

NEW BOOKS

Canada In World Affairs, September 1951 to October 1953. By B. S. KIERSTEAD. Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1956. Pp. ix, 268. \$5.00.

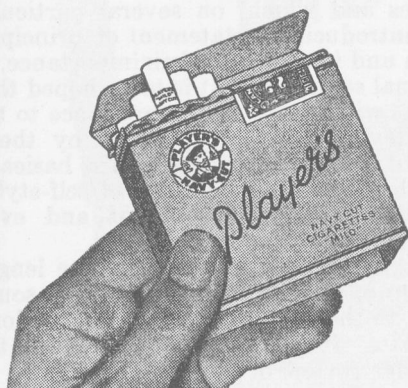
Excellent as its predecessors are, this volume is the best yet to appear in the series "Canada in World Affairs." Its distinction arises in part from the manner in which Professor Kierstead sets forth the broad context within which Canadian foreign policy functioned during the period under review. Observing that those responsible for the conduct of foreign policy must act within a framework set by the actions of other nations, he examines the challenge to which Canadian foreign policy was in large measure a series of responses. After reviewing the major developments abroad during the period, he considers the domestic determinants of Canadian responses — "the constraints of internal political pressures and forces." He then responds to a challenge himself, a challenge to educe from Canadian actions the principles of Canadian foreign policy.

This latter challenge was given by a senior civil servant in the Department of External Affairs whom he quotes as saying to a small group of academic social scientists: "The difference between your thinking and ours is that you always think in terms of general principles. This we should like to do, but may not do. Policy is the result of a continuing series of *ad hoc* decisions, which frequently have to be made with inadequate study and inadequate data" (p. 37). Since "something — some kind of principle, or notion of ultimate objectives, something of the sort — must be present in the mind of the administrator who has to make the *ad hoc* decision," Professor Kierstead believes it possible to theorize about foreign policy just as it is possible to theorize about economics. "It is just more difficult." Having the economist's training in theorizing, not having to work under the kind of pressure to which officials in the Department of External Affairs are subject, and believing the task to be an important one that required doing, Professor Kierstead essays it.

The task is an important one. A set of principles about foreign policy, like any set of principles, makes our knowledge more manageable and enables us to think more clearly and consistently about it. Little fault will be found with the manner in which Professor Kierstead has performed it, though different theorists, as is their wont, would probably formulate the principles differently. It seems reasonable, however, to suggest that the containment of Communism should be put down as one of the main objectives instead of being viewed merely as a partial and uncertain result of the attainment of an objective — the establishment of parliamentary institutions and sound and progressive economies in Far Eastern lands. Canada did accept containment if it did not accept liberation or roll-back. "To prevent shrinkage in the circumference of the free world" was the way in which Mr. St. Laurent phrased it, and both he and Mr. Pearson repeatedly asserted that it was one of the primary goals of our foreign policy.

What really bothers one, however, is the assumption of the unnamed senior civil servant and of Professor Kierstead that the task had been wholly neglected. The Canadian government, for a number of fairly obvious reasons, has been very self-conscious about the conduct of foreign policy during the past decade, and in a series of addresses

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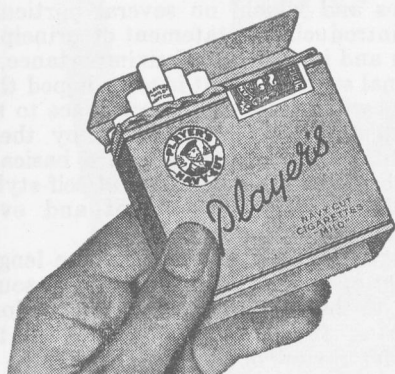
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and speeches a few years ago Mr. St. Laurent and Mr. Pearson did a remarkably complete job of enunciating the principles or objectives of Canadian policy — so complete that it is to be doubted whether any other government showed as much concern about finding and proclaiming the *rationale* of its policy. The senior civil servant did less than justice to his Department, or else (which is hardly likely) the Department had no hand in formulating the principles the ministers proclaimed and no respect for them. Far from being hopelessly inadequate to explain the facts, the proclaimed principles do not differ substantially from those that Professor Kierstead has arrived at independently. If he had drawn more explicitly from them, he could have made what differences there are the occasion for some of that challenging debate the absence of which he deplures and which, on several particular issues, his book does provide. In introducing a statement of principles into the series, in discussing them and in stressing their importance, he has, nevertheless, performed a signal service, and it is to be hoped that the authors of subsequent volumes will devote even more space to the discussion of principles and to testing Canadian actions by them. Professor Kierstead has no doubt that the principles are basically moral principles, and he makes short work of the views of self-styled realists who maintain that moral considerations do not and even should not influence the foreign policy of states.

Any book on Canadian foreign policy must deal at some length with the eternal Canadian problem of balancing the pull to the south of the United States and the pull to the east of the United Kingdom. With respect to the United States, Professor Kierstead notes the appearance during the period under review of a new phenomenon in Canadian life:

not the old, silly, jealous anti-Americanism of the Loyalist tradition, but a country-wide dismay and distrust of American leadership and a troubled sense that our closest and most trusted friends had been attacked by a spiritual illness that left us baffled as to how we were to conduct our affairs with them.
(p. 36)

Toward the United Kingdom he also detects a changed attitude — a movement toward a common middle position of “imperialists” and “nationalists” (p. 105) and “a confidence that on many issues, notably in policy in the Far East, the United Kingdom has tended to be wiser, more restrained, and more effective than the United States” (p. 234). Professor Kierstead fully shared these attitudes at the time they appeared. He was distrustful of the newly-installed Republican Administration, partly because of its failure to take a firmer stand against McCarthyism and partly for other reasons, and at the time of writing, his own confidence in British leadership was obviously almost wholly unqualified. The growing uneasiness about American initiatives and the increasing confidence in British steadiness provide both the mood in which Canadian policy was carried out in the period and the mood in which Professor Kierstead judges it.

On the whole, he has so little fault to find with the government's conduct of foreign policy that he displays some difficulty in deciding whether the absence of critical discussion of it is due to some weakness in Canadian democracy or to the fact that there was (and is) little

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to be critical about. "We ourselves may feel, and with some confidence," he writes on page 230, "that the reason for this lack is that the conduct of our foreign policy has been in wise hands and that the interpretation officially given to the purposes of policy has consistently been in harmony with the mood of the Canadian people." On the great issues involved in the Korean War and the truce, "Canada's position was sharply and clearly defined by the Government and seemed to command general consent and approval by all sections of public opinion" (p. 66). Canada's sensitivity to French fears of German rearmament and realistic appraisal of the dangers of German rearmament are compared favourably with American insensitivity and apparent obliviousness. His admiration for and confidence in Mr. Pearson are matched by a pride — warranted perhaps, if at all, only as long as the tribal drums do not roll — in the sense of Canadians generally:

Canadians are a very sensible people, in both senses of the word. They are 'sensible' in the meaning that they do not set themselves excitedly to follow extreme or 'radical' solutions of political problems; they are also sensible in having an acute awareness of, or sensitivity to, political nuances that some other peoples might disregard (p. 76).

