

NEW BOOKS

THE WAR MEMOIRS OF DAVID LLOYD GEORGE. Vol. I. Ivor
Nicholson & Watson. London. 1933.

Needless to say, this book has been long awaited. It may be it appears a trifle late, for the general interest has passed on from the World War to the next item of business—the Depression and the way out. Still, whatever the man who rode the whirlwind has to say about it will always command attention. He alone remained in high office throughout the war, and alone of all the Allied leaders, military or civilian, is still in active public life. At the outbreak of the war he was in the plenitude of his powers, the wheel-horse of triumphant Liberalism and heir-apparent to the leadership. At its close, along with the defeat of the enemy, he had brought about the ruin of his party and, in a political sense, was without a home.

To appreciate this part of Mr. Lloyd George's career, one should have clearly in mind what manner of man he is and the peculiar abilities he brought to bear upon the problems of the Great War. For this, one should read, parallel with his memoirs, the *War Diaries* of Lord Riddell (noticed in the last issue of the *Dalhousie Review*), the author of which was in daily contact with all the chief personalities of the period, and had exceptional opportunities to study the War Premier in action. Thus in August, 1917, Lord Riddell wrote of him:

He is a remarkable combination of forces; an orator and a man of action. His energy, capacity for work, and power of recuperation are remarkable. He has an extraordinary memory, imagination, and the art of getting at the root of a matter. What the military call the *coup d'oeil*. He is not afraid of responsibility, and has no respect for tradition or convention. He is always ready to examine, scrap, or revise established theories and practices. These qualities give him unlimited confidence in himself. He has a remarkably quick, alert, and logical mind, which makes him very effective in debate. He is one of the craftiest of men, and his extraordinary charm of manner not only wins him friends, but does much to soften the asperities of his opponents and enemies. He is full of humour, and a born actor. His oratory has a wide range. He has an instinctive power of divining the thoughts and intentions of people with whom he is conversing. His chief defects are: (1) Lack of appreciation of existing institutions, organizations, and stolid, dull people, who often achieve good results by persistence, experience, and slow, but sound judgment. It is not that he fails to understand them. The point is that their ways are not his ways, and their methods are not his methods. (2) Fondness for a grandiose scheme in preference to an attempt to improve existing machinery. (3) Disregard of difficulties in carrying out big projects. This is due to the fact that he is not a man of detail.

Every page of *War Memoirs* confirms this estimate of Mr. Lloyd George. The tone of his narrative is a healthy egotism, free from mock-modesty. Although not so robustious as Chatham, when he asseverated that he alone could save the nation and no other, one gets the impression that Mr. Lloyd George, being what he was and seeing what he saw in the earlier stages of the war, had arrived at the same ineluctable conclusion—as how could it be otherwise?

War Memoirs (at any rate the first volume) may disappoint those who expected the author to cut loose and lay about him. The narrative is unusually restrained; in the main, as objective as a state paper. Even when he discusses personalities, he is remarkably judicial. His keenest shafts are reserved for inept institutions like the War Office and the General Staff. The blinkered minds at the War Office were "a perpetual source of obstruction", especially on the subject of munitions. "Its stubbornness was invincible". The "soldiers who lined the trenches in Whitehall" continually irked him:

Unhappily... the War Office was hampered by a traditional reactionism. Its policy seemed ever to be that of preparing, not for the next war, but for the last one or the last but one... Unfortunately, they only remembered the lessons that were better forgotten because they were inapplicable, and forgot all the experiences by which they ought to have profited because they were a foretaste of the methods of future warfare... Military imagination makes up in retentiveness what it misses in agility.

He was early impressed also with "the fallibility of the military leaders, the stubborn miscalculations, muddle and lack of co-ordination, which resulted in mowing down the flower of the finest armies ever put in the field by France and England". A year later, as a confirmed "Easterner", he could see in the stalemate of trench warfare only the "billy-goat" tactics of Western Generals in butting away the strength of their armies against unbreakable walls".

One body, the Committee of Imperial Defence, comes in for unstinted praise. His good opinion of its work, so far as it could be completed before the outbreak of the war, is unqualified:

Of what was accomplished by that remarkable body in the years before the war, and of its foresight, nothing has yet been written. Its founder—Earl Balfour—when he set up the Committee of Imperial Defence as an essential part of the organization of defence, rendered a service to his country which deserves immortality. Under Mr. Asquith it carried on its task and traditions with undiminished vigour and persistence. It therefore came to pass that when war was thrust upon us, plans which played a vital part in our achievement of victory lay at hand in the pigeon-holes of the Committee of Imperial Defence, prepared down to the last detail and ready to be put into execution. Credit must be given to Lord Balfour for the creation and direction of this body, and to Mr. Asquith for making the fullest use of its powers and for further developing its area and scope... The War Book, perfected under Mr. Asquith's chairmanship, and the work of Lord Haldane at the War Office—his organization of the Territorials, creation of a General Staff as a thinking brain for the Army, and the foundation of the Officers' Training Corps—constitute a powerful answer to those who taunt the Liberal Government with being quite unprepared for the contingency of war.

But by 1914 the Committee of Imperial Defence had not yet explored two contingencies which at once became matters of the first magnitude. One, the financial situation likely to supervene on the outbreak of a world war, could doubtless have been adequately met. The other, the part munitions would play in a modern war, probably could not have been foreseen. It was with both these that Mr. Lloyd George had successively to deal. In the financial measures taken by him, he was able to win the support of business and political leaders, regardless of party—men like Cunliffe, Reading, Paish, Austen Chamberlain, and even Lord Rothschild, with whom "his previous contact was not of a propitiatory character". Had he done nothing else, his

financial statesmanship during the critical first days of the war would give him enduring fame as a great Chancellor of the Exchequer.

