

social ethics in the University of Manitoba, is one of the ordained ones to champion the validity of the concept of consciousness. It would not be unlike the behaviorists to fancy that in doing so he was in fact "responding to stimulus," though they might be too polite to say so. Many votaries of the Goddess of Reason have excelled rather in their familiarity with abstract aspects than in their faculty to cope with the concrete, and Professor Wright in his turn has a most thorough command of the generals and of the doctrines in the ethical field. His contact with the awkward edges and crannies of the specific is less secure. He approves and cites Swenson on reason as the basis of community life. But Robespierre had the same notion, and reason still suffers from the after effects. He praises the virtue of literature as a tonic to the democratic conscience, but shows no awareness of the modern dispute over whether literature can maintain its tonic quality under present democratic influences. He urges "more intelligent and humane methods in handling workmen, methods raising them above the status of mere hands;" and of what then, has the industrial world been talking, with what has it been experimenting, throughout the present century? A book presenting the scholastic side of the ethical doctrines of today's society should have value and interest. But to have either, it must be written in awareness of what goes on in the open daylight, outside the study window.

International

EUROPE TURNS THE CORNER. By STANLEY HIGH. Introduction by Col. Edward M. House. Abingdon Press. 1925. \$2.

This is a readable and informative book to show that the year of 1924 marks the beginning of European financial and political recovery, after five years of post-war prostration.

The author bases his thesis on the facts that 1924 witnessed the coming into power of the British Labor Party, the abandonment of the reactionary chauvinism of Poincaré in France, the stabilization of Germany through the Dawes plan, recognition of Russia by several of the great powers, the framing of the Protocol of the fifth League Assembly at Geneva inaugurating compulsory arbitration and establishing that international security which has precedent to any world disarmament and finally the beginning of a new era of heart on the part of the United States toward Europe and consequently re-awakening active interest by America in an settlement.

In addition the author has much to say in a sympathetic way on internal conditions in Russia. He also urges America to adopt a more liberal attitude on the subject of the Debt settlement and especially on the League of Nations and the

striking statement in the introduction by Colonel House, "no living man has ever lived in a more liberal atmosphere than the world has today."

of England, most of the governing class, whose loyalty has been above reproach, and whose rational views on international problems have been unclouded by party prejudice. Mrs. Swanwick has given us a history of the ten years' activities of the League of Democratic Control, the organization founded in 1914 with the object of preserving undimmed, through the War and after, the oft-assured British objective, a peace without vindictiveness and a new world order based on liberal principles. For this the U. D. C. fought and for this it was anathemized by Parliament, by the Press, by everyone. Yet within its ranks were such men as Ramsay MacDonald, Morel, Gooch, Lord Thompson, etc., many of whom later rode to office with the Labor victory of 1923, and all of whom for ten years have been striving for a new order in the conduct of foreign relations. Mrs. Swanwick's book is effective through its ease of style and clarity of argument, with a perhaps too prolonged technical description of her own organization. On the whole it is a most valuable adjunct to the numerous diplomatic disclosures lately brought forth.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. By Raymond Leslie Buell. Holt. \$6.25.
CHINESE POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY. By William S. A. Pott. Knopf. \$2 net.
PROBLEMS IN PAN-AMERICANISM. By Samuel Guy Inman. Doran. \$2 net.
AMERICA IN CIVILIZATION. By Ralph E. Turner. Knopf. \$5 net.
THE SENATE AND THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS. By Henry Cabot Lodge. Scribners. \$4.
THE DESTINY OF A CONTINENT. By Manuel Ugarte. Knopf. \$3.50 net.
THE NEUROSES OF THE NATIONS. By C. E. Payne. Seltzer. \$5.

Miscellaneous

FATHER'S FIRST TWO YEARS. By FAIRFAX DOWNEY. Minton, Balch. 1925. \$1.50.

There are plenty of manuals for new babies and new mothers. Mr. Downey has therefore decided to take the part of New Fathers. He spoofs the situation in which they find themselves, but with shrewd wisdom and cheerful disillusionment. Chapters of the book have already appeared piecemeal in *Life*, *The Saturday Evening Post*, *Judge*, etc., thereby adding greatly to the world's gaiety. Mr. Downey is a journalist, a special writer for the *Herald-Tribune*. But his writing in "Father's First Two Years" is unstereotyped and charmingly fresh. The little book will make an entertaining gift to any New Father that you know. Margaret Freeman's illustrations are quite in the spirit of the occasion.

HALF HOURS IN THE KITCHENETTE. By G. F. SCOTSON-CLARK. Appleton. 1925. \$1.

