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rapid change and development, that it is impossible here to do more than repeat that the entire situation is charged with a tremendous potential of disaster, and that the fate of much of the world in the next century may be determined by what happens in South Africa within the next decade. It is clear that there are not two or three, but many conflicts of race and religion, and that numerical disproportion makes these conflicts, as most white South Africans remind us. by no means easy to resolve. While admittedly South Africans know more than others about South Africa, a spectator may sometimes be permitted to call attention to a confusion of objectives. Some South Africans seem intent upon multiplying conflicts, rather than in reducing them to a minimum; instead of black against—or merely distinguished from—white we have, to name a few, black against white, Afrikaner against English, territory against territory, and even Malan as Prime Minister against Malan of the Torch Commandos. While only scattered seeds of Communism have as yet taken root, they might all too readily find themselves in fertile soil. Prime Minister Malan, who at this distance gives small evidence of depth of insight might do well to retire within himself for long enough to discover where potential friends and enemies are most likely to be found, and what really is the spirit that animates the vast and brooding continent whose destiny hangs so much on the inner wisdom, the spiritual breadth and depth, of the intense and dedicated but too often narrow interests of those he represents.

Colonel van der Post, the author of Venture to the Interior is South African Dutch and a grandson of voortrekkers on his mother's side, European Dutch on his father's. After fighting on four fronts in the Second War, he spent several years as a prisoner of the Japanese. It is characteristic of the man that he regarded these years of privation as lost time that he had to make up to humanity. As a result of services which are still regarded as secret, he was chosen to make a survey of almost inaccessible territory in south Central Africa, was flown to London for interview, and felt it his duty to accept. The journey to London, as the return to Africa, was accepted in a mystical sense of destiny and dedication, as being parts of a set pattern made in advance "with the most meticulous timing and with an air of predetermined finality." With Hamlet, whom he recalls in other ways, the author is convinced, at times openly, at times in his deep subconscious mind, that "there's a divinity that shapes our ends": "if it be now, 'tis not to come; if it be not to come, it will be now; if it be not now, yet it will

come; the readiness is all."

His assignment was to survey, in terms of natural resources, two remote and little-known territories, one a timber-clad plateau south of Lake Nyasa, the other a grassy upland on its north-eastern shore. That there is adventure in such a journey is evident; but we receive no blow-by-blow or step-by-step account. Throughout there is a sense, even in trivial detail, of urgency, of significance. When the book rises to a pitch of danger and disaster the impression is of permanence and of human values, of Life and Death, not of whether a certain officer of the Colonial Service will or will not be drowned by slipping from an insecure bridge over a torrent by a precipice: "sooner

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or later there was bound to be a reckoning between himself and his nature which I could not influence, save as an instrument of the inevitable. On Friday at ten-thirty in the Great Ruo gorge of Mlanje the unpredictable in himself and the unpredictable in the mountain, the split in himself and the dark gash in Mlanje met and became one." As with people, so with places. The author has a Wordsworthian sense of the power and personality of nature, especially in its aspects of grandeur: "as I looked at it, I understood at once why I had felt below that there was a large, purple cat purring up there behind the clouds. It looked in its colours, its shape and its isolation, a contented serene, and deeply fulfilled land. It seemed a place which, without human interference, had made its own contract with life, struck its own balance with necessity and nature. Beyond that I

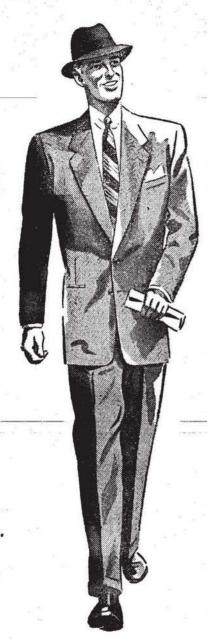
cannot go."

His venture completed, Colonel van der Post no doubt sent to his superiors a valuable ecological report. But again, in closing, he stresses the personal, the sense of destiny, the fulfilment: "Africa was with me whether I came back or not. For years it had stood apart from me: a dark, unanswered, implacable question in my life. It was that no longer. I felt that I was not leaving it, but taking it with me. I might even be able to give some of it to Europe, to the Britain that had given me so much." Here is neither a guide-book nor a handbook; nor is there a solution to the problem of Africa; for no solution can be ready made. But in this adventure of the body which is even more, and much more essentially, an adventure of the spirit there is shown the type of mind and character through which alone the continents and races can hope to understand and respect one another. The book, which recalls Saint-Exupéry in its combination of mysticism and physical excitement is written in "answerable style" rising and falling with its subject, but always direct and simple because its subject has first become real to a writer who has no object except the Colonel van der Post is convinced that by inheritance and destiny he is a man with a mission. He soon persuades us to agree. If his mission has not been fulfilled we shall hear from him again. Whatever the event, here is a book to read with care, and to read again.