His fight for munitions—first, to arouse the Government and the nation to the complete failure of the War Office to grasp the significance of high-explosive shells in modern warfare, and then to organize and direct the manufacture of munitions—constitutes the main theme of this first volume, and perhaps his chief contribution towards the winning of the war. The story is told in a direct, business-like way, with vivid flashes thrown upon the red tape of the War Office, the lack of intuition on the part of the commanders in the field, and the ignorance of members of the Government as to the military conduct of the war. An anecdote about Lord Kitchener illustrates the muddle. In response to appeals from Sir John French, shells had been speeded up so that in the battle of Neuve-Chapelle the artillery had been allowed, in a fit of extravagance, to fire thirteen rounds per gun per day:

Just after this battle of Neuve-Chapelle, Kitchener stalked into the Cabinet with his most military stride, and with that ominous cast in his eye exaggerated and emphasised—a sure sign of surging anger—and as soon as he sat down he exclaimed in husky tones charged with suppressed emotion: "Oh, it is terrible—terrible!"

"Were the casualties very heavy?" we enquired, anxiously. "I'm not thinking for the moment about the casualties," replied Kitchener, "but of all the shells that were wasted!" He had just been given the actual figures of the artillery ammunition fired in the course of the battle.

The achievement of the Ministry of Munitions was stupendous. Its creation Mr. Lloyd George considers "the most formidable task he ever undertook". He never worked harder, not even during his premiership. His energy was amazing, his choice of the right men almost uncanny:

No more remarkable collection of men was ever gathered together under the same roof. Between them they had touched the industrial life of the country and of the Empire at every point. To use a current phrase, "All the means of production, distribution, and exchange" were aggregately at their command.

To carry it through, he had to be both a crusader in patriotism and the great national *entrepreneur*. By the end of the war the Ministry of Munitions, through its Boards of Management, had secured from firms hitherto inexperienced in munition production "an output of 65 million empty shells and over 606 million components; nearly 10 million trench warfare articles, and over 4 million items in connection with aeronautical supplies". A colossal output for amateurs!

Along with memoranda relating to his administrative work, Mr. Lloyd George gives two hitherto unpublished documents which the reader will find of great interest. One is an account of two interviews he had with Count Metternich, the German Ambassador in London, in 1908. This was duly transmitted to the German Foreign Office, and came under the personal scrutiny of the Kaiser, who returned it with characteristic marginal comments, some in terms more explosive than elegant. The other document reveals proposals submitted by Mr. Lloyd George in 1910 to the leaders of both political parties "for national co-operation over a period of years, to deal with special matters of urgent importance". The memorandum in the first instance

was submitted to Mr. Asquith, who in turn laid it before certain of his Cabinet. The idea was approved "in principle", and the proposals passed on to Mr. Balfour. Personally, Mr. Balfour regarded it "with a considerable measure of approval", and so did his chief Unionist colleagues, but the scheme received its quietus, so Mr. Balfour told Mr. Lloyd George, at the hands of Mr. Akers-Douglas, sometime Chief Conservative Whip:

I remember one of the last things Mr. Balfour said to me on that occasion. Putting his hand on his forehead, looking down and more or less soliloquising, he said: "I cannot become another Robert Peel in my party." After a short interval he added: "Although I cannot see where the Disraeli is to come from, unless it be my cousin Hugh, and I cannot quite see him fulfilling that rôle!"

The suggested programme included a scheme of national training for defence which, if adopted, might have made Germany hesitate before plunging into war, or, if not, would have materially shortened the period of conflict—another of the *I*'s of History!

One of Mr. Lloyd George's admirers was Theodore Roosevelt, who sent him a letter of congratulation on his accession to the Ministry of Munitions. They had met some years before the war at a luncheon given by Sir Edward Grey to Roosevelt, at which Mr. Asquith was also present. Mr. Lloyd George recalls that the Balliol man found little in common with the more elemental Rough Rider:

It was obvious during the table talk that Mr. Asquith had an instinctive dislike, which was not far removed from contempt, for the dynamic American. The Prime Minister made no allowance for the real greatness of the man. He was irritated by his mannerisms. Roosevelt flung out commonplaces with the same forceful and portentous emphasis as he uttered truths which showed penetration and breadth of judgment. The more stale the platitude, the greater the emphasis. This kind of conversation always annoyed the British Premier and gave a note of supercilious derision to his mien and voice. Roosevelt felt it, and gradually his torrential flow of sense and sentiment dried up. The meal was hardly a success.

While Mr. Lloyd George does not in this first volume essay full length portraiture, his *obiter dicta* etch the characteristics of his associates, notably Kitchener, Asquith and Balfour, with fairness and penetration. Only Sir Edward Grey incurs his magisterial strictures, in a chapter devoted to Grey's foreign policy. On grounds of temperament, lack of capacity and ignorance of foreign affairs, Mr. Lloyd George puts him entirely out of court. "His personality was one of the elements contributing to the great catastrophe". With this judgment probably most of his fellow-countrymen will disagree. One can understand, of course, Mr. Lloyd George's failure to appreciate Grey. The agile-minded, dynamic Welsh Nonconformist and the detached, Oxford country gentleman were poles apart, to begin with, and their diverse concepts of diplomacy, and how it should be practised, merely accentuated temperamental differences.