If the Canadian public were too sensitive about the presence of American forces in radar stations located in Canada, the day was saved by the "calm and sensible attitude" of the Government.

The book, however, is not one long paean of praise of the Government for its conduct of foreign policy and of the Canadian people for its intelligence in permitting and approving that conduct. On the contrary, one of the most refreshing features about it is the amount and vigour of the critical comment it contains. Professor Kierstead insists on the value of critical discussion of foreign policy and early announces that it is his intention to engage in it and to provoke it. Nor does he criticize merely for the sake of criticizing. When he has a doubt on a point of wisdom, he gives the Government the benefit of it or suspends judgment. He concludes, for example, that Canada might well have been ill-advised under the circumstances to have taken a stronger stand than she did on the rights of racial minorities in South Africa when the matter came up before the United Nations Assembly. And he suggests that neither Mr. Coldwell nor Mr. Pearson should be too much blamed for the unhappy incident arising out of the ambiguous language of the Lisbon NATO communiqué. It is only when he is confident that he has found a real weakness in the Government's case that he decides against it.

What are some of the Canadian responses with which he finds fault? Pussy-footing on the Tunisian and Moroccan cases is one. "After all," he notes, "the taint of Communism sticks even when the Communists are right, and for that reason, so the argument runs, when the Communists are in the right it is better to be wrong than to be on their side. With this kind of thinking we are damned, and, in this matter, damned we were" (p. 78). He finds Canada to be "almost certainly" over-sensitive about the Koje incident. Mr. Pearson's explanation of China's not being a party to the peace treaty strikes him "as rather more sophisticated than is usually Mr. Pearson's style" (p. 125). He critically deals at some length with the disingenuous and

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tiresome arguments used by the Government against those who questioned the adequacy of Canada's contribution to NATO. On the Colombo Plan and Technical Assistance he writes, "We have been sending an infant with a water pistol to shoot down a man-eating tiger, and we have been disputing as to whether we have supplied him with enough water" (p. 240). The incorporation of West Germany, Japan, and Spain into the western defensive system was, he thinks, "insufficiently deliberated."

Professor Kierstead is of two minds on some questions or he has changed his mind in the course of writing his book. Thus, on page 94, he finds that Britain by her post-war programme of austerity, sacrifice, and fair shares was laying a foundation for eventual economic recovery; a hundred pages later he draws heavily on H. Johnson's *The Overloaded Economy* in deploring the impossible burdens placed on the British economy in the immediate post-war period. Again, on page 35, he writes that "Canadians knew that what is called McCarthyism was a temporary and ephemeral phenomenon," and on page 176 that "Canadians would be more than blind if they did not face up to the possibility some time in the future of an American President of the McCarthy type." He does not think the possibility a likely one, but this admission neither reconciles the two views nor justifies the second of them. He makes a few other points that raise some doubts in one's mind. Are Canadians really so stupid that after a century and a half of close and often bitter experience with the working of the American political system they feel "double-crossed" when Congress fails to implement an announced Presidential policy? Is the *Ottawa Journal* so obviously right in holding that a bi-partisan foreign policy is unsuited to the parliamentary system of Government? Many are the stupidities that have been committed in deference to the principle that the duty of an opposition is willy-nilly to oppose! Is there no danger that Harvard Business School culture will move into purely Canadian companies once the American investors gain control, in the same manner in which it invaded Canadian subsidiaries of American companies? Is Professor Kierstead not unduly pessimistic in saying that one cannot believe that there is *any possibility* that Germany and Japan will belong to the "free world," in any moral sense of the term, for another two hundred years? It is true that there have been six hundred years of precedent broadening down into precedent in Britain, but need every people be as slow as the British? Others have the advantage, after all, that Britain has shown the way.

J. H. AITCHISON

Milton and Science. By KESTER SVENDSEN. Cambridge: Harvard University Press [In Canada, S. J. Reginald Saunders & Co. Ltd., Toronto], 1956. Pp. 304. \$7.25.

Milton's attitude toward natural science is an important facet of his thought; for in the seventeenth century, allegiance to the realm of nature often resulted in neglect of its complement, the realm of spirit, while on the other hand rejection of scientific curiosity frequently was a manifestation of obscurantist enmity to the things of this world. A tendency in either direction naturally qualified the outlook of an indi-

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vidual and caused him to depart from Christian humanism, that precariously held view of God and man that permeated Renaissance thought and emerged variously in the public expression of More, Hooker, Spenser, Shakespeare and Donne. To work out and hold fast to the synthesis of nature and grace that is Christian humanism was no easy task, even in the seventeenth century, and the growing scientific spirit, though merely in its infancy, was one of the forces undermining the established and coherent world-view of the Christian humanists.

Milton, standing as he does in the great central tradition, rejected the Baconian segregation of the natural and the spiritual that led to an exaltation of natural philosophy for utilitarian purposes. For Milton the investigation of external nature was simply a part of all knowledge-seeking and, as *Of Education* indicates, by no means the most important part. In that prose work Milton advocates natural philosophy as a serious study for his young men who are to be fitted "to perform justly, skilfully, and magnanimously all the offices, both private and public, of peace and war"; but such study he places at an early stage of education, before those studies which, for him, require more maturity — ethics, politics, theology, logic, and poetry. Moreover, Milton lacks the utilitarian side of Bacon, the emphasis on the experimental method by means of which Bacon looked forward to the attainment of a material Utopia. Milton is too bookish in describing his proposed course in science to be classed with the Baconians. His students are to study the principles of agriculture in Cato, Varro, and Columella, not by using the experimental method; they will then be able "to improve the tillage of their country, to recover the bad soil, and to remedy the waste that is made of good," for — and here is the characteristic note — "this was one of Hercules' praises." Other scientific subjects — astronomy, geography, physics, medicine — should be studied, but out of the established classical authorities; physiology, for example, will be learned from Aristotle and Theophrastus. Milton does make a passing reference to the value of practical experience in the sciences, but his emphasis is solidly theoretical. It is typical of him to end his survey of "natural knowledge" with the remark that, when the student has mastered the elements of the natural sciences, "then also those poets which are now counted most hard, will be both facile and pleasant, Orpheus, Hesiod, Theocritus, Aratus, Nicander, Oppian, Dionysius; and in Latin, Lucretius, Manilius, and the rural part of Virgil." For Milton, science was simply one aspect of a humanistic education.