The Canadian Pageant: by G. J. Reeve & B. O. MacFarlane. Toronto: Clarke, Irwin & Co., Limited. \$3.00.

Canada's story, before the year of Confederation, was one of exploration and settlement, of wars between the two greatest rival powers in Europe for the control of the fabulous fur trade of the territory, and a little later of the struggle between French and English for domination. Since 1867 it has been the saga of a fight by a proud and independent people for the right to manage their own affairs, a right that is now being realized.

It is to the years prior to 1867, however, that the present generation of Canadians must look for the explanation of much that they find inherent in the political and economic constitution of this country;





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and to that momentous period when the four "inconsiderable colonies" decided to merge as a unit, and to sink their mutual distrust and dislike. Since then the four colonies have grown to ten provinces and two territories; the population has surged upward by leaps and bounds, and tremendous developments in all branches of modern activity have marked Canada's progress toward complete nationhood, a progress that has witnessed her advance to second among the exporting nations of the world; leader in the production of nickel, newsprint, radium and platinum; dispenser of power on a very wide scale; a colossus in the aluminum production of the world; and more recently, a major oil producer and primary source of much of the raw material of atomic energy as well as one of the major producers of that energy.

Sir Wilfred Laurier declared that the twentieth century belonged to Canada. Canadians of this century are busily engaged in proving the truth of that prediction in a manner that must be far beyond even the wildest dreams of the great Canadian statesman who voiced the belief. At the mid-point in the century we can pause to assess the position in which we find ourselves, and can discover there much that is encouraging and that should help us to face the future with

confidence.

It is the pageant of these colorful events that the authors of this volume have endeavoured to portray. Dr. R. O. MacFarlane, formerly associate professor of history at the University of Manitoba, now deputy minister of Education for that province, and his collaborator, G. J. Reeve, an Oxford graduate in history, now Principal of St. John's Technical High School in Winnipeg, have done a sound piece of work in presenting a new kind of history to Canadians.

C.F.B.

WORKING WONDERS WITH WORDS. by Wilfred Womersley. Toronto: J. M. Dent and Sons (Canada) Ltd. 285 pp. \$3.50.

The jacket and some of the advertisements for this work claim for it a novelty and originality that, perhaps to its advantage, it does not possess. There are no secret methods or formulae, not even the alliteration of title and author, that will produce orators by the quick and easy methods that are said to furnish skill in French, pianoforte-playing, or short-story writing in a dozen easy lessons. Actually the book proceeds in a useful and practical way, following familiar and well-tried methods, to give information exercises and advice that are helpful to those who wish to speak more clearly, pleasantly, and effectively. It should be useful both to individuals and to public speaking clubs that wish to make better use of the not always musical instrument on which we are all obliged to perform, and to which, to our too frequent discomfort, we are all obliged to listen.

The Viking Portable Melville: edited with an Introduction by Jay Leyda. Toronto: The Macmillan Company of Canada Ltd. xxii, 746 pp. \$2.95.

This compendium, by the editor of A Melville Log, gives as much as can be expected between two covers of a writer as copious and varied

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as the "mariner and mystic" who is known to too many readers only as the author of Moby Dick. Increasing interest in Melville has developed a taste for further examples of his unique art and personality, and the present volume provides a useful pocket edition for those who are lacking in access to the complete works. From the longer books, short samples from those less known are given with the avowed object of attracting new readers; there is something of Mardi as leading to Moby Dick, but Omoo, Redburn and White Jacket the reader is left to find for himself. Moby Dick is represented, in the proper belief that every reader will have a copy or proceed to get one, by one chapter, Father Mapple's sermon on the Book of Jonah. But the editor has included everything that Melville had to say about his writing of the story of the great White Whale. There are selections from the verse; Typee (a wise choice) is given complete and of Billy Budd, now of special interest because of its treatment in opera, there is all that was completed by Melville's aged and ailing hand. Something of biography and criticism is given by the inclusion, as a running commentary, of several of Melville's letters, including those to Hawthorne. It is interesting to note that the last letter published, dated December 5, 1889, and referring to the difficulty of completing work in hand, was addressed to Archibald MacMechan of Dalhousie, who did so much for Melville's reputation by early recognition of his genius in "The Finest Sea Story Ever Written."

THE HERITAGE OF WESTERN CULTURE: edited by R. C. Chalmers. Toronto: The Ryerson Press. ix, 117 pp. cloth \$2.50, paper \$2.00.

