the name of his then friend, William Annand, and made it appear that Annand was the author of the book—a rather unusual proceeding. He dreamed the dream of becoming the M. P. for his native Province in the British Parliament. When that seemed to be in the distant future, he pestered the Home authorities for years for recognition by appointment as Governor of Oregon, British Columbia, etc., but in the end had to be content with the unimportant office of Fishery Commissioner.

Prof. Roy says that "the question as to whether Howe was a great man remains unanswered". With all his shortcomings, of which Prof. Roy's book contains the record, the popular opinion will prevail that he was a great man—the most gifted publicist that his Province has yet produced.

A few errors are noticeable in Prof. Roy's book, which ought to be corrected in a later edition. On page 46 Bishop *Fisher* is no doubt intended for Bishop *Fraser*, who was said to be a friend of Howe's. On page 51, it is stated that Howe entered the witness-box at the libel trial, and that he faced the *Judge*. Howe did not give any evidence at this trial, and did not enter the witness-box. He was tried at bar, more than one judge sitting on the trial. On page 98 St. Andrew's Society is mentioned. There was no Society of that name in Halifax then or since. On page 292, McDougall is said to have attacked Howe, "the Secretary of State for the Colonies".

J. C.

THE LAW AND CUSTOM OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN CONSTITUTION:
A Treatise on the Constitutional and Administrative Law
of the Union of South Africa, the Mandated Territory
of South-West Africa, and the South African Crown
Territories. By W. P. M. Kennedy and H. J. Schlos-
berg. 1935. (London: Oxford University Press. 8 vo.,
640 pp. \$10.75).

The two authors who have combined to produce this book on South African government have distinguished records. Dr. Kennedy has been for years the leader of Canadian writers on constitutional and historical subjects, and his work has invariably been characterized by its sound scholarship and lucid style. Mr. Schlosberg is not so well known to Canadians, although many are familiar with his recent work on "The King's Republics", an excellent study of inter-Imperial problems and relations.

The union of these two authorities has proved to be extremely fortunate. This book gives a careful and authoritative account of

constitutional law and custom in South Africa and adjacent territories, and is unquestionably the most complete survey yet made. It discusses the historical development of the colonies, the formation of the Union, the general framework of both central and provincial governments, the problem of native administration, and the external and inter-Imperial relations of the Union. It is well written, and a generous use of official documents adds value and colour to the text. One of the most interesting and difficult features of South African government is the native problem, and those sections dealing with the government of the natives will be found to be among the most useful in the book. The legal side of the South African constitution is perhaps over-emphasized in certain places; for example, in the discussion on provincial powers, and in the extremely interesting chapter on actions by and against the Government and its servants; but the book's sub-title indicates that this emphasis is deliberate, and that the primary concern of the treatise is constitutional and administrative law.

This is the kind of book that should long ago have been written on the Canadian constitution, and South Africans are fortunate indeed to possess a volume which will give so comprehensive and informative an account of the government of their Dominion.

R. MACG. DAWSON.

THE ANCIENT WORLD, A BEGINNING. By T. R. Glover. Cambridge, at the University Press; New York, The Macmillan Company, 1935. Pp. xii, 388, with 8 plates, 12 text-figures, and 6 maps. \$2.50.

Mr. T. R. Glover, Public Orator in the University of Cambridge, has for many years—as he tells us in the Preface—been teaching Ancient History, and been reading it for many more. He thus has in his possession, in full measure, that knowledge of the ancient world that is shared by other historians. But, unlike most of this class, who inevitably write narrowly and dryly, Mr. Glover here indulges himself with a pleasant stroll through the avenues of the early world, enjoying the sights and the odours as he goes along, quite untrammelled by those inhibitions that compel strict adherence to the strait and narrow path.

“The book is not a text-book for any known examination”—a consideration for which the reader will feel profoundly grateful. It is written “to enlist recruits for a study which the writer feels to be of supreme interest”. The trend of events, social and academic, during the last twenty years has resulted in a serious depletion of the ranks of students, both amateur and professional, of ancient history. Undoubtedly, anyone who will be tempted to partake of the palatable dish provided in *The Ancient World* will be constrained to become, to some degree, a messmate of the author.

