

## "Black Michael," Empire Builder

LIFE OF SIR MICHAEL HICKS BEACH (EARL ST. ALDWYN). By Lady Victoria Hicks Beach. New York: The Macmillan Co. 2 vols. \$12.

Reviewed by WILLIAM CLYDE DEVANE

BETWEEN the years 1874 and 1902 Sir Michael Hicks Beach held several of the most important offices in the British government. He was successively Chief Secretary for Ireland, Colonial Secretary, Chancellor of the Exchequer and Leader of the House, President of the Board of Trade, and again Chancellor of the Exchequer. When he retired in 1902 his services were not at an end. He became an extraordinary arbitrator in all manner of complicated disputes, and finally, in the early critical days of the great war he acted, representing the bankers of England, as financial adviser to the Treasury. For that tremendous service he was made an Earl of the Kingdom. He died in April, 1916, in the blackest days of the war, a short time after his son had been killed, in Egypt. The achievements of Hicks Beach were so considerable and his offices so important that it is a matter of wonder that his fame has been obscured by smaller men.

Hicks Beach was a Conservative of an ardent but not a narrow sort. He knew, and that was perhaps his greatest strength, why he held those principles. Descended of land-owning squires of Gloucestershire, he was a worthy modern representative of that great race of men. He never lost—what the ruling classes of our own country have never acquired—a sense of his responsibility to the tillers of his soil and to his local community. At times of falling prices in agriculture he protected his tenants at considerable cost to himself. When he was busiest in the great offices of state he still had time to deal with county affairs. He was a strict and exacting head of the family, but his children's devotion, though seldom expressed in words, is notable.

In an age when Anthony Hope's romance was popular, it was inevitable that the soubriquet "Black Michael" should have been attached to him. In 1904 when he was made chairman of the board of arbitration between the miners and mine-owners of South Wales, the miners' leader roared out, "By God, boys, we've got Black Michael"; but in time the same speaker came to call him "a straight man whatever his politics." His associates in the House of Commons and in the great offices he held found out his qualities. Invariably firm and just with them, he could and on occasion did administer violent tongue-lashings which are still remembered. He was reserved and proud, impatient and apparently haughty, and the Liberals and some members of his own party held him in terror. Such a man was naturally unpopular as Chief Secretary in Ireland, though he was one of the best Ireland ever had; and just as naturally he never attained those great offices which depend upon popularity with the voters. But where esteem counted, there Hicks Beach achieved; and when superior talents and great integrity were needed, it was to him that Salisbury, Balfour, Asquith, Chamberlain, and Lloyd George turned.

Perhaps the most difficult office that Hicks Beach ever held was that of Colonial Secretary (1878-1880), when England was pushing her frontiers in South Africa. He was not an expansionist, but the difficulties of controlling without cable communications such mad British agents and dreamers as Sir Bartle Frere and later Rhodes, were too great to be overcome. But the most characteristic work of Hicks Beach was done as Chancellor of the Exchequer (1895-1902). "He had," says his daughter, "been bred in a school of statesmen who held it an axiom of good government to keep down public expenditure and to take pride in the reduction of taxes; but during his lifetime such principles as these came to be considered old-fashioned." For seven years he fought for economy at a time when social experimentation and war and a grandiose con-

ception of Empire made such economy unpopular. When he saw that never again could the house be set in that order which he thought wise, he retired from the Chancellorship to devote himself to those private, county, and national activities with which he was in sympathy.

Lady Victoria Hicks Beach's biography of her father has done service to history. The Empire-builder and the little Englander meet here and an age is illuminated. One or two improvements in treatment might be suggested. The motives of Hicks Beach's actions, more fully analyzed, would become clearer. Again, a less objective delineation of the man would enrich the book; one asks again and again what manner of man he was to his friends and associates, and does not find out until the excellent appendices are consulted. But these criticisms come from a reader who has caught sight, emerging from the formal chronicle of event and business, of an honorable and colorful personality, with whom it is natural to desire a better and more personal acquaintance.

William C. DeVane, assistant professor of English in Yale University, has made the nineteenth century his particular study.

## Jacopone Da Todi, Wild Man of God

A WATCH IN THE NIGHT. By Helen C. White. New York: The Macmillan Company. 1933. \$2.