A tiny book of recipes to enable small households and kitchenette cooks "to have a variety of food at a low cost and with a minimum of trouble." Mr. Scotson-Clark is more practically valuable as a guide than any number of Brillat-Savarins, for the majority of dishes he shows how to make can be prepared in half an hour with only kitchenette facilities. If this be epicureanism it will also prove a boon to young apartment dwellers and the newly-wedded of the Great City. Bachelors will also call the author blessed! The book almost slips into one's vest pocket, and of suggestion therein will be found at the same time financial resources for the housewife. Moreover, Mr. Scotson-Clark's recommendations no longer lack literary inspiration.

RECIPES OF FAMOUS COOKS. With a foreword by FLORENCE STRATTON. Harpers. 1925.

Place, how can any woman, otherwise, have a "favorite" recipe? Any one who can cook can have at least five or six neat-dish perhaps, a salad, asserts, a Welsh rabbit; there is to suit varying moods and moods. If a woman is commiserate, she will naturally choose one special recipe from the book, her fanciest concoction, that is what this book is for—the most part: elaborate, many-pieces of cookery. It runs through the recipes, and though these recipes are excellent, very distinction or uniqueness. The book is a little too extemporaneous, a little too flippant—as is also the quite flippant introduction by Florence Stratton. Even if the book has not much value, it might make a perfect

(Continued on next page)

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Announcement

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The Saturday Review
of LITERATURE

CIRCULATION DEPT., PENTON BLDG., CLEVELAND, OHIO

Points of View

Oyez! Oyez!

To the Editor of *The Saturday Review*:
Sir:

In a world where so much that is really excellent gets smothered from view and fails to win the attention of the very people most fitted to enjoy it, I think it more and more behooves any one of us who happens upon a treasure to turn himself into as much of a megaphone as he can manage and proclaim his find from the housetops.

Therefore at the full power of my lungs (which are not so powerful as I could wish) I emit the following yawp:

READ "THE PANCHATANTRA"!

It is translated joyously by Arthur W. Ryder. It is published by the University of Chicago Press. It costs \$4. And it is worth many times that amount, or what have you?

This is rough barking for a fine and ancient and humorous and humane and incredibly wise and lovely book—but O Lord! what a hubbub those Best Sellers are making. So forgive my manners, but remember my advice:

READ "THE PANCHATANTRA"!

LEE WILSON DODD

A Matter of Fact

To the Editor of *The Saturday Review*:
Sir:

In your issue of May 16 you published a review of my book, "The Dogma of Evolution," by Professor Sperry which gave your readers an accurate and admirable discussion of the purpose of the book. In the issue of June 6 you also published a letter by Professor Birge which expressed the writer's profound contempt of both Professor Sperry and myself. At the time I was in Europe and have but recently had my attention called to this letter. Under the circumstances, I trust you will give me the courtesy of your column at this rather late date.

Such a letter should be answered only because it brings up a matter of fact which is fundamental in the theory of evolution. In the first place, Professor Birge makes the assumption that I have not read Weissmann; this statement I can deny. But he adds: "Or there are many who can read as if not reading, and perhaps our author is one of these." I must, perforce, leave this to my readers to determine; but those who have read the book will find that I give full references for my statements. This criticism is rather exasperating since I have stated in "The Dogma of Evolution" that biologists would better understand Lamarck's theory of the inheritance of acquired traits if they would read his "Philosophie Zoologique" in the original. The proof of this criticism lies in the fact that, while there are many students of biology in the country, I own one of the very few, perhaps three or four in all, copies of the early French editions. And what many biologists claim to be his idea of the inheritance of acquired traits is not what he states it to be. May I add that Professor Birge, when accusing me of the worst sin in authors—that of not verifying one's quotations—seems to have forgotten that he opens his short letter with the confession: "I have not seen the book and I know it only from the review."

It is time to come to the point at issue. Professor Birge's interest lies in my statement: "Weissmann cut off the tails of many mice for many generations, and when each new generation persisted in having tails, he cast Lamarck's theory aside, ignoring absolutely the simple fact that mutilation inflicted on an animal can hardly be called a habit acquired by the animal." He then comments by writing that: "If the sentence represents the author, it is conclusive evidence that he does not have even the beginning of a competent understanding of Lamarck, Darwin, or Weissmann, still less of the history of zoological thought in the last quarter of the nineteenth century." That is a large statement for a man, trained in the exact methods of the biological sciences, to make on the evidence of a single sentence.

—readers may judge of Pro-

fessor Birge's own acquaintance with Weissmann's essay, let us turn to Weissmann's "Essays upon Heredity and Kindred Biological Problems, Authorized Translation by Professors Poulton, Schönlank, and Shipley, Oxford, 1889." It is certainly true that Weissmann did not believe that the transmission of acquired traits had an existence in fact. He states: "Doubts on this point have been expressed not only by me but also by others, such as du Bois-Reymond and Pfleger. Indeed, concerning a certain class of acquired characters, viz. mutilations (italics mine), the great German philosopher, Kant, has distinctly denied that transmission can take place." Can it be denied that the meaning of the word "acquire" is the achievement of something by one's own endeavor as contrasted with what is derived from native gifts or external endowment? And it is in this sense that Lamarck invariably uses the word. Is it unwarranted for me to object that, when Weissmann cut off the tails of mice, the mutilation was not a habit acquired by the animal?