In strictness, the title is a misnomer. The reader will find in the book little more than a passing reference to the Egyptians,

Babylonians, Sumerians, and other peoples whose civilization either had perished or was on the decline while the Greeks—to say nothing of the Romans—had not fully emerged from barbarism. True to Cambridge tradition, the author closes his eyes somewhat tightly to the significance of what is ancient but at the same time non-Hellenic and non-Italic. Indeed, the work might well be described as a running commentary on the course of Graeco-Roman culture from Homer to Constantine.

But, within these boundaries, Mr. Glover “lets himself go” with all the power of a very fluent and persuasive pen. His account is definitely popular in its appeal; and without resorting to the tricks of the modern journalist, he carries the reader, on the good ship of Enthusiasm, across the vast ocean of Greek and Roman experience. We are swept, as it were, from billow to billow without the necessity of laboriously voyaging up and down the concavities of the sea. Some perils attendant upon any such method will doubtless be observed and deplored by the scientific historian. The author is making it all too easy, and creating a false impression of history. But for all that—and no doubt Mr. Glover realizes the danger as well as anyone—he refuses to be a Polybius, and resolutely maintains the rôle of a Herodotus. For his mission is to inspire and stimulate, not to train, the reader.

Occasionally, but seldom, we encounter something in the book that bespeaks the nineteenth century point of view, or the circumstances that attended the author’s early training. Samian pottery was not so renowned for its excellence as Mr. Glover would have us believe, and modern cups and saucers are not made, as formerly, “on a wheel”, but are cast from moulds. Nor does the captain of the ocean liner any longer employ the time-honoured practice of “heaving the log”.

But small inaccuracies of this sort will be noticed only by those who scan the pages of *The Ancient World* with an ultra-critical eye. The book is, first and last, a good one—so good that there is just a chance that it may achieve the doubtful distinction of becoming a “best seller”. The author is not a political theorist; he is a man of ideas, and it is through ideas that the human soul is nourished.

A. D. FRASER.

ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES. By W. A. Mackintosh, assisted by A. B. Clark, E. A. Elliott and W. W. Swanson. The Macmillan Co., pp. 308. Price, \$4.00.

This is the fourth volume of a series on Canadian Frontiers of Settlement. Professor Mackintosh of Queen’s University, Editor of the Series, contributes the first four and the final chapters on Economic Trends, Fluctuations, Acquiring a Transportation System, Problems of Marketing, Farm Credit, while Professor Clark of Mani-

toba and Professor Elliott of Alberta contribute chapters V and VI on Provincial Finances with special reference to Alberta, and Professor Swanson of Saskatchewan in Chapters VII to XI presents the results of a study of Municipal Taxation in Saskatchewan.

Some years ago Dr. Isaiah Bowman, President of the American Geographical Society, and now of Johns Hopkins University, interested the National Research Council of the United States and the Social Science Research Council in a scientific study of settlement of the Pioneer Belts of the World. Eight regions were considered: (1) Alaska; (2) the Canadian Northwest; (3) The Matto Grosso Highland and Chaco; (4) Patagonia; (5) the sub-tropical highlands of Angole, Rhodesia and East Africa; (6) the inner side of settlement in Australia, pioneer regions in Tasmania and New Zealand; (7) Northern Russia and Siberia; and (8) Manchuria and Mongolia. It was decided to begin with Canada, the most accessible region, where the necessary field work and research could be undertaken by local investigators.

This study was to be under the general supervision of the following committee, appointed by the American Geographical Society: Dr. Merk of Harvard, Chairman; Dr. Baker, United States Department of Agriculture; Dr. Duncan McArthur, Queen's University; Dean Rutherford, Saskatchewan University; Dr. Young of Wisconsin, and Dr. Joerg, Secretary of the Amer. Geog. Soc. The Society became responsible for financing the project, and sought the co-operation of government agencies, Dominion and Provincial, and of certain universities.