But while it may always be argued whether, in those fateful July days, a pledge should have been given to France and Russia and a warning to Germany, Grey has pretty conclusively shown that it did not much matter what action was taken. The German military authorities had their minds made up. "Everything we know goes to prove that...their plans covered the risk of Britain coming in...

If this were so, an early intimation that we should join France and Russia would not have prevented war". (Grey: *Twenty-Five Years*). In any event, Sir Edward Grey gave to his country, on its entrance to the quarrel, a moral position which in the long run was an asset of incalculable value in the forum of world opinion.

Whether in agreement with him or not, one finds in Mr. Lloyd George's *War Memoirs* the "abstracts and brief chronicles" of the war-time, and is glad that he purposes to continue them in two or three later volumes.

H. F. M.

MARLBOROUGH; HIS LIFE AND TIMES. By the Right Hon. Winston S. Churchill. George G. Harrap & Co. Vol 1. pp. 612.

This is the first instalment of Mr. Winston Churchill's *Life* of his great ancestor, and carries the story down to the death of King William, in 1702. "Dutch William" died at the age of fifty-two, just as he was about to set in motion the armies of the Grand Alliance against Louis XIV. That task he handed over to the fifty-two-year-old Marlborough, whom we see at the close of the present volume Minister Plenipotentiary at the Hague, charged with the duty of negotiating a peace settlement with France, and if that fails assuming the command of the English armies in the war that is certain to follow. Marlborough has shown himself a capable leader at Maestricht, at Sedgemoor, and in Ireland, but he has as yet given no proof that he is a military genius to be ranked with Wellington and Napoleon.

His genius has been rather a genius for intrigue, and the volume has much more to say about politics in England and the character of the future victor of Blenheim than it has to say about military affairs. Mr. Churchill thinks that his ancestor has received scant justice at the hands of history. Although one of the world's greatest generals, he has never been a hero to the country whose armies he led to victory. The man of whom it could be said that he never fought a battle that he did not win and never besieged a fortress that he did not take, has only had his military glory used to heighten the picture of a traitor, cold, avaricious, and mean-spirited.

Mr. Churchill has set out to repaint the picture, and he displays no little skill in the process. In the belief that attack is the best defence, he concentrates his fire on Lord Macaulay. He, and he only, is to blame for the false picture that the world has been led to accept as the true portrait of the great Duke of Marlborough. There is no doubt that Lord Macaulay was biassed, and Mr. Churchill deserves no little credit in his investigation of the sources used by the author of the "History of England". He proves, fairly conclusively, that the "Life of James II" is not genuine autobiography after 1660, and that the authenticity of the Nairne papers is open to the gravest doubt. Perhaps, however, his most powerful indictment is when he shows that Macaulay would accept the evidence of a witness when it told against Marlborough, but on other occasions dismiss the same witness with scant ceremony.

What Mr. Churchill does not confess is that we have plenty of independent seventeenth century evidence which substantiates the picture as drawn by the nineteenth century historian. Marlborough's reputation for meanness and bad faith does not rest on the word of Lord Macaulay alone. Mr. Churchill himself might be called as a witness. After he has done his best, Marlborough's character remains much as it was before. Mr. Churchill can defend his desertion of King James, but not even he can conceal the calculating treachery with which the deed was done. "His countenance was inscrutable, his manner bland, his discretion unfailing". After reading the account, one feels that the sarcasms of Lord Macaulay were perhaps not so ill-deserved.

Mr. Churchill is more effective when he explains than when he defends. In one of the most illuminating passages in the whole book he describes the circumstances surrounding Marlborough's boyhood at Ashe. It may well explain much that happened in his later years. Marlborough's grandmother, on his mother's side, was a Puritan, and her home was destroyed by the Royalists during the Civil War. His father, Winston Churchill, fought for the king, and was left destitute during the period of the Commonwealth:

The whole family dwelt upon the hospitality or charity of a mother-in-law of difficult, imperious, and acquisitive temper; a crowded brood in a lean and war-scarred house between them and whose owner lay the fierce contentions of the times.....

The two prevailing impressions which such experiences might arouse in the mind of a child would be, first, a hatred of poverty and dependence, and, secondly, the need of hiding thoughts and feelings from those to whom their expression would be repugnant. To have one set of opinions for one part of the family, and to use a different language to the other, may have been inculcated from John's earliest years. To win freedom from material subservience by the sure agency of money must have been planted in his heart's desire. To these was added a third: the importance of having friends and connections on both sides of a public quarrel. Modern opinion assigns increasing importance to the influences of early years on the formation of character. Certainly the whole life of John Churchill bore the imprint of his youth. That impenetrable reserve under graceful and courteous manners; those unceasing contacts and correspondences with opponents; that iron parsimony and personal frugality, never relaxed in the blaze of fortune and abundance; that hatred of waste and improvidence in all their forms—all these could find their roots in the bleak years at Ashe.

It is needless to say that the present volume is of enthralling interest. Any book written by Mr. Churchill is almost certain to be. Whether it is quite equal to his biography of his father, or his volumes on the Great War, is another matter. There is too much special pleading in the present book to make it impartial history, while there is too much journalism in it to make it first-class literature. The picture of Truth pursuing Lord Macaulay in an endeavour "to fasten the label 'Liar' to his genteel coat-tails" may be striking, but it is not in good taste.