These chapters, by various hands, are modified for the general reader from the first part of the report of a Commission on Culture of the Board of Evangelism and Social Service of the General Council of the United Church in Canada. The approach is historical and the intention is to evaluate modern culture from the standpoint of the Church. It is hardly surprising to find that virtues have been derived from religion and faults from lack of religion. What is surprising is that other surveys, not Church-inspired, should have paid so little attention to the cultural value of faith. The studies, naturally, are of uneven merit, and it might be objected that the essays dealing with earlier periods have given rather repetitions of history than lessons to be drawn from it. Most critical and stimulating, and therefore most fruitful, at least to this reader, are the last two, on Sciences and Philosophy by Professor Irving, and on Modern Trends by Professor Frye, both of Victoria College in the University of Toronto. These not only affirm the importance of Religion, but show how and why something may be done with it in modern times.

THE YOUTHFUL QUEEN VICTORIA: by Dormer Creston. Toronto: The Macmillan Company of Canada Ltd., xii, 484 pp. \$6.50.

To a point, this biography with sub-title "a discursive narrative" resembles those back-and front-stairs volumes of Court memoirs that supply the less important footnotes to serious history. It goes, how-



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ever, far beyond that, and behind a light facade of gossip and scandal contrives to build a quite substantial entrance to the imposing edifice of Victorianism to which its subject gave both its name and a large part of its character. Diaries, letters, and reminiscences, some not generally accessible, have been sifted for minutiae, with most frequent reference to Greville, Creevey, Baron Stockmar and the Princess Lieven. The book is not without a pattern. An introductory survey sets the outline with a comparison—surprising but credibly established—between the Queen whose name gave us a synonym for propriety and one who suggests its emphatic opposite, Catherine the Then the family background, with special attention to the Duke and Duchess of Kent, but not neglecting the uncles, the cousins (legitimate and illegitimate) and the aunts, or the hopes and fears of other aspirants to the succession. It is made clear however that from the beginning the Duchess of Kent, and soon after Victoria herself, were aware as rivals rather than as allies of the almost certain destiny of the girlish yet imperious figure whose portrait begins to emerge, in the midst of a welter of intrigue, as that of a personality in its own right.

The story unfolds after the manner of a Victorian novel, and reaches the conventional happy ending as the Queen drives away from her wedding. The marriage was founded upon love, but the Queen had first to be sure that her Albert had increased in stature from a provincial German princeling to a fit consort for a Queen and future Empress; Albert, on the other hand, according to Miss Creston, was a somewhat reluctant suitor until he could be assured of a career for himself. There is a rival claimant for the affections of the heroine, though not for her hand, and always—perhaps the depth of personal feeling was unconscious on both sides—in quite a nice way. "My dear excellent Lord Melbourne" gave more than official strength and guidance between the accession and the Royal wedding. The villain, or at least the sinister figure in the piece, is Captain Conroy, Comptroller of the Household to the Duchess of Kent, who is herself cast as the scheming but properly frustrated mamma.

Victoria, a bird-like but determined little being, is made both stronger and more fallible than the conventional portraits, and two chapters add detail to admitted youthful errors. One concerns the tragic story—recalling in some respects that of Caroline of Brunswick, but with no justification and no comic overtones—of Lady Flora Hastings. For her part in this the Queen—no easy gesture—was moved to make a personal apology. The other also concerns the ladies-in-waiting whose skirmishes in the midst of alternating boredom and gaiety sometimes move from the chorus to the spotlight in this early Victorian drama. The so-called Bedchamber Plot, which caused Peel to resign before he could form a Ministry, and "my dear Lord Melbourne" to be reinstated, is here reduced to the young Queen's insistence on her right to refrain from changing her personal attendants with a change of Government. Sixty years later, with Melbourne out of the picture, the Queen confided "I was very young then, and perhaps I should act differently if it was all to be done again."

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EDWIN ARLINGTON ROBINSON, A CRITICAL STUDY: by Ellsworth Barnard. Toronto: The Macmillan Company of Canada Limited. xxii: 318 pp. \$6.00.

A poet who can treat the Arthurian legend, in language of almost Tennysonian music and with Browning's concern for character and inner truth, is not easy to interpret. To resolve the many paradoxes in the life and poetry of E. A. Robinson there have been many studies, and one more, to justify itself, must bring us nearer to him. Barnard's book, long in the making, has wasted little time in repetition: chief events in the life, which is well told by Hagedorn, are given in two pages; C. B. Hogan having made a full bibliography, a list of major publications takes less than a page. The study is devoted to interpretation, and everything by and about Robinson appears to have been examined with the care necessary to penetrate the implications of a writer whose important meanings are easily missed under a surface of the apparently too obvious or too obscure. What Charles Cestre has called the combination of "intellectual neatness and emotional concentration" represents only one of the conflicts that Robinson, who sat for his own portrait of Miniver Cheevy, had first to settle within himself. The bulk of Robinson will never achieve the popularity of Frost or Sandburg-he writes about our common humanity rather than for it—but in spite of his apparent traditionalism he is less narrowly New England, or even old England, than the one, not less vitally modern than the other. Dr. Barnard makes a thorough and penetrating study of material, background and technique which helps us to take a long step towards a fuller and clearer understanding of a poet who had has few equals in knowledge of mind and character.