Dr. W. A. Mackintosh was appointed Director of the Research, and with him were associated Dean Rutherford, Dr. McArthur, Dr. Chester Martin of Manitoba and Dr. McGibbon of Alberta.

Research has been conducted in four distinct fields; Physical Conditions—Agricultural Economics—History and Economics—and Social Structure.

Three only of the nine volumes projected have been published; the first on the Geographical Setting of the Prairie Settlement, by Professor Mackintosh; the fourth, the present one on Economic Problems; and the sixth, on the Settlement of the Peace River Country, by Professor Dawson of McGill, with the assistance of Professor Murchie, formerly of Manitoba, now of Minnesota.

In the fourth volume "an attempt has been made to elucidate those economic problems which are common to the whole region of the Prairie Provinces". "While the particular economy studied is that of the prairie region of Canada, the problems are in the main common to all regions of recent rapid settlement." "It is the thesis of this volume that the characteristic and therefore fundamental problems are those which result from the conjuncture of a highly variable regional income and heavy overhead charges."

"The fortunes of prairie settlement have been closely bound up with the fortunes of Wheat. For the whole of Canada, wheat in terms of population is almost three times as important as it is in the exporting countries of Argentine and Australia, and six times as important as in the United States."

The most significant fact of this new land is "the extreme variability of net agricultural income". From 1921-29, years of comparative prosperity, "the coefficient of variation" ranged from 65 to 173 per cent.

"Heavy fixed charges and highly fluctuating income are incompatible". "Conservative rules for financing industrial and commercial concerns require that the fixed charge for bond interest should not exceed one-half the irreducible minimum of anticipated net income" (p. 32).

Transportation and marketing become of great importance in determining net income from a commodity whose price is fixed by world conditions. Professor Mackintosh shows how the demand for railways and marketing conveniences piled up heavy fixed charges.

Similarly the studies of the provincial finances of Alberta by Professors Clark and Elliott, and of the municipal financing of roads, schools, telephones and hospitals in Saskatchewan by Professor Swanson, continue the tale of pioneer demands, fluctuating incomes and heavy fixed charges.

In the final chapter on Farm Credit, Professor Mackintosh sums up the cost of government as one of heavy and relatively fixed charges against a highly fluctuating regional income.

"Ordinary expenditures by the three prairie provinces in 1931 amounted to \$40,000,000 of which about one-third was for interest". "To these must be added the expenditures of municipalities, about \$45,000,000. The most intractable of governmental costs is interest on indebtedness. Provincial indebtedness in 1931 in this region amounted to \$408,000,000 while the total municipal bonded indebtedness was \$230,000,000" (p. 258).

He estimates the debts of the farmers in 1931 as \$650,000,000 (of which 75 p. c. is in the form of mortgages and agreements for sale), and quotes Professor Wm. Allen as estimating "the farm debt at not less than \$12 per acre of cropland". He adds: "40 p. c. of the gross farm income was required to pay interest on indebtedness" (p. 259).

On farm loans the minimum rate of interest was 8 p. c., except on very large loans. In some cases it is 10 p. c. "I would say that the average would be something over 8 p. c. on farm loans".

(Mr. R. D. Finlayson, before the House of Commons Committee on Banking and Insurance. P. 267).

The economic problems of the prairies have been due in large measure to "the essential conflict between the pressure toward rapid growth, which required the assumption of heavy fixed charges, and a highly variable farm income" (p. 276).

This variable income, due in part to adverse climatic conditions, drought and frost, to such plant diseases as rust, is, however, mainly affected by the price set by world conditions where markets have been closed or diminished by the excessive nationalism caused by the menace of war.

The western farmer is being ground between the upper millstone of high prices for the things he must purchase in a highly protected market and the nether millstone of low prices for his products caused by international fears.

Prescription of remedies is beyond the scope of Professor Mackintosh's study. Nor has it been possible to trace the latest effects of these conditions upon the people. It is within the last decade that the heaviest obligations have been incurred, and the greatest shrinkage in income has been experienced.