In one sense, *Milton and Science* is an extended illustration of Milton's organic view of life, of his Christian humanism, for Professor Svendsen is intent on showing how Milton's scientific lore passes into and becomes part of the unified world of his art — part, as he expresses it, of "the participation of all outer and inner experience, all objects of sense or thought, all hierarchical gradations in a dynamic evolving singleness." *Milton and Science* is also germane to the modern controversy between proponents of the New Criticism, those who examine a poem apart from its historical context as a self-contained artifact, and the historians of ideas who insist upon a full understanding of the poem's social, biographical, philological, ideological, and ethical context. The author uses and supports both methods, pointing out that the New Critics tend to misunderstand works of literature because they



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lack historical knowledge or because they are disinclined to apply such knowledge to their intensive reading. Professor Svendsen neatly sums up his own approach to Milton by saying that "modern Milton criticism, like that of Brooks and Stein, has taught us to look for the movement beneath the surface of the lines; but it is modern Milton scholarship which makes perception of that movement possible." Again, when discussing Milton's constant use of imagery in prose as well as in verse, he remarks that "working these [analogical equivalents] out in their contexts is the final critical exercise toward aesthetic comprehension; but the background of the image is part of its definition."

Thus seeking to unite in practice what he calls "criticism" and "scholarship", Professor Svendsen has made an important contribution to the recent crop of Milton studies. He first examines Milton's knowledge of natural science by placing it against the background of Renaissance encyclopedias of science and comes to the conclusion that it is conventional and traditional — "mainly classical in origin, medieval in implication." In doing this he makes a strong case against the older scholarly method of source-hunting: "Literary genetics has come a long way since Raleigh disparaged the ledger school of criticism, and our extended knowledge of the seventeenth century weakens the persuasion of the parallel passage as a proof-text of indebtedness We can confidently assign passages in Milton to a tradition of thought or of books or a genre of scientific literature, but seldom to specific authors. In his most striking effects, Milton uses widely known conventional material in its conventional associations." It is clear that Milton used the kind of scientific knowledge that was in some measure familiar to an overwhelming majority of his educated contemporaries, seldom bringing the newer and more novel ideas into his writing and then not in order to pronounce upon their validity but to support and extend the system of contrast and parallels that is characteristic of his poetry and is well illustrated by Raphael's discourse on astronomy in *Paradise Lost*.

Milton being a poet rather than a scientist, it is Professor Svendsen's main purpose to show how he wove an extensive knowledge of science into his metaphoric thinking. He demonstrates the process of transmutation into poetic statement. In the prose this transmutation takes the form of argument from analogy, which, he points out, "served every purpose from invective to exhortation." The "insight with which Milton's mind fetched similitudes from nature" in the prose is amply explained, always with the understanding that wide and deep academic knowledge is necessary for the perception and understanding of Milton's constant use of paradox, irony, and innuendo in imagery. In the verse, and particularly in *Paradise Lost*, Svendsen finds a wealth of scientific allusion used ingeniously and forcefully to support and inform Milton's Christian humanism. It can do so, of course, because Milton retained the synthesis in which nature in all its manifestations holds an honourable place in a divinely ordained and ordered scheme.

Professor Svendsen's approach to Milton is a commendable one. It steers a course between the extremes of old-fashioned source-hunting on the one hand and irresponsible study of poetic texture on the other. While he can fairly be classed as a historian of ideas, Professor Svendsen also shares some of the most admirable preoccupations of the



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New Critics. Like Hallett Smith in that excellent book *Elizabethan Poetry*, Svendsen distrusts auto-biographical criticism and flatly asserts that "the poem, not the man, is our province." His argument is the common one of creative detachment: "Even the most autobiographical of poems is depersonalized, for that kind of detachment is implicit in the creative process itself. Until the writer can disengage himself from his material, he cannot order it as art; the *furor poeticus* has method in it." The wisdom of this view of poetry is obvious to anyone who has encountered the ultra-romantic conception of the creative process common among many young students, but its dangerous side as exemplified by many a fledgling New Critic is also obvious. Professor Svendsen, in leaning toward the modern neo-classical theory of artistic creation, retains balance by insisting that the poem cannot be properly understood without the equipment of the historian of ideas. Though we must agree with those who say that an understanding of Milton's learning is not an understanding of *Paradise Lost*, it is just as necessary to remember that Milton as artist cannot be revealed to readers who know nothing or little of the elements he so artfully shapes. Thus the "shapeliness" of *Paradise Lost*, says Professor Svendsen, is not merely a structure of Milton's learning; it is rather the organic product of learning and artistry in a nearly perfect fusion. There could scarcely be higher praise for a poet, and certainly a wiser approach to great poetry would be hard to find.

M. G. PARKS

The Arctic Tern and Other Poems. By E. G. BURROWS. New York: Grove Press, 1957. Pp. 60. \$1.00. (Evergreen edition, \$3.50 hard-bound).

Selected Poems. By LAWRENCE DURRELL. New York: Grove Press, 1957. Pp. 79. \$1.25. (Evergreen edition, \$3.50 hard-bound).

The Eye of the Needle. By F. R. SCOTT. Toronto: Contact Press, 1957. Pp. 71. \$2.50.

The Boatman. By JAY MACPHERSON. Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1957. Pp. 70. \$2.50.

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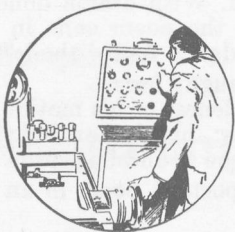
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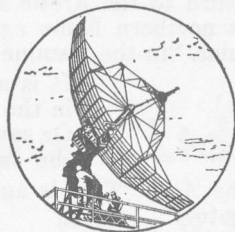
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binations. Sometimes he is reminiscent of Dylan Thomas or W. R. Rodgers, but unlike these two, Burrows embodies in his work a harshness, not cultivated but a seemingly natural predilection for hard, cruel, inevitable force. Nature, as it can rage and does, reveals itself in America.