Francois Villon, Poems: translated to the original verse-forms by Norman Cameron: Clarke, Irwin and Co. Ltd., 134 pp. \$2.25.

It is as a poet rather than as a scholar that this translator says he puts Villon into seventeenth century English. It calls for a bold endeavour to follow after Rossetti, Swinburne, and J. M. Synge, or even Henley (who managed thieves' jargon) and John Payne. With their predecessors before us, the present versions seem to be deficient in lyrical quality; but they show up better by reference to the proper test of the originals. As Hilaire Belloc has pointed out, the distinctive quality of Villon is hardness, compression, the negation of sentiment. By these criteria, this almost complete set of translations is not inadequate, although inevitably something of Villon has been lost. They give a clear representation of the subject matter and attack of the realism, sometimes bitter, sometimes gay, always cynical, of the poet and rogue who almost certainly served as a model for Rabelais' Panurge.

The translator has worked from the monumental edition of Louis Thusana, with notes based on the researches of Gaston Paris and Auguste Lognon. English readers are referred to the study by Cecily Mackworth. Mention might well have been made also of the "docu-

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mented survey" of D. B. Wyndham Lewis, which includes a variety of translations, much of the original, some contemporary music, and a

wealth of critical biographical and historical material.

The two "testaments" and most of the "ballades" are translated completely, in the original stanzas and metres, at times even to the acrostics, and they are usually given line for line with marked aptness and skill. The few omitted are either of minor importance or, being in thieves' cant, for linguistic or other reasons do not lend themselves to translation.

JOHN ROBERT GODLEY OF CANTERBURY, by C. E. Carrington, M.A., Toronto. The Macmillan Company of Canada Limited. xv: 251 pp. \$5.75.

Of the many experiments in colonization promoted by that erratic genius Edward Gibbon Wakefield, perhaps the most enduring was carried through by a very different personality who, as the New Zealand Company came to an end, was the leader and founder of the Canterbury settlement. Wakefield's previous ventures in the North Island had profited by earlier lessons from South Africa and Australia, but they were hampered by difficulties with the Maoris, the mountains, and the bush. In the extreme south, the province of Otago had made a good start, about 1848, with a settlement of hardy Scots under Captain Cargill. Plans for an English and Anglican settlement were therefore shifted to the east central section of the South Island, on the wide grassy plains between the mountains and the sea. By good fortune Wakefield, instead of handling the organization himself or giving it to one of his relatives, placed it in the hands of the brilliant and devoted public servant whose story, built around an actual resi-

dence of less than two years in New Zealand, is here related.

The Canterbury plan was to avoid the joint dangers of absentee capital and of indigent or convict labour by emigrating a complete cross-section of English life, preserving the various social layers in their new homes. Godley, who had made a quiet but solid name for himself in Ireland (his family home) and in Canada with Lord Durham (both he and Wakefield are credited with varying degrees of responsibility for the famous Durham report) was a leader acceptable to dignitaries of Church and State, and soon had the support of all the best people. The list of members of the Canterbury Association, published in 1848, is headed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and included another archbishop, seven bishops, an impressive array of secular titles, and some of lesser rank whose names are now famous. The "Canterbury Pilgrims", as they were soon called, were carefully selected and many paid their own way. After a banquet for the gentry and a luncheon for the artisans, with a combined service in Saint Paul's Cathedral, the Pilgrims left the Thames in four ships in August 1850, Godley having gone ahead to prepare the way. After a hundred days of separation, two ships reached port at Lyttelton, New Zealand, within hours, the third within a day and the last shortly after. The energetic Wakefield had moved the British to rush their

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flag to the port in the nick of time to ensure that the South Island was not claimed as a colony by the French. After some disputes over the claims of Lyttelton and Sumner, the principal centre was established at Christchurch, now the provincial capital, which was named for Godley's college at Oxford. The streets are named for Anglican dioceses around the world. Godley stayed long enough to establish the settlement and returned to England where he did notable work at the War Office. Appropriately but quite fortuitously his nephew, Sir Alexander Godley, commanded the Anzacs in the first World War.

It goes without saying that neither physical nor economic conditions permitted the continuance of a hierarchy of Church-and-State. The first Bishop, who expected a carriage and pair before there were roads, soon returned to the way of life to which he was accustomed; whereas Mrs. Godley, who in England and Ireland had probably never done her own hair, entered with spirit into pioneer life and was once discovered in high good humor washing Maori shirts in a bush creek. Much remained, however, of the English temper and tradition. Though "young", small, of homogeneous origin, New Zealand has strongly marked regional characteristics. Canterbury as a province is in many ways, thanks to Godley, more English than the English. Christchurch in particular, with its low-set buildings, its Cathedral square, its gardened villas, and its gowned scholars beside the placid Avon, is a living memorial to the Oxford Movement.