Farming has almost ceased to be a commercial undertaking. It has now become a mode of living. The costs of the adjustments that are inevitable will be heavy, and their consequences far-reaching.

It is, however, unwise to base our final judgments upon the experience of five years of intense depression and unparalleled drought, when world markets have been paralyzed by international fears.

W. C. MURRAY.

SELECTED POEMS (1915-1935). By Arthur S. Bourinot. Macmillans in Canada. Pp. 90. \$2.00.

Mr. Bourinot has published a number of volumes of verse during the last twenty years. He has now winnowed these, and the result is a very pleasing volume of verse. Mr. Bourinot has a secure place among our lyrists. His verse is quiet, but full of undertones. There is nothing revolutionary in thought or technique; neither can he be accused of being conventional or outworn. His children's verses are delightful in their kind, with just the music that children can appreciate in poetry. Mr. Bourinot does not wear his nationality "as a chip on his shoulder"; yet probably none of our poets is more distinctively Canadian. The history of Canada during the last 125 years, as well as the scenery of Canada, has been perfectly expressed in this sonnet:

THE SNAKE FENCE.

Fast disappearing emblem of old days
 When man first trod the frontier wilderness,
 Sowing the seed which later grew to dress
 The axe-cleared land, with miles of sunlit maize.

Along haphazard windings, zig-zag ways,
 In April bluebirds flew all azure plumed,
 Beside the lowest logs the Blood-root bloomed
 Unconscious of the brilliant noon-tide blaze.

But now the logs lie rotting in the grass,
 Or feed the fires of chill October eves;
 Of former landscapes progress only leaves
 A vestige which eventually will pass.
 Thus gradually the old-time glamour fades
 And, fading, dies, as wind through forest glades.

B. M.

LANDFALL: The Collected Poems of Cecil Francis Lloyd. The Ryerson Press, Toronto, 1935. Pp. 47.

Twenty sonnets and thirty-eight brief lyrics may seem a slender foundation on which to base a poetic reputation; but when some of these poems are among the finest ever written in Canada, the authenticity of Mr. Lloyd's high poetic rank seems indisputable. Should he write nothing further, his place in the front rank of our lyric poets will remain secure.

Mr. Lloyd is now a man in middle life, known to his Winnipeg fellow-citizens as a literary recluse, widely read in the literatures of ancient Greece and Rome, and of modern Italy, France, and England. Behind him lie twenty generations of Old Country culture and achievement, as well as a youth of extensive travel and cultivation; but he is the last leaf on his distinguished family tree, and ill health and occupational vicissitudes have aged him prematurely. His richly discursive mind has found its most adequate expression in his many essays, a number of which have been published in the *Dalhousie Review*. His poetry represents rather an accidental and very occasional distillation of his experience, and contains no sustained effort towards self-expression. This has tended almost inevitably towards occasional lines that waver on the imperfect side of success; but at its best, as in the sonnets "To Helen", "Earthbound", and "March Winds", his poetry attains to a moving spontaneity of phrase and communicates fine qualities of emotion. One's only query concerns the omission from these "collected poems" of a number of satiric pieces, in which he had manifested a good deal of pungent forcefulness.

WATSON KIRKCONNELL.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION. By Dr. M. Demiashkevich. American Book Company, New York. Price, \$2.50. 1935.

Recent books on education published in the United States have sometimes been characterized by a lack of simplicity of style and an exaggerated emphasis upon educational methods, to the neglect of educational aims and objectives.

This book by Dr. Demiashkevich is happily quite free from the latter defect. He assembles, in admirable fashion, many different philosophies of education, analyses their aims, assumes a critical attitude towards them, and from his criticism develops his own individual philosophy. His aim is to evoke in the student of education an equal criticism and an individual philosophy.

At times, unfortunately, he lapses into the cumbersome jargon of American pedagogics, and instead of calling a spade a spade describes it as an instrument for the rhythmical and integrated function of soil-removal. Thus, for example, the table of Part Three of the book, "The functioning of the philosophy of education in the school's residual service to society", might, with some economy, have been called simply "The School and Society".