Again, in the essay of Weissmann the proofs given, that acquired traits are not transmitted, are with one exception cases of the transmission of mutilation based on uncontrolled reports; the one exception is the account of his own experiments on mice and he states: "This question can only be decided by experiment."

On page 432 ff., he writes: "The experiments were begun in October of last year (1887), with seven females and five males. On October 17 all their tails were cut off, and on November 16 the two first families were born. Inasmuch as the period of pregnancy is only 22-24 days, these first offspring began to develop at a time when both parents were without tails. These two families were together eighteen in number, and every individual possessed a perfectly normal tail, with a length of 11-12 mm." For fear that "the effects of mutilation do not exercise any influence until after several generations" he killed most of the second generation and kept only a few, carefully isolated from all other mice, and bred them with the same negative result. This method of breeding was continued with the final result as follows: "Thus 901 were produced by five generations of artificially mutilated parents, and yet there was not a single example of a rudimentary tail or of any other abnormality in this organ."

He finally asks: "What do these experiments prove? Do they disprove once for all the opinion that mutilations cannot be transmitted? Certainly not, when taken alone.—They might not appear by the fifth generation, but perhaps by the sixth, tenth, twentieth, or the hundredth generation." If Professor Birge had done me the ordinary courtesy of reading my book before he accused me of crass ignorance he would have discovered that I was not discussing the vexed question whether heredity variations are due to changes in the somatic or the genetic cells, but whether mutilations could be considered as acquired traits and as a criterion of the soundness of Lamarck's theory. It is also true that Weissmann discarded Lamarck's theory principally on the one, and one only, experiment on mice which I cited.

It may be that it is unnecessary to read an author, who ventures to question the facts and hypotheses of biology, in order to show his folly. It may be that some biologists can, because of the superior mental discipline of their study, base their hypotheses on the laws of physics and extend their deductions to the field of theology; while neither the physicist nor the theologian can understand biology. If this be so, we can happily turn over to those biologists the direction of human affairs with complacent satisfaction, but it would be easier for the rest of the world if they would just come to some agreement amongst themselves on any one theory of evolution and would then learn to express themselves so that others can understand what they teach. How is the human race to perfect itself and to reach the state of eugenic bliss when each inquiring mind is according to Professor Birge, but an abyss, *abyssum invocant*? It is discouraging to find that even the English language is not supply words adequate for the biological contempt.

University

The New Books

Miscellaneous

(Continued from preceding page)

bridge-prize. It seems designed especially to be passed from hand to hand among an informal gathering of women; it should accompany the refreshments.

ON UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES. By THEODORE WESLEY KOCH. Privately printed. 1924.

One of the most interesting phases of the modern American library movement has been the steadily increasing importance of the library in college and university circles. In the modern university the library is the most important building on the campus, and bears the same relation to the departments of history and literature that the laboratory bears to the scientific departments. Selecting the libraries of Oxford, Cambridge, Harvard, Columbia, and Yale as examples, Theodore Wesley Koch, Librarian at Northwestern University, shows how the library has risen step by step in the esteem and approval of the college community. Attaching the earnest efforts made by the modern librarian to encourage the public to use his library, it is distinctly amusing to note the efforts made by some of the early library executives to discourage the use of their collections. John Price, once Librarian of the Bodleian Library at Oxford, was a man of the latter type. When "Captain Cook's Voyages" first appeared it was very popular. He anticipated the demand, and loaned his copy to a friend, remarking that the longer he kept the book the better he would like it, for he was sure he would be perpetually plagued with inquiries for it. Mr. Koch points out the value of the library in encouraging the student to think independently and to know and to love books. "Much of the usefulness and attractiveness of the university for its students," said President Eliot of Harvard, "depends upon the size of the library, on the promptness with which it obtains the most interesting books, and on the efficiency and liberality of its administration. Any need of the library is therefore a need of the whole university."