Maud: An Essay on Tennyson's Poem. By Kenneth P. Kirkwood. Limited edition. Le Droit, Ottawa. 1951. Pp. 216.

This dissertation has finally taken shape after a somewhat adventurous course related to its author's travels, in service for the Department of External Affairs, during and after the Second War. It offers an interpretative commentary, section by section, and passage by passage, upon Tennyson's most controversial poem, in terms of the poet's own life and experience, the political and social conditions of his times, and—inevitably—of a comparison with Hamlet. The author, while making the comparison and drawing some important distinctions, rightly insists that Maud is to be judged on its merits, as an independent poem in its own right. He suggests that Tennyson's "this is a little Hamlet" came after the event as an exclamation of surprise at the similarity of the two works.

The reader may agree with this interpretation of Maud as comparable to Hamlet in the treatment of related but independent themes, or with those who place the emphasis, for plot and motivation, upon "little," and for character on "Hamlet without the Prince of Denmark." They may believe or not that Tennyson, in Maud, or in Locksley Hall, had completely mastered his sense of personal injustice and the evils of the mid-Nineteenth Century, as he finally subdued his personal bereavement to the universal expression of In Memoriam. Those who admire the great elegy most as poetry may be least concerned with the personal details on which it is based. Those, on the

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contrary, who find it difficult, apart from the lyrics, not to feel alienated from Maud by a sense of false rhetoric and theatrical posturing, may find that history and literature support and supplement each other. Tennyson was not a profound thinker, and his Muse, to most leaders, answered him best when he dealt with questions remote from problems of the day. But he was deeply and seriously concerned with the ills of his great era, and Maud must be read with reference to the economic results of the Industrial Revolution, laissez-faire, and the "Victorian compromise" between the landed aristocracy and the nouveau riches. Food, housing, sanitation, child-labour, domestic relations, as well as international policies,—e. g. the abortive movements for the independence of Poland and Hungary—all are of deep concern to the morbid hero. He at last redeems himself by enlisting for the Crimean War. Our critic explains that he does this not because of any jingoistic impulse, but because any action—he draws the comparison to Hamlet closer here—is preferable to brooding and introspective inactivity.

For those who wish to find in *Maud* a reflection of contemporary history, or for students of literature who wish to support the poem with fuller knowledge of the author's daily pre-occupations, this study will provide useful and carefully organized material, as well as a commen-

tary on the development of the central character.

C. L. BENNET

My India, by Jim Corbett. Toronto: Oxford University Press. \$2.50

Until this latest book by Colonel Corbett appeared, readers knew his work chiefly through his stories of lion, tiger, and other wild animal hunts in his native country of India, for the doughty colonel was born and raised in the hills of the land that is the setting for his adventure stories. He writes of this Kumaon country once again in My India, but this time from an entirely new, though not less interesting viewpoint, that of the poor of India, among whom he has lived and worked, and—as he puts it—"whom I have loved."

India is a country that has been very greatly misunderstood by the peoples of the west. "In my India, the India that I know," writes Corbett, "there are four hundred million people, ninety per cent of whom are simple, honest, brave, loyal, hard-working souls whose daily prayer to God, and to whatever Government is in power, is to give them security of life and of property to enable them to enjoy the fruits of their labours. It is of these people that I tell in the pages of this

book.'

The recital consists of twelve stories, each of which sets forth some outstanding example of bravery, faithfulness or loyalty (and occasionally gives a glimpse of something less pleasing in the life of the natives) mingled with the author's own shrewd observations on the matters discussed. Naina Tal, a lake-settlement located 6,000 feet above the plains, in the fir-clad Kumaon hills has been the setting for most of Colonel Corbett's life. It is also the setting of much of his narrative in this newest of his books.

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There is much that is heart-warning in My India, much that is informative, occasionally something that will arouse the indignation of the reader and also things that will bring a smile, as when Corbett, participating in a soccer match between two teams of Indians, was tripped by one player on his opponents' squad who was prevented from scoring a goal by the spectators, who, as he writes, "impounded the ball and arrested the player"!

The series of stories is dedicated "to my friends, the poor of India." "When I hear of the labour unrest, strikes, and communal disorders that are rife today," Corbett concludes, "I am thankful that my men and I served India at a time when the interest of one was the interest of all, and when Hindu, Mohammedan, Depressed Class, and Christian, could live, work and play together in perfect harmony, as could be done today if agitators were eliminated, for the poor of India have no enmity against each other."

C. F. B.

THE ENGLISH SPIRIT, by A. L. Rowse. Toronto: Macmillans In Canada Limited. \$3.25.