The old skill in the handling of words and in vigorous description is still present. One cannot easily forget the picture of Sir Edward Seymour: "He defended with vigor from the Government bench the abuses he had denounced as a private member, and blithely renewed his virtue when deprived of power". Abigail Hill, later Mrs. Masham, is described as the woman who "saved France from destruction as surely, though scarcely as gloriously, as Joan of Arc".

Mr. Churchill does not conceal his own prejudices and opinions. He belabours Louis XIV on his own account, and he defends the "jovial times" of Charles II by an attack on the present, when "the financiers, the successful pugilists, and the film stars who constitute our modern galaxy... are all expected to lead model lives". "We in this happy and enlightened age must exercise our imagination to span the gulf which separates us from those lamentable, departed days. Securely established upon the rock of purity and virtue, ceaselessly cleansed by the strong tides of universal suffrage, we can afford to show tolerance and even indulgence towards the weaknesses and vices of those vanished generations without in any way compromising our own integrity". One is not surprised at Mr. Churchill's later animadversions on party government, "whose sire was the Popish, and whose dam the Rye House, Plot".

The reader has even a suspicion that Mr. Churchill has more than a historian's interest in the wars between England and France. He never forgets a more recent struggle in which he himself played not an inconspicuous part, and another Armageddon is in his mind besides the one that William of Orange and John of Marlborough were called upon to face. France takes the place of Germany, and Louis XIV plays the rôle later assumed by William II. The founder of the Churchill family does what another, and a later, Churchill would have liked so much to do. This, however, is perhaps anticipating the second volume of what is bound to be, in spite of obvious partisanship, a remarkable biography.

G. E. WILSON.

THE ART OF THE NOVEL. By Pelham Edgar. Macmillans. 475 pp. \$3.50.

The novel assumed leading place in Victorian literature. Then came the revival of our drama, which for a time threatened the novel's pre-eminence; but with the death of the drama in the second decade of this century, the novel once again assumed leadership. We have had, consequently, many books concerning this literary form. On the one hand there are books like E. M. Forster's, Percy Lubbock's, and Edwin Muir's, which deal with the craft or art of the novel; and on the other hand, histories of the novel, varying in fulness and quality.

Prof. Edgar's *The Art of the Novel* stands somewhere between these groups. Not being a history of the novel, it is free from the lumber of minor novels and novelists; not being a mere discussion of the

craft, it is not limited to a study of five or six known masterpieces. Prof. Edgar's idea has rather been to trace the art of the English novel from about 1700 to the present, noting all changes in technique, and relating them to the changing times. Perhaps one of the finest things in this excellent work is the opening of Chapter XXI ("H. G. Wells and the Modern Mind"): here the author, after quoting from Samuel Richardson and showing the impossibility of such an approach to-day, casts a masterly eye over the changes in outlook on life and the consequent changes in fictional technique around the turn of the century.

The opening section of the book, in which Prof. Edgar discusses the essentials of the novel, suffers somewhat from condensation and a certain over-organization. Once this has been passed, the reader has some of the finest criticism of the novel that has been written. No one will, of course, agree with every opinion of Prof. Edgar; the reviewer is not so certain as the author of the complete impersonality of Conrad, and thinks that one side of Wells—the Wells of *Tono-Bungay* and *The History of Mr. Polly*—has been lost in the discussion. But the fact remains that every chapter delights by throwing new light on an old friend, often making the reader take stock anew. Almost every page has a memorable sentence: "Her (Mrs. Woolf's) doom is the coterie, her reward a satisfied conscience"; or, of Jane Austen and Thackeray, "We are permitted to see with Emma's vision or Elizabeth's, but the shutters of Rebecca's mind are resolutely closed, and Amelia and Dobbin have apparently nothing to reveal."

The book is provided with excellent bibliographies. A student's edition with questions has also been prepared. The book is what readers of Prof. Edgar's *Henry James* might have expected: scholarly without being pedantic, and rich in wisdom. Indeed, it is a book of which Victoria College may well be proud.

BURNS MARTIN.

THE WORKS OF SAMUEL DE CHAMPLAIN. In six volumes, under the general editorship of H. P. Biggar. Volume V., 1620-29. Translated by the late W. D. LeSueur. The French Texts collected by J. Home Cameron. Toronto, The Champlain Society, 1933. Pp xvii., 330.

This volume is the fifth in a series of six in which the complete works of Champlain will have been given to the general reading public in both French and English. It contains the French text and an English translation of Books I and II of Part II of the collected edition of Champlain's Voyages that was brought out at Paris in 1632. This second part of the 1632 edition has never before appeared in English. It contains an account of events in New France from 1620 to 1629. It begins with the arrival of Champlain and his family in June, 1620, and it ends with a description of the poverty and gloom that existed at Quebec on the eve of its capture by the English in 1629. Here is a

fascinating story of an honest attempt to found a colony against great odds. It shows Champlain trying to keep the peace between Huguenot and Catholic, rival companies, and warlike Indian tribes. In none of the other volumes of his works is he at such pains to define and defend his policies, and to insist upon the fundamental necessity of putting colonization before trade. The building of a fort at Quebec for the defence of the colony, establishing suzerainty over the Indians by encouraging the prospective chieftains to seek recognition of the French, making a cattle ranch at Cape Tourmente, mediating between Catholics and Huguenots, meeting the menace of smugglers, Basques and the English, all occupied his time and lend colour to Champlain's narrative. On the whole, it is one of the most interesting volumes that have appeared in the attractive garb of the Champlain Society.