In Part III of his title poem, the longest and most ambitious work in the book, the Arctic Tern's (and the poet's) flight from pole to pole is narrated with rare excitement and deserving awe, suggesting a parallel in idea and method to Hart Crane's *Brooklyn Bridge* and its wide-spreading symbolic arc into the blue. The tern leaves tundra, crosses "the lacquer of glaciers" — "over whistling skerries, over Labrador you fall, rally, rove Red Eric's byres," until it reaches "the fin-cleft hull-corroding slews of Thule." On the bird goes, "wing-ravaged on warming thermals," to beyond the Falkland Islands. Then the return to the Arctic again. With drama done and the bird "safe" in its northern home again, the poem ends in the poet's philosophical quiet, "in the jasmine garden." As for the lesson to be learned,

It is all taught here
in the singleness of his motion.
Or say this: his shadow lights
the sail, the stumbling prow.

The *Arctic Tern* is an important poem in an impressive first book of poetry.

By contrast Lawrence Durrell, the English poet and novelist, is well-known; already four volumes of his poetry have appeared in England. The inexpensive selection published by the Grove Press brings to American readers the work of a poet who can be at once sophisticated and ribald, elegant and unerring. Poems in this selection include lyrics, short biographies of real or imaginary people, poems about landscapes in his favourite part of the world the Mediterranean, and ballads. One disappointment in this book is the absence of his fine poem "Swans":

Fraudulent perhaps in that they gave
No sense of muscle but a swollen languor
Though moved by webs: yet idly, idly
As soap-bubbles drift from a clay-pipe
They mowed the lake in tapestry, . . .
. . . We sit like drunkards and inhale the swans.

This poem, perhaps better than any in the selection, reveals those characteristics for which this poet has been widely praised — economy, precision, beauty.

Although *The Eye of the Needle* is but his third book of poetry, F. R. Scott has probably been more widely read and quoted in Canada by Canadians than any other of our current poets. Most of what this volume contains has appeared in his earlier volumes, but poems such as "The Canadian Authors Meet" and "The Canadian Social Register" continue to delight those of us who like occasionally to laugh at ourselves. Scott's poems in this latest volume are called "satires, sorties, sundries." They are biting sallies, and it would not be rash to suggest that Scott's verse has probably been in no small way responsible for the special brand of satire now playing to large audiences in the success-

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ful McGill musical production, "My Fur Lady." It is pleasant to have these poems available once more, even if the book itself is cheaply produced and priced a little high.

While Burrows and Durrell are celebrants, each after his fashion, and Scott is the acknowledged satirist, Jay Macpherson, in her much-praised first book *The Boatman*, is more difficult to define. Let it be said right now that this can only be one more enthusiastic notice, not a review of this maddening, delightful, difficult book. Miss Macpherson's poems are clever; they are witty, dry, and precise; at the same time they are full of her song and the songs of others (Donne, Blake, Kipling); they are puzzling, difficult and — to damn faintly in this case — intellectual. To be personal, after reading such mad little exercises as *Eurynome* (no. 2) and *The Rymer* (no. 2), I am at first intrigued, then let down hard with the feeling that this verse is too cute; but after such pure little poems as *Inland* and others with which this book abounds, I am an admiring, willing, and captured reader:

Let fire and tempest wage around
Their ever-furious war:
The seaman far from ocean's sound
Sets up his dripping oar.

Where never mower's boot has trod
Nor sickle sheared the hours,
I'll plant you as my garden's god,
And twine you round with flowers.

To be general, and all too brief (but I hope fair), the book seems to me to be just a bit ponderous in the rather self-conscious dependence on mythological reference. In her next volume I hope there will be less puzzle and more poem, less contrivance and more passion. *The Boatman* gives one that reaction — it is so good, so competent, that one wants more and more. To repeat, this is a difficult, intriguing, bewitching book.

DOUGLAS G. LOCHHEAD

The Development of Education in Canada. By C. E. PHILLIPS. Toronto: W. J. Gage & Co., 1957. Pp. xiii, 626. \$6.50.

In this book Dr. Phillips has successfully undertaken an immense and an immensely important task. Nothing like it has been attempted in Canada before and nothing resembling it is likely to be attempted again for many years to come. The story of the development of education in Canada herewith springs from Dr. Phillips' head as Athene did from the head of Zeus; like Athene she is fully-formed, wise, tolerant, and attractive. Not only is the book unique for Canada, but it is unique in the English-speaking world. No single book has attempted to do for any English-speaking country what this book does for Canada. Books such as H. M. Knox's *Two Hundred and Fifty Years of Scottish Education* or A. E. Campbell's *Educating New Zealand* are much more restricted in scope; they are mere nymphs or sylphs to Dr. Phillips' buxom goddess; while Paul Monroe's *Founding of the American Public School System* is only the lower limbs of a mighty torso, left unsculptured at his death.



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Dr. Phillips' theme is nothing less than a complete general survey of all aspects of development in Canadian education except university education. It is perhaps a pity that this last is omitted from a book otherwise so comprehensive, but the line had to be drawn somewhere, and it is clear that the story of Canadian universities is so complex and various that adequate treatment would have required inordinate lengthening of a book that already runs to over six hundred pages.

Despite its length there is no padding in the book; it is all firm, well-rounded flesh. It takes the story from the earliest times almost up to the present, and no important aspect of educational development is neglected. The history of voluntary agencies in the colonial period; the growth of publicly-financed school systems; the part played by the churches; the education of girls and women; the school books in use and the methods employed by teachers at different periods; the nature and status of the teaching body itself — all these and many other allied topics are treated. One naturally turns to see what the author has to say on the topics of which one has personal knowledge. For this reviewer, that means Nova Scotia. One finds a clear, though scattered, account of developments in Nova Scotia from colonial days almost to the present, due recognition of the work of Dawson, Forrester, Rand, and McCulloch and of the fundamental importance of the legislation of 1864 and 1865 brought in by Sir Charles Tupper, whose government, says Phillips, immediately thereafter "suffered an honorable extinction at the polls . . . but the free school system was secure." Dr. Phillips thus sums up the present situation: "At present, as in the past, Nova Scotia has capable educators and administrators who know what should be done and how to do it, but they are under unusually strong pressure to subordinate the general advantage for fear of offence to jealous minorities." One assumes that Dr. Phillips' account of education in the other provinces is equally accurate and equally observant.