This collection of essays from the gifted pen of A. L. Rowse is concerned with an interpretation of the spirit of the English people, a spirit of which the author feels the essence is "perhaps a quality of feeling, at heart a dream." It is, he believes, an almost indefinable subject, except as it may be revealed to an observer through a series of studies of individuals who may be taken as typical samples of the general spirit about which Mr. Rowse has written. The spirit of the English, however, is displayed through the delineation of places as well as people, the places that are or have been associated with the people who inhabited them. To mention only a small number of those listed by the author one may cite Thomas More and Elizabeth, Swift and Horace Walpole, George Herbert and Hampden and Clarendon; William and Dorothy Wordsworth, the Tower and Hampton Court; Rycote and Great Tew; Trinity Great Court and the High; Wilton, and the Close at Salisbury.

"The positive side of this theme is a proper recognition of what we owe to our great men," the author remarks, and later adds. "On the side of literature and landscape, a theme that recurs, that rises from many of the essays, is the naturally poetic character of the English at heart . . . Yet what rises from my reading of these essays as a whole is the constant way in which English literature, even when prose, with such prose-figures as Horace Walpole, or Clarendon, or Froude—we expect it of Virginia Woolf or D. H. Lawrence—aspires

to the condition of poetry."

There are thirty-eight essays in the collection, the longest and to some readers the most interesting dealing with Mr. Churchill who, Mr. Rowse observes, is cast in the Elizabethan mould, and whose genealogy he traces to prove his assertion. Those who are not familiar with the British Leader's ancestry are given a comprehensive picture of it, showing his lineage on both sides of the family tree. The military

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tradition runs far back in the Churchill family, as does also the political one. It would be unfair, however, both to the readers and to the author to reveal too much of a study that will be of absorbing interest to

nearly all who read it.

The essays comprising The English Spirit first appeared in 1944, were reprinted twice in 1946 and came out in still another edition in 1950. There is a quality of timelessness about them, however, which makes them just as interesting to those who come upon them for the first time today as they must have been for the readers of almost a decade ago; for the modern student finds his interest in that indefinable thing called the English spirit just as great as was that of his immediate predecessors.

C. F. B.

LURE OF THE SEA. By W. R. MacAskill. With a Foreword by Thomas H. Raddall. Halifax: Eastern Photo Engravers. \$7.50 (boxed). \$10. (sailcloth).

To the majority of Nova Scotians Wallace R. MacAskill's work needs no introduction. They know at first hand the beauty, the vividness, the charm of his magic lens, which for years has been capturing the moods of the sea and sky, of the white sails and the surf breaking on the shore, of rugged coast and the foam-crested combers of the open ocean for their asthetic pleasure. There is an enduring quality about a collection of MacAskill portraits. Each time one opens it something new, some gleam of light, some trick of shade that he has missed before leaps to his eye. New beauty, new charm become evident with each return to the scenes portrayed. To browse through the pages of Lure of the Sea is an adventure into a new realm, even for those who are familiar with the moods of the ocean; for those who have yet to experience the lure, the opening of this book is a sheer delight.

Thomas H. Raddall, whose work as an author has carried him to the pinnacle of success, has written a Foreword which is in tune with the magic to be found in the pictures that go to make up the main body of the volume: "Turn these pages, stranger," he urges, "and see what makes the dwellers of the coast a race apart, what puts the strength and kindness in the faces of old men, what makes young men see visions and go out to find if dreams come true. Turn them

.... and see the face of your own youth."

The formal dedication is to the author's wife. There is another one, unwritten but implied: it is to every man, woman and child who has imagination in his mind, the dreams of beauty in his soul and a sense of freedom in his heart. There have been great poets, great painters and great prose writers in our heritage. In our own times a new figure is coming upon the cultural scene, the great photographer. If the supreme goal of the artist in any medium is "to hold a mirror up to nature," as has often been declared, then surely MacAskill merits

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the title of "poet of the lens," which Raddall has bestowed upon him.

To single out any one picture or any group of pictures from this book would be unfair. It is a monument to Beauty—the beauty of the dawn and sunset, of storm and calm, of white sails and white gulls, of peace and balm for the heart and mind. On the shores of the ocean Man is put into his proper perspective. He is able to realize how infinitesimal he really is beside the immensity of water and sky that lie on the threshold of his habitation, and how puny are his efforts to control the forces latent within the sea.

To be able to evoke the beauties of sea and sky at will is a privilege: it is one that is made possible to each of us through the magic of

the camera, via the pages of this "pictorial log."

C. F. B.

THE THOUGHT OF C. S. PEIRCE. By Thomas A. Goudge, Professor of Philosophy in the University of Toronto. University of Toronto Press—Saunders. \$5.50.