SIMPLIFYING MOTHERHOOD. By Frank Howard Richardson. Putnam's. \$1.75.
TOM MARSHON'S ANNUAL. Edited by Thomas L. Marston. Doubleday. Page. \$2 net.
COAL. By Edward T. Devine. Bloomington, Ill.: American Review Service Press.
THE ENO COLLECTION OF NEW YORK CITY VIEWS. By Frank Weitenkampf. New York: Fifty Years of Sport. By Lieut. Col. E. D. Miller. Dutton. \$6.
THE MINER'S FREEDOM. By Carter Goodrich. Marshall Jones. \$2.
THE FOLLIES OF THE COURT. By Leigh H. Irvine. Los Angeles, Calif.: Times-Mirror.
WALL-EYED CAESAR'S GHOST. By Jane Baldwin Cotton. Marshall Jones. \$1.75.
AN INTRODUCTION TO STATISTICAL ANALYSIS. By George Gidley Chambers. Crofts. \$3.
THE CLIMATES OF THE UNITED STATES. By Robert De Courcy Ward. Ginn.
ART IN HOME ECONOMICS: A BIBLIOGRAPHY. By Marion F. Clark and Others. University of Chicago Press. \$1.
BYWAYS TO HEALTH. By Thomas D. Wood and Theresa Danavall. Appleton. \$1.50.
FAMOUS AMERICAN JURY SPEECHES. Edited by Frederick C. Hicks. St. Paul: West Publishing Co.
THE FINANCIAL ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED STATES. By Harold G. Moulton. University of Chicago Press. \$4.
THE OLD MISSION HOUSES OF CALIFORNIA. Lippincott. \$15 net.
CHEATING, SWINDLING AND LITTON. Douglas Quincey. New York: The Chief Source of Truth. By P. H. W. Knopf. \$2.75 net.

THE CHRIS: the first of a series of novels or of a series of short stories. Princeton: Princeton University Press. This little series on the death of a favorite, it is a product of 1925.

phic. Additionally, it is a story of the life of a young man who has been a successful man in the city of New York.

ing for money. A poor young man who has been a successful man in the city of New York.

the Texas. A poor young man who has been a successful man in the city of New York.

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Platonic dualism. But there is no undervaluation of its historico-critical achievements. There is as broad a familiarity with the best in this field as could be expected from one not himself a New Testament critic; and the conclusion reached is "the Faith of the Greek (philosophic) tradition or no religion of Christ." With Paul and his successor at Ephesus, the unknown fourth evangelist, Christianity "passed into the wide stream of Greek thought, while bringing to that Tradition its own vital contribution; henceforth we have to study the mutual assimilation of the faith of Jesus with the Idealism of Plato."

THE GOD OF FUNDAMENTALISM AND OTHER STUDIES. By Horace J. Bridges. Covici. \$3.
THE RELIGION OF UNDERGRADUATES. By Cyril Harris Scribner. \$1.25.
DORA'S MINISTERS MANUAL. Compiled by Rev. G. B. F. Hallock. Dorr. \$2 net.

Travel

FOUR YEARS IN THE WHITE NORTH. By Donald B. MacMillan. Medici Society. \$4.
LEAVES FROM A WAR DIARY. By Major General James G. Harbord. Dodd. Mead.
THE WAR OF LOST OPPORTUNITIES. By General von Hoffmann. International. \$3.50.
MESA, CANON, AND PUEBLO. By Charles F. Lummis. Century. \$4.50.
JAPAN AND KOREA. By Frank G. Carpenter. Doubleday. Page. \$4 net.
LETTERS FROM ENGLAND. By Karel Capek. Translated by Paul Silver. Doubleday. Page. \$2 net.
A WAYFARER IN UNKNOWN TUSCANY. By Edward Hutton. Dutton. \$3.
OLD TIME PARIS. By Georges F. Edwards. Dutton. \$2.
LOMBARDY, TYROL, AND THE TRENTINO. By Hugh Quigley. Dutton. \$3.50.
THE ROMANCE OF EDINBURGH STREETS. By Mary D. Stewart. Dutton. \$3.
ROVING THROUGH SOUTHERN CHINA. By Harry A. Franck. Century. \$5.
YES, LADY SAHIB. By Grace Thompson Seton. Harpers. \$4.
THE LITTLE WORLD. By Stella Benson. Macmillan. \$2.50.
THE DIVIDING LINE OF EUROPE. By Stephen Graham. Appleton. \$2.

Brief Mention

HERE is a shelf of certain recent novels, many of them displaying craftsmanship and acumen. *Virginia M. Fadyen* goes furthest back for the setting of her story, in "At the Sign of the Sun" (A. & C. Boni. \$2). She takes unknown people in a primitive period endeavors to show how little the fundamentals of life have changed. She promises as a writer, and ideas. Love the pursuit of wealth are the main of modern life. *Marianne Gas* "Danae" (Harper's. \$2) tells the love of a business woman. Love final quers her personal ambition. It is written book. Theo Blent, in *Bas* "The High Forfeit" (Harper's. \$2) luxury to face life with a b Again money and love furnish t a high-minded story of real people economics often fetters hearts. (Macaulay. \$2) *Elizabeth Irving* with a good deal less distinct King, gives us a view of in a love story that protest convention. *Sidney Her* in "Both One" (B- race problem of a Jew in a Ger good