Reviewed by GARRETT MATTINGLY

JACOPONE DA TODI was one of those flavorful and many-sided personalities of which the thirteenth century was prolific. He was a prosperous and successful lawyer, a man in the middle thirties when the tragic death of his wife led him to abandon the world and become a poor penitent of the Franciscan order, then (about 1266) at the height of its influence in Italy. Ten years later he became a friar and associated himself with the "spiritual" party among the Franciscans, those enthusiasts whose insistence on the literal interpretation of St. Francis's injunction to poverty and whose attacks on the corruption of the church finally led to their persecution as heretics. Of these enthusiasts he was remembered as one of the wildest. His tomb in San Fortunado in Todi commemorates "the Blessed Jacopone . . . A fool of Christ . . . who took Heaven by violence" and the lives written of him in the fifteenth century are full of stories of his holy madness.

Though the stories may be apocryphal they echo a temperamental extremism which we have no reason to doubt. But Jacopone was more than a holy madman. He placed his legal training at the service of his party and became one of the leading ecclesiastical politicians of Italy. And when his opposition to Pope Boniface VIII won him imprisonment he wrote in the Umbrian dialect poems for his order and his faith, poems which range the whole scale of his emotions and experiences from savage and biting satire to the tenderest and most exalted mysticism and give us a singularly complete insight into the inner life of a remarkable man.

Miss White has written a novel about the life of Jacopone, and the struggles within the Franciscan order in which he took part. For some reason not clear she has chosen to collapse the events of nearly half a century (before 1257 to after 1303) into a single decade and the resultant anachronisms are disturbing. For purposes, perhaps, of simplification she has omitted much of what little we know about her hero. The story she tells recapitulates, not without charm, something of the background of medieval Umbria, but its protagonist, though he undergoes some of the experiences of Jacopone and achieves in the end a kind of mystic enlightenment such as the *laude* sometimes express, bears but a faint resemblance to that wild man of God, satirist, politician, theologian, and saint who was (after St. Francis himself) the greatest poet of the Franciscan order.

Applause! Acclaim! Success!

By JANET BEITH for the \$20,000 PRIZE NOVEL

## NO SECOND SPRING

Must be a great novel to receive such an accolade as this . . .

"Amplify justifies the award."

—Edward Weeks, *Atlantic Monthly*

"An exquisite piece of work."

—Gertrude Atherton

"A charming love story . . . Important."

—Heywood Brown

"A real work of art."

—Fanny Butcher, *Chicago Tribune*

"Will stir the reader to the depths."

—Virginia Kirkus, *Ladies' Home Journal*

"A distinctive contribution to fiction."

—North American Review

"A very convincing and beautiful picture."

—N. Y. Herald Tribune

"As a first novel its quality is surprising."

—N. Y. Times. \$2.50

A Thrilling New Novel by the author of *BEAU GESTE*

## ACTION and PASSION

By P. C. WREN

A sea story of vivid, sustained action, the setting being a windjammer, alone, on the high seas. Mutiny, murder, smuggling and a tangled love affair are woven into a yarn that bears the characteristic stamp of the author's genius for story-telling.

\$2.00



## TO LIVE ALONE

By D. MICHAEL KAYE

Runner-Up in the \$20,000 International Prize Novel Contest. A revealing portrait of an ardent, lonely woman whose honesty to herself and her ideals force her TO LIVE ALONE. It may disturb you. \$2.00

## GUIDE to MODERN Thought

By C. E. M. JOAD

Covering the wide fields of psychology, physics, biology, evolution, astronomy, psychical research and allied subjects, this book offers the reader a brilliant guide to the latest scientific thought and knowledge.

\$1.75

SARAH BERNHARDT  
Divine Eccentric

By G. G. Geller

An absorbing biography of one of the most magnetic women who ever brought the world to her feet. Illustrated. \$2.75



JOHN RUSKIN

By R. H. Wilenski

An introduction to the life and work of Ruskin, eccentric genius whose writings have a special interest for this day and age. \$4.50

## MY FARM IN LION COUNTRY

By Joyce Boyd

Imagine yourself living in the heart of Africa on a dairy farm, with a family of children! In this delightfully thrilling and true document, Joyce Boyd tells you the human story of what life is like there. Illustrated. \$3.00

## THE MERE LIVING

By B. Bergson Spiro

"Already the fall season is bringing us definitely satisfying books. *Lamb in His Bosom*, for instance, and now *The Mere Living*. A literary tour de force."—Harry Hansen, *N. Y. World-Telegram*. \$2.00

## BACCHUS BEHAVE!

The Lost Art of Polite Drinking

By Alma Whitaker

Fashion's handbook to correct usage in selection, quality, mixture, temperature, containers, accompaniments, and service of spirited beverages. \$1.25

## NEW DISHES from LEFTOVERS

By Coral Smith

In these dollar-conscious days, this book comes as a helpful aid to every housewife. *New ideas, new recipes, new dishes*. Easy to follow, and guaranteed to reduce waste and expenses. \$1.50

FREDERICK A. STOKES COMPANY  
443 Fourth Avenue New York



"Beautifully written . . .  
an unbeatable climax."