D. C. HARVEY.

IMITATION, AND OTHER ESSAYS. By Charles H. Grandgent.
Harvard Press, 1933, Pp. 190.

At first glance this little volume does not seem to be as interesting as either *Gelling a Laugh* or *Prunes and Prisms*. When one examines it more closely, however, it appears that it is not inferior, but somewhat different. There is more argument and less anecdote than in the other books; but this one is not deficient in anecdote, and the argument is courteous if cogent. The disquisition is not dull, though the "fantastic fertility of divagation" does not appear in its previous luxuriance.

The first essay is in itself no mean philosophy of language. Some of the writer's remarks are worth quoting even in a brief review. In speaking of those would-be students of language and literature who disdain philology as too dull a thing for their artistic natures, he remarks: "The artistic temperament possesses, to be sure, in many cases, but one symptom—an inborn disinclination to work." In the next sentence he speaks of language casually as "the stuff of which poetry is made." "In the whole evolution of language, I am inclined to give to desire and purpose a much more important function than has generally been accorded them." "How language originated, nobody knows and everybody has told." "My own notion is that speech is a distinctly human invention—the one invention that puts a great gulf between him (man) and the other beasts." "I have failed to discover (in animals) evidence of anything I should call a language." There is a good hint for doting relatives when Mr. Grandgent says: "I am sure that the greater part of the phonetic inaccuracy of infantile prattle is due not to incorrect but to correct imitation." "Man's only rival for the domination of the earth is the insect; and the outcome of the contest is still uncertain." "No human power is ever going to prevent the old from telling the young all they know, and considerably more."

This essay on Imitation is presumably the real reason for the book. It is made up of two lectures delivered at University College, London, in February, 1931; and it illustrates what is perhaps the author's

unique distinction, his ability to discuss the subtlest and most recondite of linguistic phenomena in a style within the easy and pleasant comprehension of the casual reader.

The remaining essays are: *Difficilior lectio*, of which he says that the notion is not confined to philologists, but is inborn; *Tee Um Lie*, the meaning of which abstruse phrase is explained; *Behavior*, which begins with a story of the well-known Moses, the famous white tomcat; *Cracks in the Clouds*, literal and allegorical; *Out of Antiquity and Old Haunts*, slight collections of reminiscences. The characteristic Grand-gent touch could be illustrated frequently; here it is compressed into an epithet: "How many grades of facial hirsuteness we sexagenarians have witnessed in our time and country, from the majestically waving leg-of-mutton, or Burnside, to the ultra-Charlie-Chaplin, which looks like an unwiped nose."

E. W. NICHOLS.

THE RIGHT TO TRADE, AN ESSAY IN THE LAW OF TORT. By W. P. M. Kennedy and J. Finkelman. University of Toronto Press. 1933. Price \$2.50.

A careful perusal of the book recently published by two members of the Department of Law of the University of Toronto bearing the above title leads to the conclusion that it may be described rather accurately in Maitland's phrase as "a gallant and forlorn attempt to state the law of England." It is a gallant attempt because, as the learned authors recognize, the difficulties to be faced were tremendous; it is a forlorn attempt because, as they also recognize, they have been able to arrive at no certain conclusions as to the precise limits of the right to trade, or even as to its very existence as a matter of legal decision. This is not to say that they have done a bad job; for, indeed, they have done good work at a task which, in the present state of this branch of the law of Tort, could hardly result in complete success.

The subject of Trade Molestation is both complex and confused, largely because the demands of highly industrialized society have produced conditions of ever-increasing variety and novelty which have put a great strain upon the judicial effort to extend old principles, arrived at in a stable and simple society, to meet the felt necessities of the times. Another reason is that the doctrine of the binding effect of judicial decision results in the persistence, as authority, of rules suited to the needs of the past and based largely on the contemporary judicial interpretation of the then prevailing views as to the proper regulation of competition. An authoritarian and syllogistic legal system works less well in the field of public policy than in any other.

It is but fair to say so much in mitigation of critical judgment upon what is a stimulating and suggestive essay. One cannot so easily justify the emphasis placed throughout on judicial *dicta* uttered in many cases in which the right to trade had but little relevance to the point of decision. Such a method suggests the taking of a poll of the opinions of judges rather than the examination of what they have

decided—a suggestion which is fortified by the “Index of Names” at pp. 131-2.

The book contains chapters stating the problem, analyzing the cases to determine whether there exists a right to trade, and discussing four types of interference with the exercise of another's trade or calling. There is also an Appendix of Canadian Cases set out chronologically by provinces.

The book is recommended to practical lawyers, and to those interested in the evolution of the law of Tort.

VINCENT C. MACDONALD.

PROCEEDINGS, CANADIAN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION, 1923,
(Vol. V), Ottawa. Pp. 256. \$3.00.