The most delightful feature of the book is the number and appositeness of its quotations. These constantly give variety and liveliness to the more abstruse of the philosophical discussions.

The tenor is in the main conservative, and its doctrines are strangely at variance with current American educational practice. Dr. Demiashkevich believes in education for leadership—"An army of stags with a lion at their head is better than an army of lions with a stag at the head"—in the selective education of an elite of "natural aristocrats", and in the indoctrination of the young with adult values and standards. There is much in the book that is a timely reminder that a balance should be sought between freedom and discipline, self-expression and self-control, the good of the individual and the good of society. At the same time, the book does much less than justice to the educational advance of the last twenty years. There is only the faintest recognition that schools have become much happier places than most of them used to be; that the discipline of fear has been replaced by the discipline of corporate responsibility and self-respect; that school life must be real and not counterfeit; that childhood is an end in itself as well as a preparation, and that to miss life at any stage is to risk losing it altogether.

Dr. Demiashkevich is not sufficiently conscious of the swift movement of modern life. He has failed to see that the whole world is being moved by vast forces, liberated by mechanical invention, by the swift passage of news, by the enfeeblement of ancient custom and by human yearning for freedom and a fuller life. No age, least of all the present, by reverting to the past, can hope to escape the task of offering its own contribution to civilization.

In the hands of faddists, doctrinaires and rebels, modern progressive educational thought may be carried to absurd or even dangerous limits. But in spite of extravagances, modern education, like modern art and architecture, is moving towards a balance and harmony, classical in spirit, that has not been achieved by the human spirit since the Age of Pericles. There is in this book a failure to emphasise the main tendencies of modern educational thought, and a failure to see how these reflect a strong balanced view of life that strengthens with each succeeding year. This real failure of insight will prevent a wise and scholarly book from influencing an educational movement which began at the opening of the century among a few isolated enthusiasts, but which has now become "an army, marching with banners".

B. A. FLETCHER.

ACADIENSIA NOVA. (1598-1779). Collected and Edited by William Inglis Morse, D. Litt. In two volumes. Bernard Quaritch Ltd., London. Pp. xxx-392. Price £2 10s.

This is an illustrated edition of hitherto unknown and unpublished documents and other matter relating to Acadia. The more important manuscript documents are: (1) "A Minute of Condition", March 17, 1625, between Sir William Alexander (to whom King James I granted New Scotland, September 21, 1621) and Duncan Forbes, Provost of Inverness, which disposed certain lands in Cape Breton for three thousand Scottish marks; (2) Another manuscript, written about

1635, redividing the original Alexander grant; (3) A manuscript account of the voyage of M. de Meulles to Acadia 1685-86; (4) Census of Acadia, 1687-88, by Gargas; (5) An account of Gargas's stay in Acadia, 1687-88; (6) A letter of Vincent de Saccardy, relating to Acadia, January 12, 1690; (7) A letter of Delabat to Villermont, staying at Port Royal, Acadia, November 20, 1703; (8) Description of the River Dauphin (Annapolis Basin) by Delabat; (9) A document, signed by Henri de Bourbon, giving De la Roche charge of the conquest of the islands of Canada, March 1, 1598 (De la Roche landed fifty men and established a post on Sable Island, May, 1598); (10) "Declarations, arrestz et reglemens concernant la Marine". This is a bound manuscript collection containing one hundred and thirty-two decrees relating to the French marine, between 1545 and 1663; (11) A letter from J. F. W. DesBarres, 1779, describing the resources of Nova Scotia.

This work is of first class importance to all historians interested in the settlement of North America. The term "Acadia" in these papers includes Maine, as well as the Canadian Atlantic Provinces. The Alexander grant, indeed, was later extended to refer to the hinterland of the northern United States and much of Canada. The documents cover a long period in the history of France, England and North America, and no person undertaking to write a history of these countries during this spacious and exciting period could afford to neglect Dr. Morse's work. The word "research" has been used in our time to cover a multitude of unimportant things, so that one prefers to avoid it. Rather let us say, in very moderate terms, that Dr. Morse has conducted highly original investigations at the expense of years of energetic toil and at a cost in money at which one can only guess.