THE NEW YORKER

## NIGHT OVER FITCH'S POND

By CORA JARRETT

"I read the book with intense excitement. It is that rarest of pleasures, a melodrama played out by real people, the plot of a thriller but the people of a novel of character."—*Herbert Agar*, author of "The People's Choice." \$2.50



## ENGLAND'S ELIZABETH

By Milton Waldman

"Brilliantly successful. Without sacrificing scholarship, the author has made his narrative vivid, informing, shrewd, and reasonable."—*Henry Seidel Canby*. \$3.50

## THE JOURNAL OF GAMALIEL BRADFORD

"So intimate, so self-revealing, and so honest that it should take its place among the great diaries of the world."—*Burton Rascoe in the New York Herald Tribune*. Edited by Van Wyck Brooks. \$5.00

## THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE

By Herbert Agar

"Is America to end in a dictatorship? Nobody within recent years has discussed this question with more originality than Mr. Agar."—*Boston Transcript*. \$3.50

## A PRINCE OF THE CAPTIVITY

By John Buchan

The best selling novel in London. In New York the *Times* calls it "A superb tale of romantic adventure." \$2.50

## SHE SAW THEM GO BY

By Hester W. Chapman

"Fights, intrigues, passion and despair. . . A rich and ironic picture of international politics."—*London Observer*. \$2.50

## MR. JUBENKA

By Adrian Alington

The adventures of an exiled king in England. "Truly delicious comedy."—*London News*. \$2.00

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY

A great novel which "leads straight to  
the soul of humanity."—FRANZ WERFEL

# THREE CITIES

By SHOLOM ASCH

Depicts on a gigantic canvas the environment and mental reactions of a people encrusted in that mass of corruption, tyranny, and spurious glitter that was Czarist Russia.

**LUDWIG LEWISOHN:** "An epic narrative of incomparable richness and breadth . . . One of those works which like *War and Peace*, or *The Magic Mountain*, increase in fame and weight as time goes on."

**STEFAN ZWEIG:** "This greatly planned trilogy reveals him in his full eminence."

**FELIX SALTEN:** "This delineation of an entire epoch may justly be compared to that of Balzac."

Second Large Printing

350,000 Words — 912 Pages — At bookstores \$3.00

G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS 2 W. 45th Street, New York

## Two Books on the Child Mind

THE MIND OF THE CHILD. By Charles Baudoin. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co. 1933. \$3.

Reviewed by JOSEPH JASTROW

THE first impress of psychoanalysis upon Switzerland came from followers of the Teutonic rather than the Gallic tradition. The present contribution comes from the J. J. Rousseau Institute in Geneva, which so far has touched but slightly upon the Freudian side of childhood. But Professor Baudoin, whose method of approach has been mainly through suggestion, now goes over body and soul to the Freudian group. The Gallic touch appears in the lucidity of presentation, the avoidance of theoretical entanglements, and an orderly outline.

Once under way, there is little to distinguish this contribution from a half-dozen others that trace childhood traits to difficulties in infant development, and translate typical behavior into the largely sexual terms of the "family romance." A child must be born, suck, be weaned, meet its brothers and sisters, have relations with its parents, engage in rivalry, aggress and retreat, each one of which phases is beset with dangers and with complications that are even worse.

The result is a gruesome fatality. Some do not recover from the shock of birth itself, and display in their later behavior a longing to return to the security of the womb; for others weaning is a disaster; then Oedipus with all his cohorts; then for girls the lasting regret for not being a boy; then early sexuality and later regressions. As an example, Professor Baudoin names the rather-be-a-boy desire the Diana complex, and forthwith in a long chapter reads into every manifestation of innocent femininity the baleful mark of the fate of Eve of being merely a rib of Adam; while the Cain complex flourishes in the kindergartens of Geneva as it never did in the garden of Eden. As a further consequence the trivial, casual, natural, magical, imaginative fantasies of children in explaining the origin of life and the hall-marks of sex are pried into and minutely recorded as precious questionnaire documents revealing significant origins.

Going as far as he can in sympathy with this insight without sacrificing sanity itself, the psychologist who is not a psycho-mythologist must reject nine and more tenths of it as extravagantly overdrawn and disastrously misleading. The mind of the child is a queer medley; but somehow the child gets some sense without running the gauntlet of so many goblin-complexes that will get you if you don't look out, and apparently also if you do. The mischief that all this Freudianizing of quite intelligible behavior is doing to parents and teachers and students of psychology who may become both, is incalculable. The Gallic mind under the same thrall loses discrimination as readily as the Teutonic. It may be that the undevout astronomer is mad; it certainly is true that the devout psychoanalyst is so, when he applies his far-fetched theories to the immature microcosm of the child's mind. M. Baudoin, no more than his confrères in discipleship of Freud, recognizes the psychoanalytic complex, the most deadly of all, for which an ingenious mind may find a classic name.