It is obvious that a book of this size cannot be read at one sitting. It should be taken slowly, like good wine, and sipped and digested at leisure. This poses for our author a problem to which no completely satisfactory answer can be given — how to arrange his material so as to provide a coherent and continuing story while at the same time dividing it into assimilable sections of reasonable length. Dr. Phillips has given a great deal of thought to this problem, and his solution is admirable. He divides his subject-matter into four parts. The first deals with the French period (two chapters); the second with the colonial period (eight chapters); the third with the Development of Public School systems since Confederation (ten chapters); and the fourth with educational thought and practice since Confederation (eight chapters). Each part, and each chapter, is preceded by a brief description of its contents, and many of the chapters conclude with a summary. It is therefore possible to open the book at almost any chapter and to examine the adjacent tree without losing sight of its place in the whole wood. This arrangement, as already suggested, makes it a little difficult to follow the continuous story of education in any one province, but, as also already suggested, this condition of affairs is avoidable in a book of this scope only at the expense of more desirable qualities. It is only a pity that we have no published books for the other provinces to match the excellence of Dr. Rowe's *History of Education in Newfoundland*.

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Dr. Phillips, very rightly, treats his subject from no narrow viewpoint. The best of his chapters are those in which he relates educational advances to social and economic conditions. Treated in this way, the story of Canadian education is very largely a success story, and Dr. Phillips, rightly, treats it as such. The last hundred years have seen an enormous extension of educational facilities; text books have been greatly improved and curricula extended; teachers are better educated and better trained; educational finance is on a much sounder footing, educational administration better organised; examinations have become more reliable, methods more kindly; appointments are made and problems answered on educational grounds rather than by prejudice or patronage. It is very proper that those remarkable gains should be brought to the attention of our contemporaries, and especially to the attention of the critics of our schools.

None the less, this reviewer does not share the optimism expressed in Dr. Phillips' *Envoi* and evident at other points in the book. He does not accept Bolger's description of education in Quebec as an expression of harmony between two races with different cultural improvements. He is doubtful whether we are going to have "better teachers, better young people and better parents." And he is very strongly of the opinion that high school curricula are very much in need of revision and, in particular, that further progress is dependent upon the institution, not later than Grade VIII, of a variety of courses suitable to differing levels of ability among children. In this book, of course, Dr. Phillips is not concerned to give his own views on educational problems. Yet they are inevitably revealed and always command respect, the more so because he is always careful to state opposing views on any controversial question, as well as that which he himself espouses.

Those who know Dr. Phillips personally have often remarked on his capacity for concentrated and prolonged hard work. Those who do not will infer his industry and his capacity from this book. He has left very much in his debt not only professional educators but all who wish to know something of educational development in this country.

The book was printed and produced in Canada. Its choice of types and its format and lay-out are excellent. It is to be hoped, however, that when a new edition is called for it will be provided with illustrations more worthy of it than the present line drawings. Some may be regarded as adequate but most are technically unaccomplished, many are disfigured by ugly and unnecessary vignetting, and some, including many of the portraits, are travesties of the originals from which they derive.

A. S. MOWAT

Margaret the First: A Biography of Margaret Cavendish, Duchess of Newcastle, 1623-1673. By DOUGLAS GRANT. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1957. Pp. 253. \$4.50.

This is a scholarly and readable biography of an eccentric woman who lived in a society that could never quite accept her. The dignified and sober John Evelyn composed a rollicking ballad to commemorate her visit to the Royal Society, and the ever-inquisitive Pepys faced



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the dust and traffic of a May-Day Hyde Park to get a glimpse of the fabulous Duchess of Newcastle, Margaret the First, as she called herself.

Margaret, an ardent feminist, an amateur poet, playwright and philosopher, lived through fifty turbulent years, years that spanned the Civil War, exile to the continent, and the Restoration of Charles II. Her husband, thirty years her senior, was the literary patron of both Ben Jonson and John Dryden, a one-time governor of the Prince of Wales (later Charles II), the host of Hobbes and Descartes, an amateur poet and playwright, a magnificent horseman, a brave if rather unsuccessful military leader for the cause of the Royalists, and a model for the popular image of the Cavalier: "a man luxurious in dress, refined in taste, witty in verse, amorous by nature, loyal by instinct, religious by impulse, courageous by habit" (p. 57). With Margaret and her elderly husband we become involved in a great variety of interests and activities: the exile of the defeated Royalists (at least some of whom learned the secret of living well on nothing a year); the Restoration with its political and economic problems that left Newcastle among the many disappointed and disillusioned petitioners to the throne; the literary fashions and the intellectual life of the later seventeenth century at home and in Europe; contemporary opinions on education, medicine, and the position of women in society.

Margaret herself preferred historical studies based on biography: "It goes not out of its own circle but turns on its axis, and for the most part keeps within the circumference of truth" (p. 185). We have had a great many such biographical approaches to the history of seventeenth-century England, especially of the Restoration period. For example, Nell Gwyn, Charles II, Rochester, Buckingham, and Wycherley have each been used as the central figure to describe life in Restoration England. With such gay, dissolute and witty guides, our historical perspective will be interesting but limited. Even the biographers of Charles himself tend to overemphasize the amorous antics of the Merry Monarch and to neglect the skilled statesman treading his perilous path through domestic and foreign affairs. It is refreshing to view the English scene without the overworked figures of the Restoration rakes intruding themselves rudely, stealing the attention from less flamboyant performers. Margaret the First, as eccentric as any of them, shows us other equally interesting aspects of life.

Lacking in formal education but unusually sensitive to and aware of the spirit of the age, Margaret carried on a vigorous but one-sided philosophical warfare with Hobbes, Descartes, and Henry More. Although her opinions were never rigid, she "emerges as a materialist, insisting that matter itself is both cause and effect and making an absolute and Baconian division between the natural and the supernatural" (p. 198). Her affectations of speech, her love of masculine attire, her almost unique reputation as a woman writer, probably account in part for the vehemence of her attackers (p. 199):

The great atheistical philosophaster,
That owns no God, no devil, lord or master;
Vice's epitome and virtue's foe,
Here lies her body but her soul's below.

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Even the usually tolerant Pepys found her a "mad, conceited, ridiculous woman," to write as intimately as she did about her husband. Margaret's eccentricity was hard to digest; after all, she *was* a woman.

Professor Grant moves through the society of the times with assurance, sensitivity, and authority. His treatment of his central character is sympathetic, understanding, and affectionate. He examines Margaret's writings with the tolerance that they deserve and has no false or sentimental praise for the works of a person whom he obviously has come to like a great deal. After reading his biography of Margaret, we can readily respond to the Duke's epitaph:

This Dutches was a wise, wittie and learned Lady, which her many Bookes do well testifie; she was a most Virtuouse and a Loving and carefull wife, and was with her Lord all the time of his banishment and miseries, and when he came home never parted from him in his solitary retirements (p. 239).

A. R. BEVAN

Niels Henrik Abel, Mathematician Extraordinary. By OYSTEIN ORE. Minneapolis: University of Minneapolis Press [In Canada, Thomas Allen Ltd., Toronto], 1957. Pp. 277. \$5.75.