The Canadian Political Science Association was founded in 1913, but remained moribund from its first meeting until 1930. Since then, its annual meetings have been events of no mean importance in the intellectual life of Canada. The *Proceedings* of 1933 deal with important problems of the day, as well as with certain of the more philosophical aspects of politics and economics. Professor Leacock wittily analyses the Depression, and castigates earlier economists for their failure to take account of social justice in their systems. He thinks we could get out of the Depression by tinkering with the gold content of the dollar, by scaling down tariffs and controlling investments. As for Socialism and its ilk, “Socialism is social slavery, communism a penitentiary”. So that's that. Professor Urwick, in his subtle presidential address on “Freedom in our Time”, concludes that neither freedom nor restraint is in itself good or bad, and that the struggle for freedom is simply a phase of the recurrent battle between the forces which desire social stability and those which desire social change. The one side acquires merit over the other only when, and as long as, its programme makes for social improvement. D. G. Creighton breaks new ground in Canadian history in a paper on “The Commercial Class in Canadian Politics, 1792-1840”, and J. A. Corry on “Administrative Law in Canada”. Professor Alexander Brady contributes a thoughtful paper on “An Economic Council for Canada”. Other important papers are included: on “Economic Equilibrium and the Investment Banker”, by J. H. MacDougall; on agriculture and economics, by J. Coke, C. B. Davidson, W. M. Drummond and J. E. Lattimer; on the proposal of a central bank for Canada, by J. E. VanBuskirk and F. C. Biggar; while round table discussions were on public ownership, corporation finance, and population problems. The thoughtful student of Canadian affairs will find much meat and sense in this volume.

R. A. MACKAY.

THE STATUTE OF WESTMINSTER, 1931. By K. C. Wheare. Oxford, 1933. pp. 128. \$1.75.

This pithy little volume is an excellent, though orthodox, summary of the legal status of Dominion Legislatures and of the Imperial Parliament resulting from the Statute of Westminster of 1931. About half of the book is given over to a discussion of the inter-relations of law and convention in the constitution, and to the historical setting of the statute. The statute is then carefully analysed, and the difference in application to the various Dominions concisely stated.

The author concludes that the Imperial Parliament is still sovereign and technically could repeal or amend the statute on its own motion, that the Imperial Parliament can still legislate for all the Empire or any part thereof, that the statute does not make all member-states legally equal, and that it does not "freeze" the constitution, but leaves wide the door for future growth in convention and law.

Mr. Wheare assumes throughout that the legal relations between member-states of the Commonwealth are governed only by constitutional law and convention. He nowhere hints that international law does or can govern these relations. If his position is correct, then intra-commonwealth agreements, such as the Ottawa agreements of 1932, are only morally and not legally binding. If he is wrong, and international law does bind these relations, may not the Statute of Westminster be of the nature of a treaty, and as such legally binding on all parties—the Dominions and Great Britain alike? What then becomes of the technical right of parliament to amend or repeal the statute without the consent of the other parties concerned? We have, however, no illusions that the legal profession will in general agree with the reviewer rather than the author.

Few slips have been noted, but unfortunately for the reading public there is no index.

R. A. MACKAY.

REAL PROPERTY LAW. By G. R. Y. Radcliffe. Oxford University Press, 1933. Price \$4.50. 322 pp.

This book, more than any other recently published in England, will be of service to Canadian students of real property law; for it is entirely historical in its method of exposition, and sharply distinguishes between the law as it was before the great reform statutes of 1925 and the law as it now is in England.

To the English student it will be of great value not only because it contains a full discussion of the general principles of the legislation of 1925, but also because its survey of the history of the subject will conduce to knowledge of many important rules, evolved under the old law and untouched by recent legislation, which are enshrined in judicial decisions that simply cannot be understood without some acquaintance with the old system. This latter reason is equally applicable to Canadian students, who still must derive their knowledge of the subject largely from ancient decisions and statutes.

The reviewer knows of no better statement of the origins, evolution, and principles underlying the law of real property than is to be found in the first two hundred pages of the book under review. A result of the author's long teaching experience is manifest throughout in the simplicity and clarity of his arrangement of topics, classification and tabulation of rules, reasons, purposes and results, and in the substance and manner of his exposition generally. The reviewer cordially commends this book to all who desire to obtain an account of that part of the English land law which is still important to students of the Canadian law of real property:

VINCENT C. MACDONALD.

IN LATER DAYS, A COLLECTION OF VERSE. By Arthur L. Salmon.
London, Benn. 1933.

In this slender volume the author has brought together many pieces which have already appeared in various British papers. Though slight in texture, the verses are clearly the work of a true poet. They are full of imagination, and of an intense love of nature in all its different aspects. They picture the fields and woodlands, swift moorland streams and "shimmering murmurous seas", and as the poet is keenly sensitive to beauty, even when found in the most unlikely places, he also dwells on the strange beauty of the city streets on a rainy night, or of the battered signpost standing at the crossroads.

These little poems—they are all very brief—are of varying quality, but not one is lacking in distinction. Perhaps it might be said that as a whole they are too much in the same minor key, and that there is too little variety in treatment; yet there is, after all, a peculiar charm and restfulness in the melody in a minor key, and in subdued and quiet colouring. The two most striking poems stand at the beginning and end of the book. *Crisis* is a dignified tribute to England in her present difficulties:

In darkest days to be
We have no doubts of thee,

he affirms with proud confidence. In *A Life* he sums up in a few words the history of one who

—Neither sought nor was awarded fame,
Yet fit result and due rewardings came.

Between these two may be found many lines full of grave beauty and deep thought.

M. JOSEPHINE SHANNON.

CAUSALITY. By L. Silberstein. The Macmillan Co. of Canada,
Toronto. 1933. Pp. 159. \$1.35.

This is an essay dealing with causality in the field of exact science. The author's thesis is that the principle of causality is not so much a law of nature as a heuristic maxim of the naturalist, and as such neither

true nor false. Experience has shown that when some effect in nature is difficult to explain, it pays to search for some antecedent cause; e. g., the prediction of the planet Neptune from the irregularities of the motion of Uranus. The author has little sympathy with the younger school of quantum theorists who have renounced Determinism, terming them lazy and impatient of going deeper in search of a cause.