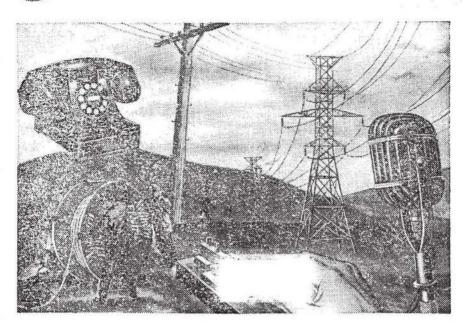
This is an exceedingly careful, comprehensive and admirably written account of the speculations of a keen but far from systematic thinker. C. S. Peirce served more as a provocative of other man's thought than as the architect of a thought-structure of his own. But the stimulus he imparted to such as Josiah Royce and William James (illustrating Professor Goudge's apt quotation from Hegal on his frontispiece, about the service a man renders by making others feel obliged to explain him) is sufficient justification for a detailed study of the famous Collected Papers. Whether there was advantage in such voluminous citing of passages which merely continue (not seldom indeed attenuate) the thread of that which had already been sufficiently set forth, is open to doubt. One may question, too, the value of recording repeatedly the irrelevant abuse (not even excused by wit) which Peirce rained upon metaphysicians—in some such spirit as that of Kierkegaard's Attack Upon Christendom. But Professor Goudge aimed at completeness, and he had given us what will long remain the most valuable guiding analysis for those who wish to make their way, with as little avoidable labor as possible, through the labryinth of Peirce's writings. It is with pleasure, and pride, that one notes this achievement in exposition by a Canadian philosopher. need of such a book, and this work will not have to be done again.

So much may be said in warm commendation of its account of Peirce's opinions. About Professor Goudge's judgment of their value, there is room for controversy which would extend far beyond the reasonable limits of a magazine not technically philosophical. But I cannot leave altogether unsaid what I feel about the undiscerning panegyric which so many have showered upon Peirce. To a writer from whom adequate recognition has long been withheld, this is no doubt a generous amende honorable, but critical accuracy should not be sacrificed to critical "reparations". From this fault Professor Goudge is notably free, and it is among the merits of his book that he has ruthlessly exposed the contradictions which admiration led so

many others to ignore, or to pretend to reconcile.

F. H. Bradley once described the philosopher as a man who makes

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an unusually obstinate attempt to think consistently. Peirce is presented in this book as one who in alternate moods (here named "Naturalism" and "Transcendentalism") contradicted himself many times—as Bernard Shaw used to put it, "letting not the right lobe of the brain know what the left lobe doeth". So far from being original or novel, the puzzle of the dilemma with which he was concerned is one of immemorial antiquity, and it has often been urged with skill much greater than Peirce's. A means of escape from it deplorably common is to pursue in succession contradictory lines of argument, refusing to confront them with each other. The display, in Professor Goudge's analysis, of how this was practised by a mind so keen as Peirce's should help to bring home to the reader what is nothing short of a philosophic scandal. It is a service especially opportune just now, when a cult of Irrationalism seems to have manifold attractions -along Barthians, Existentialists, and other contemners of the human intellect. One thinks of Cook Wilson's congratulation of F. C. S. Schiller on having had the good fortune to turn into a system his own incapacity to think!

What I chiefly miss in Professor Goudge's admirable exposition is protest in the name of philosophy against the simultaneous avowal of "Naturalism" and "Transcendentalism" in senses which make them each other's denial. It can only confuse when we apply the name "philosophy" to repudiation, however artful, of that consistent thinking which is the philosopher's constant aim, however imperfectly

fulfilled.

Perhaps, indeed, one may say of Peirce as Ruskin said of J. S. Mill that his merit lies in his inconsistencies, in his resolute refusal to adhere to the upshot of his own argument when that upshot would be intolerable. "I have no objection", wrote Ruskin, "to any of Mr. Mill's conclusions, except such as follow from his premisses." Here, in *Unto This Last*, was a tribute to "the saint of rationalism", for having the courage not merely to acknowledge but to emphasize the discord in his own mind. We are indebted to Professor Goudge for having thus played Ruskin to Peirce's Mill.

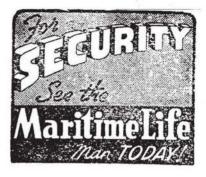
H. L. S.

The publishing house of Hutchinson is to be congratulated on the high level of scholarship in the series of volumes that have been appearing steadily for three years. The latest two admirably maintain that level. Mr. Leishman, who is Senior Lecturer in English at Oxford, has given us not merely a study of John Donne, but a study of poetry in the early 17th century. The author feels that most of our scholarship has been somewhat wide of the mark since Mr. T. S.

THE MONARCH OF WIT: AN ANALYTICAL AND COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE POETRY OF JOHN DONNE. By J. B. Leishman. Hutchinson's University Library (Senior Series) Ryerson Press. \$4.25.

SHAKESPEARE. By G. I. Duthie. Hutchinson's University Library. Ryerson Press, Toronto. \$2.25 pp. 206.