The name of Niels Henrik Abel, a Norwegian mathematician of the early nineteenth century, is known to all who have studied moderately advanced mathematics, but perhaps relatively few know anything of the man himself. This book gives vivid accounts of his family background, his academic training, his continuous struggle against extreme poverty, and his efforts to obtain professional recognition. His story is interesting, and a number of its aspects are worth considering in the light of present-day problems.

Although the Abel family was of some distinction (the father and grandfather were both rather prominent clergymen, and the father was also active in the Norwegian government), it had been reduced to straitened financial circumstances by the time Niels had reached his 'teens. Thus he, as well as his elder brother, was to a large extent dependent on scholarships to assist him in secondary school. Later, in university, he was largely supported by his professors. Without that help, he would have been lost to mathematics.

His work in secondary school was undistinguished until there occurred an event which, though tragic, apparently led rather directly to the development of an outstanding scholar. When Abel was sixteen his mathematics teacher beat one of his students so severely that the latter died. The teacher was dismissed, and his replacement supplied the inspiration that Abel needed. Almost at once he began to progress very rapidly and soon showed the genius that he possessed.

The pace of his development is striking. He was fortunate in that he and his elder brother were tutored together by their father and later went to boarding school together, so that at an early age he was placed in classes about two years ahead of his age-group. During the latter part of his secondary training and throughout his university career he was allowed, encouraged, and helped to progress rapidly. As a result, by the time he was twenty-one he had made significant contri-

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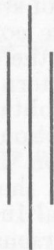
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butions to mathematics. He died at twenty-six — an age when most North American students of today are still involved with formal courses and examinations—after having made contributions to his field on a scale that has not often been equalled.

Abel was a very striking person, so that his biography is more than the description of a genius. Throughout his life he was extremely poor, and after his fellowships were discontinued his financial situation was critical. Just as he was at the point of gaining professional recognition and a university appointment, he died. Thus his story is that of a man continuously struggling against adversity but never considering the abandoning of his chosen career.

This is an interesting and thought-provoking book. Technical references to mathematics are few and unimportant, so that it should be as interesting to laymen as to mathematicians.

A. J. TINGLEY

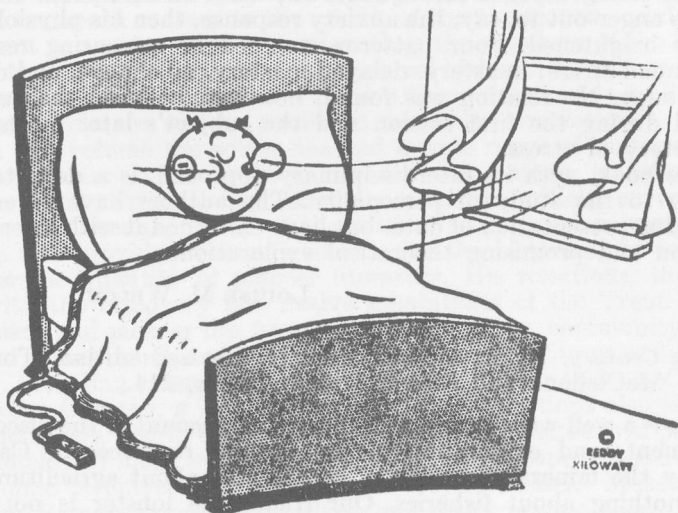
Mastery of Stress. By D. H. FUNKENSTEIN, S. H. KING, and M. E. DROLETTE. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1957. Pp. xv, 329. \$7.95. (Published in Canada by S. J. Reginald Saunders and Company Limited, Toronto).

This book is not designed for the layman, loaded as it is with psychological and medical references, nor does it give any guidance on how to master stress in everyday life. It is, rather, an exceedingly clear report on a carefully planned and executed research project.

The area under investigation is the variation in response to stress, as found in a group of healthy young men, all undergraduates at Harvard University. The stress was produced under laboratory conditions and was selected so as to be as "free" as possible — that is, to permit the subject's own personality to determine the response. Two aspects of stress were studied: (1) the immediate response and (2) the subject's reaction over a longer time span, his mastery or non-mastery of stress. The authors theorized that the individual's immediate emergency reaction was the result of deeply laid down aspects of personality, whereas the mastery of stress was the result of his total life experience.

Correlations were computed between the subjects' psychological methods of handling the over-all stress reactions and the intensity of the physiological pattern obtained (blood pressure, pulse, etc.). Relationships were also obtained between acute emergency reactions and the following: perception of parental roles, the internal concept of self, aggressive responses on the Thematic Apperception Test. The studies which correlated with the ability to handle stress on a time continuum were the Interpersonal Indices, the Ability to Assess Reality, and the Integration of the Personality as measured by the Phrase Association Interview.

There were three main patterns of response that emerged from these experiments: the "anger-out" type in which anger produced by the frustrating situation was directed outward to someone or something, the "anger-in" type, in which the subject blames himself for not coping with the situation; and the "anxiety" type, manifested by those who got anxious in the face of stress. As the authors predicted, it was found that intensity of physiological response increased from the



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anger-out to anger-in to anxiety groups. Also, many subjects did not make the same response throughout, but when an individual changed from the anger-out to, say, the anxiety response, then his physiological response heightened. Four patterns emerged in measuring response to continued stress: mastery, delayed mastery, no change, and deteriorate groups. No relation was found, however, between the emotion reported during the first session and the subject's later mastery or non-mastery of stress.

This book, with its interdisciplinary approach, is a definite contribution to the study of personality. The authors have given us a painstaking presentation of data, but have enlivened it with interesting discussion and promising theoretical explorations.

LOUISE M. WELCH

Canada's Century. By D. M. LeBOURDAIS. Revised edition. Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1956. Pp. ix, 214.

This is a well-written and well-illustrated account of the discovery, development, and exploration of the natural resources of Canada, especially the mineral resources. Little is said about agriculture and almost nothing about fisheries. Our friend the lobster is not even mentioned, and indeed very little at all is said about Nova Scotia. "It should not be too difficult," says Mr. LeBourdais, "for Maritime shipbuilders to recapture the position they once held." This is exasperating, for it seems to indicate little understanding of Maritime shipbuilding problems and, in particular, of the widely differing nature of modern shipbuilding and shipbuilding in the great days of the Bluenose skippers.