To follow the arguments fully, the reader should know a little of mathematical physics and the newer quantum theories. The book is dedicated to Norma Shearer!

G. H. HENDERSON.

WILDERNESS WALLS. By Jane Rolyat. Pp. 268. Dent. \$2.00.

The reader of this romantic chronicle, which tells of a youth who went in the 1860's from Montreal to a Hudson's Bay post in what is now Northern Ontario, is left with mixed feelings: in it there is much bad work, but this is balanced by good, holding the promise of better. Three stories have got somewhat entangled: life in an outpost, the development of a youth in strange surroundings, and a detective story. The last named is decidedly the thinnest, and might well have been omitted. The first—the background—is pleasant and, on the whole, convincing, though the chief factor remains wooden or theatrical. The development of Vincent Reid, the young hero, is the most important strand, and the one that shows most promise. In his attempt to understand his new associates, in the constantly recurring memories of his home and of Montreal, in the faint stirrings of sex, and in his disillusion when Camille finally writes, he is a real lad; unfortunately, however, Miss Rolyat does not continue to probe when she has caught our interest, but drifts off into the detective story. If she has not already done so, she should read Dorothy Richardson's novels for a fundamentally similar story—for Hanover is merely Miriam's "Hudson's Bay post."

The style leaves much to be desired. The tale is essentially simple; consequently, it requires simple unaffected English. Very frequently Miss Rolyat gives us just this; but, unfortunately, she lapses into Latinized diction—*lacustrine*, *saxatile*—not always understood; into jargon—"in the delectable occupation of bringing liquid ambrosia to his thirsting lips," for "drinking soup;" and into jingles—"sipped the last sup of his last cup." Sometimes the author is guilty of bad English—"he would have liked to have told" and "what sort of a human being." Again, the literary devices of repetition and verbless sentence are used much too often. But when Miss Rolyat lays aside her literary stilts to write as she feels the incident, she has a natural and pleasing style. Some of her Nature descriptions and the bit of conversation on p. 53 show that she was not born a blue-stocking.

The book is announced as the first of a trilogy. If Miss Rolyat is a good critic of her own work, and is not afraid of labour, the next two volumes may be significant in Canadian fiction.

BURNS MARTIN.

BY EASTERN WINDOWS; A BOOK OF VERSE. By Alexander Louis Fraser. The Globe Press, Ltd., Saint John, N. B.

The author of these poems is not a newcomer to the literary world. He already has nine volumes of verse to his credit, and his name is a familiar one to Canadian readers. This present collection maintains the high standard of its predecessors. The verses touch life at many points, and always with simplicity and sincerity. For the most part the poet sings of the little humble things and events of everyday life—of a loaf of bread, of a clock, of a geranium, of the burial of a bird—but to each he brings the poet's insight which perceives in his subject a beauty and significance beyond its outward seeming. Of especial interest are the poems addressed to old friends or teachers, such as those to Sir Robert Falconer, to the late Dr. Kenneth J. Grant, and to the late Dr. Archibald MacMechan.

M. JOSEPHINE SHANNON.

CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES IN CANADA, 1900-1931. Edited by Robert MacGregor Dawson, M.A., D.Sc. Oxford University Press, London: Humphrey Milford, 1933. Pp. xvi, 482.

Dr. Dawson is already well known to students of Canadian government and administration through his former studies, *The Principle of Official Independence* and *The Civil Service of Canada*. In this volume he attempts to satisfy his readers "by making the raw material for a study of Canadian government more accessible both to the layman and to the university student." The book is therefore a collection of official documents supplemented by contemporary comment in newspapers and periodicals. Its material is arranged more or less topically, and each sub-division is preceded by an introduction which is designed to explain the arrangement and to indicate the significant development in each phase or institution of government. The editor's contribution, therefore, consists in the selection and arrangement of material to illustrate the changes that have taken place in Canadian government during the 20th century, and to save the reader the fag of making his own bibliography.

Because of the wide range of selection, particularly in the domain of public opinion as expressed in debate or in newspapers and periodicals, the editor has confined his illustrations to the Dominion field, and has omitted the developments in provincial and municipal government as well as in imperial and foreign relations. His material has been arranged under nine main headings: the unwritten constitution, constitutional amendment and development, the Governor-General, the Cabinet, the House of Commons, the Senate, the Civil Service, the Judiciary, Political Parties, and Dominion-Provincial Relations.

In the existing state of Canadian scholarship this work was no doubt worth doing, and it has been well done. But, as raw material

awaiting the hand of the manufacturer, it will probably be read by the student rather than the "layman"; for the latter is too impatient to weigh conflicting interpretations, and feels more at home with dogmatic opinion than with suspended judgment.

D. C. HARVEY.

A HISTORY OF CANADA. By Carl Wittke. New York. F. S. Crofts & Co. Pp. 443.

This is a new edition of the book first issued in 1928, and at that time noticed in this REVIEW (Vol. X. p. 580). The comments made at that time can be repeated. It is the best work of its size devoted to the history of Canada. It would not only make an excellent textbook for a college class, but would serve equally well the general reader, who turns away from the meagre accounts given in the ordinary manuals, and who lacks the time or the opportunity, and perhaps the inclination also, to read the more specialized books on the subject.

The narrative is well told, a real attempt is made to give due weight to economic and social factors in the history of the country, there is a good bibliography accompanying each chapter, and there is also an excellent index.