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highly informative and readable book, and, in some parts, a highly provocative one. Some years ago Professor Lovejoy discovered the great chain of being in Western European thought and literature, and, as Professor Duthie says, we have been seeing it everywhere ever since. Indeed, one criticism of the present book is that the order-disorder theme has become almost a King Charles' head for the author, giving the book the ruthless tone of a Ph.D. thesis. On the other hand, Professor Duthie shows a catholic sympathy with nearly all approaches to Shakespeare and tries to use the best results of all of them: he never fails, however, to show disagreement when he feels that a scholar has pushed his method or theory to an extreme. Like every other scholar, he sometimes forgets that these plays were written for performance and so finds subtleties that no audience could possibly discover when lines were being spoken at a rate of about 750 per hour. Despite such slight flaws, this book can be recommended as one of the finest short studies of Shakespeare.

BURNS MARTIN

UNREVISED AND UNREPENTED. Debating Speeches and Others, by The Right Hon. Arthur Meighen. With a Foreword by M. Grattan O'Leary. Toronto: Clarke, Irwin & Co., Ltd.

The title of this book was well chosen. It suggests the resolute, challenging spirit of the writer, exemplified so often in its contents. Mr. Meighen's attitude to his fellow-Canadians has been that of one concerned less to please the people than to serve them. No one has been further from the type of politician described by Carlyle as constantly considering "What will people say about me for what I say about this?" Sharp critics may fasten upon the word "Unrepented," pointing out that refusal to confess error in one's past opinions can result from sheer obstinacy, and that every open-minded man has unlearned much through the experience of the last thirty years. But no doubt Mr. Meighen has sifted his own enormous pile of speeches, and those he has chosen to publish in this volume include only such

as contain argument by which he still stands.

The value of the book, in the judgment of the present reviewer, is twofold—literary and historical. It is by a Canadian who, like Mr. Churchill in Britain, is one of a fast vanishing order that had both the talent and the purpose of artistic speech in parliament. Fifty years ago, speeches in "the House" were reported by the daily press far more extensively than such speeches are reported now, and the change is due, at least in part, to the fact that they are now far less deserving of newspaper space. In contrast with those of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, A. J. Balfour, Joseph Chamberlain, they are now slovenly, and in consequence often more likely to obscure than to illumine the subjects with which they deal. It is thus no injustice that they are consigned to the unbroken oblivion of Hansard. But the public has lost much by this drift into parliamentary carelessness. Interest in national problems, combined with the thrill of exquisite expression, made the reported debates of the past an educational instrument for the reader. Mr. Meighen's book recalls the tradition whose loss we have to lament. As I read "Unrevised and Unrepented I feel that

THE DALHOUSIE REVIEW

s indeed literature—not merely "Canadian literature," in the

ed sense, now so common, of books written exclusively about la, but the contribution of a Canadian to the literary riches of orld. It is worthy to stand on our shelves beside Mr. Churchill's and the Covenant. For its literary excellence alone it should be ery public library in Canada. at besides thus setting a pattern of how public affairs may be vely expounded and discussed, this book is of deep and enduristorical value. Many of the speeches are on very contenissues of party politics, and this is not the place to argue whether beaker's conclusions in them were right or wrong. Even those hink them wrong may well hail an exposition of such unfailing ty, on the ground which Bacon put in apt epigram "Truth is likely to emerge from error than from confusion." Dissenting s than concurring readers will find here a record and reflection of te on public affairs at very critical periods of the past which is table to the student of our national history. I quote as exes the speeches on the proposal of Conscription in 1917, on the itutional Crisis of 1926, on the United Management of Canadian rays in 1938. Perhaps specially revealing to the coming hiswill be those concerned with "scandals"-such as the one on the Villiam Petersen Contract in 1924, or the one entitled "Beau-is—and Implicated Senators" in 1931. Like the speeches of osthenes in cases of private litigation, which often incidentally nore light than his diatribes against Philip on the ways of Athlife in the fourth century B.C.! A dozen pages in Mr. Meighen's with the unexciting title "The Case of R. C. Miller" may for dians of the future, when much in the life of our country will have red, serve to reconstruct a vivid picture of domestic affairs in anada of the years just before the outbreak of the First World

Other speeches in the collection have an appeal of different chardisclosing qualities which those who have known Mr. Meighen in his fierce political contentions may be surprised to find. It to such as his In Memoriam addresses on colleagues or friends who bassed on, his reply to the welcome given him in his home town Mary's when he first revisited as Prime Minister the scenes of oyhood, or his acknowledgement in tones different but no less of his honorary degree at the University of Edinburgh. And on great occasions when, in a national emergency the accents of were hushed, no one in Canada surpassed Mr. Meighen in giving that expression to the national purpose. These were pronounces that ought to live.

In order to prevent suspicion of partisan prejudice in this review e, it may be mentioned that the present reviewer has never belonged r. Meighen's political party, and has at no time shared (nor does low share) certain convictions on public affairs which are pressed and strongly in these speeches. But for the reason he has above orth he commends the book as one which no Canadian can afford

glect.