Aside from the great historic interest and importance of these two volumes, some of the documents included are exciting to the reader of merely literary bent. One has often reflected that the French have had no Hakluyt. The voyage of De Meulles, here published, ranks in human interest and literary charm with some of the best accounts of English voyages. The collection of maps also, which are photostatically reproduced, are an added delight.

The two volumes are beautifully printed and bound.

The originals of all the documents mentioned above are included in the William Inglis Morse Collection, which Dr. Morse has with princely generosity given to Dalhousie University.

C. S.

THE SEARCH FOR THE WESTERN SEA, The Story of the Exploration of North-Western America. By Lawrence J. Burpee. New and Revised Edition. The Macmillan Company of Canada, Toronto, 1935. 2 vols. Pp. LXI, 609. Sixty-three illustrations and maps.

The *Search for the Western Sea* has long been recognized as one of the classics of western exploration, embodying a vast amount of detailed information and the most accurate conclusions of historical investigators up to the date of its publication (1907). But since that date much revisionist work has been done by other historians on both

the characters and incidents of the period, and, while this has not affected materially the general story of the book, it has made a new edition necessary. Further, the first edition has been out of print for some time. To meet these needs, this revised edition has been issued. In the main the author has left the text as it was originally written, and has called attention to the work of other historians by footnotes below disputed facts or conclusions. He has also inserted supplementary material in both the earlier and the later chapters.

In an extended introduction, Mr. Burpee has set his story in the pattern of general history, referred briefly to the chief actors in the drama, and described in picturesque language the topography of the western plains and the Arctic regions, and the great lake and river systems by which the explorers went in quest of the North-West Passage or the Western Sea. He has divided his story into three books, *The Northern Gateway*, *The Southern Gateway*, and *The Road to the Sea*. In the first book he sketches the discovery of Hudson Bay, the search for a North-West Passage, the organization of the Great Company, and inland exploration from the posts established by it. In the second he describes early French efforts to find the Western Sea, with particular reference to La Vérendrye and his sons, and the later British and American exploits in the wake of the French. In the third he takes us along with the fur-trading explorers and geographers who finally reached the Pacific and discovered the North-West Passage by land; and in his concluding chapters he outlines subsequent discoveries, and pays tribute to the achievements of the Geological Survey and the Topographical and Geodetic Surveys of Canada. Both historical students and the general reader will welcome this new edition of Mr. Burpee's work, and will find it more attractive and easier to read than the old.

D. C. H.

THE LIFE OF SIR HENRY MORGAN; with an Account of the English Settlement of the Island of Jamaica (1655-1688). By Brig. General E. A. Cruikshank, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.R.Hist.S. The Macmillan Company of Canada, Toronto, 1935. Pp. 448. Thirteen illustrations.

General Cruikshank's researches have hitherto been made in the field of Canadian social, economic and military history, in which field he has written very extensively. For the Ontario Historical Society he has edited the Simcoe Papers and the Russell Papers, and has compiled the correspondence relating to the settlement of the United Empire Loyalists on the Upper St. Lawrence and the Bay of Quinté, besides contributing many papers to this and other local historical societies. He has also made an inventory of the military documents in the Public Archives of Canada, compiled and edited many volumes of documents on the War of 1812, and published a history of the military and naval forces of Canada from 1763 to 1784.

With this volume of work done, he might well have spent his ten winters in Jamaica basking in the sunshine, but instead he has interested himself in the romantic history of that island, and produced the work

under review. Like all General Cruikshank's work, this biography is full and complete, and whenever possible based upon documentary source material. Sir Henry Morgan's career in Jamaica covers a most exciting period in the expansion of England, when rough sea-dogs carry on relentless warfare against the Spaniards and the Dutch. Sir Henry, the son of a farmer, becomes the most skilful and daring of sea-rovers, and at the head of a squadron of privateers plays havoc with ships and towns on the Spanish Main. By grant and purchase he becomes a large proprietor of lands and an opulent planter. On two different occasions he administers the government of the island; but he falls into disgrace and becomes the villain of a libellous history of buccaneers, which is widely translated and runs through many editions. He prosecutes the English publishers, wins his suit and has his reputation as an honest privateer vindicated. He is also restored to a seat in Council, but dies at the age of fifty-three from hard-living and hard-drinking. However, he is buried with full religious and military honours.