Perhaps the most interesting feature in the present work is the relative space given to the various periods of Canadian history. As the account comes down through the years, it becomes more detailed. The story of French rule in Canada is told in the first forty pages. The history down to Confederation takes up the first 188 pages. Thus more than half the book is devoted to the period since 1867.

The present edition has two advantages over the previous one. In the first place, Professor Wittke has read and profited by the criticisms made by the reviewers. Certain minor but irritating flaws which appeared in the earlier edition are no longer here. Chapters XXX and XXXI have been partly rewritten, while an additional chapter, "The New Era and its Problems," brings the story down to the present day. Even the budget of 1933 and the national convention of the C. C. F. are included. The reader is thus offered a book that is not only comprehensive, but also is very much up to date.

G. E. WILSON.

THE CLUBS OF AUGUSTAN LONDON. By Robert J. Allen. Cambridge. Harvard University Press. 1933.

Mr. Allen has done an accurate and scholarly piece of work: with fewer facts and more information it would have been an interesting one. This book will be useful to candidates for academic honours, and to the successors of the Augustan Clubmen—the Luncheon Clubmen—to provide material for their fifteen-minute talks.

The publishers say that the author has preserved the fine old flavour of the time and subject with which he deals. That is the one

thing he has not done, nor, with the vast amount of minutiae he gives, should it be expected. The reader who expects a picture of life in eighteenth-century London will be disappointed. Perhaps Mr. Allen could have re-created the social life of the time, had he not been under the necessity of "satisfying the examiner."

The first half of the book traces the development of the Club from the immortal sessions at the Mermaid Tavern and the less known gatherings at the Apollo, whose *Leges Conviviales* were drawn up by Ben Jonson himself and whose "convivial spirit... together with the personal magnetism of its vigorous monarch, drew the poet Herrick into its number," to the powerful and influential societies of the early eighteenth century. Mr. Allen gives a detailed account of the rise and decline of the most remarkable Clubs, their customs and conventions, their relations with men of letters from Defoe to Pope, and with politicians and statesmen of both parties. Chapter IV is devoted to the use of the Club framework in essay periodicals, from John Dunton's question-and-answer periodical *The Athenian Mercury* to *The Tatler*, *The Spectator*, and their imitators. Even with this promising material, Mr. Allen makes few concessions to the reader who has survived the facts and foot-notes of the first three chapters.

It is unfortunate that a strict adherence to one limit of his title prevented his continuing the history to the present time. We still have literary, political, and gambling Clubs whose members are largely recruited from the society of gentlemen. We have others closely akin to the Mug-House, Claves-Head, and Beefsteak Clubs in aims and procedures, but differing in methods of propaganda—to the loss of what Mr. Allen rightly calls that highly valued Augustan quality, urbanity.

A. R. JEWITT.

"WHAT IS MAN"? By John Mollison. The Journal Publishing Co. Summerside, P. E. I.

One of the services which the DALHOUSIE REVIEW seeks to confer on these sketchy times is the encouragement of original thought and investigation. In our feverish haste to get things done, we gratefully grasp at the glasses offered us by our loose-leaf encyclopaedias, epitomes of articles, short courses in the various sciences, and we contentedly look out on "our mysterious universe" through conventional categories and opinions *à la mode*. We calmly accept the assurance that there is an ether, though Jeans tells us that the most delicate operation in the laboratory has not detected the faintest trace of an "ether wind". We believe in electrons, though Bernard Shaw declares that there is as much evidence for an angel as there is for an electron, and he would much rather believe in the former, if he had his choice. It is therefore a bit refreshing to escape from these accepted ways of regarding things to the pages of one who approaches life in his own way.

Mr. Mollison is a respected and honoured citizen of Summerside. For many years he occupied the editorial chair, and he has been a life-

long reader of modern science and literature, though he has not been caught in "the mill race" that flows through the ordinary institution of learning. He has "suffered the word of exhortation" patiently in many a sermon. And in the twilight of his life he has published this book, in which he sums up the convictions he has arrived at in his own original way. For this reason the book should be of interest to the modern psychologist and educationist. Here is a laboratory experiment, here is the precipitate formed from the various streams of learning in a mind intelligent, attentive, and unbiassed. And it is not without its surprises.

Mr. Mollison finds a tripartite nature in man, body, mind and spirit; and a further tripartite division in each of these. In the body there are the "machine", the digestive apparatus, and the nervous system; in the mind there are the "intellect," the ruminative part, and the emotions, corresponding to the divisions of the body; and in the spirit realm, "choice", goodwill and affection. This is quite an unusual arrangement of material, but the author gives the reason for the selection of these terms and the significance he places upon them. He feels that there is a simplicity and sublimity in a triune universe, in which a similar law operates in all departments, a faint echo of Drummond's *Natural Law in the Spiritual World*. The climax is reached in the treatment of the last division, the "affection," "that which sees, hears, feels the need of others, and out of the infinite abundance of the Godhead—the universal Storehouse—supplies every want of mankind, when the Me, the Will, the Soul of each individual human being opens the door to let it—Him—in."

C. M.

THE EVOLUTION OF WORLD PEACE. Edited by F. S. Marvin.
2nd Edition. 1933, Oxford. pp. 209.

The republication of this well known collection of essays by leading British historians will be welcomed by those interested in international affairs, lay and professional alike. Taken together, the essays constitute a historical sketch of international relations from ancient Greece to the present day. Professor Gilbert Murray has brought the present edition up to date by a survey of the League of Nations since the book was first published in 1921.

R. A. MACKAY.