But the reader will find here graphic accounts of the development of mines for iron, copper, uranium, gold, and other metals; of hydroelectric schemes; of canals, railways, and airlines; of timber reserves and pulp or paper mills. Give Mr. LeBourdais Kitimat, or Murdockville, or Leduc, or Norman Wells, or the Saguenay — he knows the inside story of each and can tell it with speed and drama, with just about the proper dosage of facts and figures and the correct amount of technical detail for the general reader. It is a vast and exciting theme with which he has to deal, and Mr. LeBourdais does it ample justice. He is naturally sanguine as to Canada's future material greatness. But, as he himself realizes, national greatness will result only if the people of Canada show outstanding spiritual and mental qualities. In his last paragraph Mr. LeBourdais professes to see signs of such qualities, but consideration of such matters is outside the scope of his book.

A. S. MOWAT

The Valley of the Trent. Ed. EDWIN C. GUILLET. (The Publications of the Champlain Society, Ontario Series I). Toronto: The Champlain Society, 1957. Pp. lviii, 474.

The Valley of the Trent is the first in a series of local histories, which is to be edited and published by the Champlain Society but financed

by the government of Ontario. Other volumes are in preparation on distinctive geographic regions of Ontario, covering the years from the early seventeenth century to the middle of the nineteenth and designed to present to a wider circle of readers than the members of the Society a collection of primary sources of provincial history. To this end, while all members of the Society will receive these volumes as a "bonus," additional volumes will be published for wider circulation.

In this volume the editor has had a wide range of material from which to make his selections, because the unique transportation systems of the Trent Valley called for numerous official surveys and reports, and because many of the settlers in the region were highly literate and provided valuable records for the historian, as well as a considerable quantity of pioneer literature. His selections, therefore, deal with the discovery and native inhabitants of the Trent Valley, settlement and pioneer life, immigration, industries, community life — political, educational, and religious — descriptive writings and original poetry, including a remarkable poetical work — *The Ojibway Conquest* by George Copway, a Rice Lake Indian. His selections also comprise what must be a unique collection of pictures, reproductions of paintings and sketches of men, women, buildings, and landscapes, gathered from the Public Archives of Canada, the Royal Ontario Museum, the Sigmund Samuel Canadiana Gallery, and many private collections too numerous to list here, but carefully acknowledged in the editor's preface or beneath the plates. In his selections, introduction, notes, and biographical sketches of the different writers, the editor has set an enviable standard for the editors of future volumes.

D. C. HARVEY

BOOKS IN BRIEF

The Brazilian Cotton Manufacture. By STANLEY J. STEIN. Cambridge: Harvard University Press [In Canada, S. J. Reginald Saunders & Co. Ltd., Toronto], 1957. Pp. xii, 273. \$6.50.

A history of the cotton industry of Brazil from 1850 to 1950, written as a study of the economic development of an undeveloped area. The author's treatment of the subject is arranged in three parts: Brazilian economic conditions throughout the nineteenth century and the establishment of the early cotton mills; economic crises and problems in the industry from the 1890's up to the late 1920's; and the economic effects of the Depression and World War II.

Canadian Index to Periodicals and Documentary Films, 1956. Vol. 9. Ed. JULIA F. COCKSHUTT, ISABEL LEE, and MOLLIE THOMSON. Ottawa: Canadian Library Association and National Library of Canada, 1957. Pp. 232. \$20.00.

The ninth volume of a handy reference book listing the contents of fifty-nine Canadian periodicals. Listed are all articles and book reviews appearing in these periodicals throughout 1956. Book reviews are indexed in a special section and under the names of the authors of the books reviewed; articles are indexed under both author and subject.

The Western Front, 1914. By the HISTORICAL SECTION, GENERAL STAFF, ARMY HEADQUARTERS. Ottawa: Queen's Printer, 1957. Pp. vi, 192. \$1.00.

A brief history of the first year of World War I on the Western Front. The emphasis falls on the chief battles of the year, especially those of the Marne, the Aisne, and Ypres. Other operations and movements of forces are summarized, and the book opens with a sketch of the background of the war and closes with a general commentary on the military operations of 1914. Numerous maps supplement the text.

The Savoy Operas. By W. S. GILBERT. 2 vols. Pp. v, 329; v, 330. \$1.90.

England, Their England. By A. G. MACDONELL. Pp. 250. 70c.

Great Morning. By OSBERT SITWELL. Pp. ix, 342. \$1.00.

London: Macmillan & Co. Ltd. [In Canada, Macmillan Company of Canada], 1957.

These good quality paper-backs are in Macmillan's "St. Martin's Library," an inexpensive series of reprints. Their design is pleasing, except for the excessively narrow page margins. The print is attractive, and the paper is of good quality. This volume of Sir Osbert Sitwell's autobiography completes the trilogy in this edition. A. G. Macdonell's lively satire was first published in 1933. The text of the Gilbert and Sullivan light operas is available in several bulky editions, but these small volumes have the advantage of compactness.

D. H. Lawrence: Pilgrim of the Apocalypse. By HORACE GREGORY. New York: Grove Press, 1957. Pp. xxii, 118. \$1.25.

This is a reprint, with a new introduction, of a "broad and penetrating, and brilliantly original" criticism of D. H. Lawrence that was first published in 1933. The author now sees Lawrence as the seer, who, like Blake, "creates a synthesis of past, present and future from evidence that others have ignored," (xvi) and as an artist "who wrote books to save his soul" (xx). The Jimmy Porter of his time, Lawrence was a rebel against social restraints, class consciousness and taboos of all kinds; he combines "an erratic, spontaneous impulse to embrace anyone who extended a hand toward him" with "a hatred and distrust of humanity" (96). This book reminds us (although such a reminder should not be necessary) that Lawrence cannot be dismissed as a dangerous crank.

The Poetry Society's Verse-Speaking Anthology. London: The Poetry Society, 1957. Pp. x, 255. 7s. 6d.

A collection of poems designed to be used as a "working script" for verse-readers, rather than to stand on a bookshelf. Not, therefore, a substitute for the more usual anthology with its selection of poems based on literary merit, rather than on suitability for reading aloud. De la Mare rates twelve pages, Tennyson five, Milton two, Pope and Donne one each.

The Canadian Oxford Desk Atlas of the World. Prepared by the Cartographic Department of the Oxford University Press. Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1957. Pp. 137. \$3.95.

This is an attractive and informative atlas, with maps showing such a variety of material as pressure and winds, soils, vegetation and

agriculture, minerals, population, sea communications, and temperature. There are maps of interest to the historian, showing the routes of explorers, and to the geologist, meteorologist, economist, and industrialist. This atlas makes the layman realize the inclusiveness and complexity of the art (or science) of geography.