Its essence is the insistence that everything patent is something far more foreboding than is latent. A little girl's mis-spelling in regard to a final s becomes a "serpent who does nothing," a phallic symbol, and an envy of her brother. A mischievous boy who undressed two little girls, for which offense they and not he was punished, developed a sense of guilt and punished himself by "feminine identification" and an "attack of eczema," all getting in or under his skin. A boy ill at ease in the presence of his father's second wife is suffering from the "conflicts engendered by the differing identifications of the super-ego." In one of the older books on children's fantasies is given the case of a little girl who amused herself by imagining everything to be something else—a passing attack of "topsy-turvitis." Presumably she developed into a Freudian expert and is now instructing any still unconfused parents she can find into the mysteries of the meanings of the idle and wayward conduct of their children. In the interests of sanity and pedagogy, this game has been carried just a little too far. Some years ago it had the interest of novelty; or even of pornography; now it seems just learned and polluting folly.

THE MORAL JUDGMENT OF THE CHILD. By Jean Piaget. New York: Harcourt, Brace & Co. \$3.75.

Reviewed by ARNOLD GESELL

THIS present study, the fifth by the same author to appear in translation from the French in The International Library of Psychology, Philosophy and Scientific Method explores the child's morality, and demonstrates important parallels between moral and intellectual development. In their entirety, the five related volumes constitute a notable and scholarly contribution, distinctly European in flavor, to a genetic understanding of the subjective life of the child, and of the antecedents of adult mentality.

The pyramid of Professor Piaget's writings rests on a broad base. He is well grounded in philosophical literature including epistemology and logic; he has had training in natural science; he is experimentally interested in problems of early education represented in the activities of the Geneva institute; he has observed his own children, and hundreds of others with the assistance of his institute coworkers, seven of whom collaborated in the writing of the new volume on moral judgment. His work is marked by a correlation of what might be called philosophical, clinical, and genetic aspects of child psychology. Indeed, in the present instance he has extended the correlation into the fields of theoretical sociology and of social ethics. He would hold that a critical interpretation of cultural and societal organization is dependent upon a more realistic insight into the developing process whereby the child attains moral stature.

And how does Piaget scientifically seek to penetrate a realm so subjective and subtle as the maturing of a child's moral judgment? He uses the same methods previously applied in exploring the child's ideas of the physical world and of causation, namely, the "clinical interrogatory" or the method of analytic conversation with individual children from three to fourteen years of age. In these conversations questions are carefully thought out in advance, and incorporated into a kind of cross examination. The interview is conducted not in a stilted manner but yet with an orderliness and uniformity which give comparative values to the hundreds of responses which are recorded verbatim. For the study of moral judgment, a game of marbles was made the point of departure. A study of the rules of the game led Piaget to a consideration of two groups of social and moral facts in the conduct of children—constraint and unilateral respect on the one hand, cooperation and mutual respect on the other. He explores these facts by an ingenious utilization of the interrogatory method in which he confronts the young child with concrete situations and elicits verbal appraisals of actions. It is futile to ask the child to introspect and to report his introspections directly to the psychologist; but even the young child when given a series of stories relating different kinds or degrees of lying, stealing, and injustice, gives answers which prove very revealing as to the nature of his moral judgment. Piaget also brings clumsiness within the scope of his inquiry into objective responsibility and immanent justice.

This is a somewhat novel theme for a psychologist and a philosopher; but a significant one. There are common behavioral and social factors which associate motor and moral ineptitude.

Piaget's analysis of the children's conversations concerning the consequences of clumsiness is highly suggestive. It reveals moreover how blind (and clumsy!) is the adult attitude which places sole reliance on authority, but is on a unilateral respect, as the source of morality.

There are in fact two types of respect and consequently two moralities,—a morality of constraint or of heteronomy, and a morality of cooperation or of autonomy. The author demonstrates the important role of cooperation in determining the growth of the moral judgment. Cooperation is not only an ethical goal; it is an essential condition for the very organization of the perceptions of morality.

Piaget's conclusions are not readily summarized and his discussions sometimes seem over-detailed and recondite, but he has quite justified the modest hope that his present book "may supply a scaffolding which those living with children and observing their spontaneous reactions can use in erecting the actual edifice."