In this venture into a new field, General Cruikshank has succeeded in preserving the romantic flavour of Morgan's career, and in picturing him as characteristic of an age when Spain and England were nominally at peace but actually at war by letters of marque. This biography of a famous privateersman should have a special interest for Nova Scotians.

D. C. H.

ENGLAND AND SLAVERY. By Charles M. MacInnes. 1934. (Bristol: Arrowsmith. 224 pp. 7/6).

The shelf of Dalhousians will be enriched by this latest addition from the pen of one of Dalhousie's graduates, Charles M. MacInnes, now of the Department of History in the University of Bristol. His book, as the title indicates, discusses the part England has played in the history of slavery—the importance of the English slave trade to herself and her colonies, the manner in which it was conducted, the abolition of the trade, the emancipation of the slaves, and the influence of the anti-slavery movement on British foreign policy.

It is a most informative volume, and has been written in a simple effortless style which makes it very readable indeed. Some of its material comes from secondary sources, much of it from hitherto unpublished manuscripts or from rare books and pamphlets which are now out of the reach of the ordinary reader or student. Yet it is not burdened with long extracts from musty documents; the author has carefully sorted out his material, and has left just enough of the original to give a tang and character to his own narrative. To this same end he has included a sketch map of the Guinea Coast, together with a number of admirable illustrations taken from old English prints dealing with different phases of the slave trade. In short, the book contrives to present a great deal of information in an exceptionally pleasing manner.

R. MACG. DAWSON.

THE MODERN WORLD. By R. A. MacKay, Ph D. and S. A. Saunders, Ph D. (The Ryerson Press. \$1.95) pp. xvi 558.

It would be very difficult to commend this book too highly. This is a volume we have been looking for, but we had almost despaired of its appearance. Now that it has come to hand, we welcome it heartily. Drs. MacKay and Saunders have achieved the difficult task of compressing an almost incredible amount of information into these pages, and at the same time they have given us a very readable book.

The Modern World consists of four parts, dealing respectively with the *Economic Background of the Modern World*, *Democracy and its Rivals*, *The World of Nations*, *The World Economy, 1913 to the Present Day*. The preface states that the book "is intended as a primer in the larger citizenship of the twentieth century", and it more than fulfils the purpose of its authors. We have been provided with an excellent text-book for the upper classes of High Schools or Junior Colleges, or (here we should hope it would find its largest usefulness) with a book for adult educational groups. But such purposes by no means define the limits of its possible use. For the teacher, the minister, or the man in the street, who wishes to be socially intelligent, this volume is stored with facts that will form an excellent means of immediate reference. We do not say that similar books are not available, for we have been deluged with hand-books which are aimed at presenting economic and political information for the modern reader. The peculiar virtues of this particular book are its objective attitude and its special relevance to Canadian problems. Many books of this type are definitely propagandist, but our authors have avoided the temptation to make facts fit views on the one hand, and, on the other, to write with such neutrality of opinion that the final result is merely dull.

One might be tempted to say that *The Modern World* almost suffers from its excellence. If possible, it is too up-to-date. In this swiftly moving world, books of this type are out-of-date almost before the ink is dry on their pages. We desire a long life for the *Modern World*; and when we are presented with records up to the summer of 1935, anxiety for up-to-dateness almost menaces its continued life. But, we hope, there will be future editions, in which the authors will be able to keep pace with changing conditions. The value of the book is greatly enhanced by the excellent charts, maps and illustrations, and by a well-prepared bibliography and index.

J. S. THOMSON.

AND GLADLY TEACH. By Bliss Perry. Houghton Mifflin. Boston. Price \$3.00.

This is a book which no Canadian or American, student or teacher, male or female, piscatorial or prosy, can afford to miss.