Selected Writings of Jules Laforgue. Edited and translated by WILLIAM JAY SMITH. New York: Grove Press, 1956. Pp. xiv, 287. Evergreen edition, \$1.75.

"I have tried," says the editor of this book, "with this selection of his work to give meaning to a name and life to a man." The essays introducing each group of selections — poems, prose writing, and letters — combine with Laforgue's own translated writings to bring to life this French author (1860-1887), now known chiefly as one of the "influences" on modern poets, T. S. Eliot especially.

Dominion of the North. By DONALD CREIGHTON. Revised edition. Toronto: Macmillan Company of Canada Ltd., 1957. Pp. ix, 619. \$6.00.

This book was first published in 1944 by Houghton Mifflin of Boston. It is now published in Canada in a more attractive edition. Professor Creighton wrote this book not as a textbook but rather as a long narrative essay.

The new edition offers several improvements: wider margins, fine end-paper maps, and three cleanly-drawn line maps. One would like even more maps. Professor Creighton has added a useful chapter of 75 pages on Canada from 1939 to 1953, and two new pages (469-471) on the dispute of 1926 that so exercised King and Meighen and has been a subject of interest to Canadian political scientists ever since. The bibliography has been suitably revised and amended. In all, this is a fine edition of a fine work. It pleases the eye and satisfies the mind.

A Solomon Island Society. By DOUGLAS L. OLIVER. Cambridge: Harvard University Press [In Canada, S. J. Reginald Saunders & Co. Ltd.], 1955. Pp. xxii, 533. \$13.00.

A handsomely bound and printed book of special importance to social anthropologists and to others interested in the Pacific islands. Professor Oliver describes in detail the life of the Siuai, a tribe living on Bougainville, one of the Solomon Islands. He presents a full description of their beliefs — religious, political, and economic — and their institutions, but his chief object is to describe their conceptions of kinship and leadership. The book is unusually attractive and well supplied with plates (sixteen pages), maps, diagrams, and tables.

American Industry and the European Immigrant, 1860-1885. By CHARLOTTE ERICKSON. Cambridge: Harvard University Press [In Canada, S. J. Reginald Saunders & Co. Ltd.], 1957. Pp. x, 269. \$6.25.

An examination of the part played by American industry in the recruiting and distributing of immigrant labour. "The thesis of this book is that contract labor was rare in America during the years after the Civil War, and never reached the proportions claimed by the advocates of a law against its importation" (vii). The author finds that

American industry "concerned itself very little with the process of immigration, although it was glad enough to employ those who found their way to American shores" (vii).

An Anthology of Spoken Verse and Prose, Part I. Selected and arranged by GEOFFREY JOHNSON, JOHN BYRNE, and CHRISTABEL BURNISTON. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1957. Pp. xix, 172. \$1.45.

This is an excellent collection of about one hundred poems plus a few prose passages, including several from the King James' Bible. They have been selected on the basis of experience with English children. As the compilers say, "Poetry is primarily an oral art. . . . The speaker of poetry is the poet's interpreter, just as the pianist or violinist interprets a piece of music." They make some wise suggestions on the technique of reciting poetry by individual children or by verse-speaking choirs. Canadians would probably be wise not to try to imitate some of the vowel sounds suggested, but what is said about consonants, rhythm, metre, expression, and miming is sound and practical. Verse-speaking is largely a neglected art in Canadian schools; we could benefit a great deal from the English experience crystallised in this little book.

Sixteenth-Century Maps Relating to Canada: A Check-List and Bibliography. Intro. T. E. LAYNG. Ottawa: Public Archives of Canada, 1956. Pp. xxvi, 283. \$2.50.

In the main this is a book for the specialist in cartography, compiled by the Map Division of the Public Archives. The main part of it consists of detailed descriptions of over 800 maps, including some globes and some atlases. The date and size of each is given, its present whereabouts, whether the Public Archives has a copy or not, together with references to any previous descriptions of it or discussions concerning it. There are also two short appendices concerning sixteenth-century atlases and extensive bibliographies of sixteenth-century manuscripts and printed works, and of printed works published after 1600. A brief introductory essay and six reproductions of maps complete the volume.

The University of Buffalo Studies.

Volume 23, No. 1: "Mickiewicz and the West, a Symposium." Ed. B. R. BUGELSKI. Pp. 75.

Volume 23, No. 2: "Literature and Philosophy." By RAYMOND PALIN. Pp. 30.

Buffalo: University of Buffalo Press, 1957.

The first of these pamphlets comprises five lectures given in 1955 at the University of Buffalo in honour of the Polish national poet Adam Mickiewicz, who died in 1855. It will be of interest mainly to students engaged in Polish studies or to those who have developed an interest in the vicissitudes of Poland's history.

The second pamphlet is of more general interest. It deals with the connections between literature and philosophy. The writer is very properly a Frenchman, for it is worthy of remark that while philosophers writing in English have not been noted for their literary

qualities (William James is one of the exceptions), French philosophers, for the most part, have — like Montaigne, Pascal, and Rousseau in the past or Sartre and Malraux in the present — succeeded in acquiring a well-deserved literary reputation as well as a philosophic one and have cast some of their writing in forms that are definitely literary rather than philosophic. This pamphlet explains why.

OTHER BOOKS RECEIVED

- Brewster, Elizabeth. *Roads and Other Poems*. Toronto: Ryerson Press, 1957. (Ryerson Chap-Book 174). Pp. 12. \$1.00.
- Golfing, Francis. *Poems* (American Letters Series, June, 1957). Pp. 16. 50c.
- Nash, Arthur C. *Reveries in Melody*. New York: Exposition Press, 1957. Pp. 63. \$2.50.
- O'Hara, Frank. *Meditations in an Emergency*. New York: Grove Press, 1957. Pp. 54. \$1.00.
- Opitz, Karl Ludwig. *The General*. Trans. Constantine Fitzgibbon. London: Frederick Muller [In Canada, S. J. Reginald Saunders & Co. Ltd., Toronto], 1956. Pp. 151. \$2.25.
- Runes, Dagobert D. *A Book of Contemplations*. New York: Philosophical Library, 1957. Pp. 149. \$3.00.
- Higher Education and Research in the Netherlands*. Vol. I, No. 2. The Hague: Netherlands Universities Foundation for International Co-operation, 1957. Pp. 43.
- Economic Developments in Africa, 1955-1956*. New York: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, 1957. Pp. vii, 97. \$1.00.
- Preliminary Inventory, Record Group 9, Department of Militia and Defence, 1776-1922*. Ottawa: Queen's Printer, 1957. Pp. 36. 50c.