

# Book Reviews

## Migrants and Mendicants

MEN ON THE MOVE, by Nels Anderson. University of Chicago Press. 357 pp. Price \$3.

THE BEGGAR, by Harlan W. Gilmore. University of North Carolina Press. 252 pp. Price \$2.50.

Postpaid by Survey Associates, Inc.

THERE is a sharp contrast between these two books which is encouraging to persons interested in migrants and challenging to those concerned with beggars. Anderson's book demonstrates the vast amount of research and study which, during the past ten years, has been given to the subject of interstate migration. He presents nothing new, but correlates what has been learned about migrants and migration. Gilmore's subjective approach indicates the lack of scientific study which has been given to beggars and begging. His facts are few; his illustrations limited to occasional stories of individual beggars. It shows the paucity of such logical study as is a necessary prerequisite to successful efforts to improve conditions.

Designed primarily to bring together in one volume the essential facts about "moving people" as gathered by experts during the past ten years, Anderson's book does not arrive at definite recommendations for remedial action. His own ideas about the solution appear in the introduction, in which he emphasizes the need for jobs for migrants, preferably in private industry, but jobs even if paid for from public funds. Admitting the need for some kind of "service" when jobs are not available, he makes no attempt to analyze what service or services would be required or how they would be provided. He states that the migrant's unemployment problem is basically the same as that of the resident; but fails to point out the evident conclusion justified by his collection of facts, that the other problems of migrants are also basically the same as those of resident people. This premise could lead only to the recommendation that migrants should be treated as people and that consequently all community services should be available to them on the same basis as to residents.

"The Beggar" begins with the statement that "begging as an object of research seems to have been largely neglected by modern social scientists." Adequate proof of this statement is given in Gilmore's volume for, as the work demonstrates, there are no adequate statistics, no clear definitions, no objective reports on the effectiveness of controls. Much that he says must necessarily be subjective or based on the limited and likewise subjective observations of scattered students.

Where general terms are possible, as

in the opening or concluding chapters devoted respectively to the history of mendicancy and its control, Gilmore effectively and clearly presents the problem and analyzes society's efforts to deal with it. The lack of basic material, however, handicaps him in the intermediate chapters wherein attention is directed to various types of beggars and their living and "working" conditions. This lack of material is a challenge to further research which is a primary objective of this book.

With so few current and comprehensive data, Gilmore is not in a position to attempt any detailed recommendations for action to deal with the begging problem. He can only point to need for general public realization that begging should be stopped, with consequent action to that end. The improvement of existing controls or the development of new ones, he must leave to those who will give "begging" the thorough and detailed study which it should receive.

PHILIP E. RYAN

American National Red Cross  
Washington, D. C.

## Chapter of History

PUBLIC RELIEF 1929-1939, by Josephine Chapin Brown. Holt. 524 pp. Price \$3.50. postpaid by Survey Associates, Inc.

AS a record of what actually happened in the area of public assistance during the days of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, "Public Relief" is a valuable document. It does not resolve some of the inconsistencies of the program, which is perhaps too much to ask of a writer who was involved in the picture. For example, the "federal philosophy" (Miss Brown's words) in regard to employables versus unemployables, and the Administration's rooted dislike of relief as such, are set forth with emphasis, but are neither justified nor satisfactorily explained. Miss Brown states that the 30-cent minimum wage rate on the emergency work relief program of FERA was abandoned in November 1934, in favor of local prevailing rates. She calls this "an interesting return to recognition of local autonomy," but makes no reference to the pressures, or the sources of the pressures, which brought it about. On the other hand, there is forthright criticism of some policies embarked upon by the federal government.

Parts I and II of the book, dealing respectively with public relief before the depression, and with unemployment relief up to the formation of the FERA, are the least satisfactory from a historical point of view. For example, Miss Brown falls into the ancient error of stating that the White House Conference of 1909 enunciated principles which "led directly

to the movement for mothers' pensions." What that conference actually recommended reads as follows in the official proceedings:

"... Children of parents of worthy character, suffering from temporary misfortune, and children of reasonably efficient and deserving mothers who are without the support of the normal breadwinner, should, as a rule, be kept with their parents, such aid being given as may be necessary to maintain suitable homes for the rearing of the children. This aid should be given by such methods and from such sources as may be determined by the general relief policy of each community, preferably in the form of private charity, rather than of public relief." (Italics mine.)

For another example, she says that as early as the fall of 1930, "city officials, private citizens, and congressmen alike began to urge the appropriation of federal funds for unemployment relief." The implication is that social workers were behindhand in this demand. A careful examination of the literature of the period, as well as the personal recollections of those active at the time, discloses, however, no significant voice raised at this early period—by social workers or by anybody else—for federal funds to be used for the direct relief of the unemployed.

The most foresighted among social workers and public-spirited citizens were pressing, not for federal relief, but for such remedial and preventive measures toward unemployment as planned public works and unemployment insurance. They were pushing for larger assumption by state governments of responsibility for relief of the unemployed. They were calling for federal funds to be used to relieve drought sufferers—a measure for which plenty of precedent existed.

The idea for federal unemployment relief was novel—it lay outside the range of the nation's thinking. It was the experience of the dreadful winter of 1930-1931 which forced the conclusion that the depression was not an ephemeral thing, and that federal relief must enter the picture. In the late spring of 1931, significant demands in this direction began to appear; but not in the fall of 1930. Miss Brown's account of these times makes no mention of the Social Work Conference on Federal Action, formed in September 1931 under the auspices of the National Social Work Council, which issued a report detailing the need for federal relief, although she mentions its successor, the Committee on Federal Action on Unemployment of the American Association of Social Workers. Participation by social workers in the demand for federal relief is a chapter in the history of social work which still remains to be written.

As a matter of fact, the private social

work field learned, as most groups do learn, through experience. They shifted their point of view, as most people are able to do, to meet radically changed conditions. The picture Miss Brown presents of a determined and bull-headed group holding to outmoded ideas till the ground was cut from under their feet is not a true delineation.

In her section dealing with social work prior to the depression, Miss Brown seems by implication to dissociate herself rather completely from the group of family case workers of which she was at that time a part. A reader unacquainted with the history of that period would fail to gather that the author presumably once held the same views with respect to public versus private relief which she so severely criticizes today. It would have been more gracious if, in discussing the acknowledged lack of realization on the part of social work leaders of the twenties of what lay ahead, Miss Brown had occasionally said "we" instead of "they."

Part III, which deals with the FERA itself, is purely factual. The section on the scheme developed by the FERA for in-service training, with which the author was so closely associated, is particularly valuable, since no other record of what was an important step in staff development in social work is easily accessible. Far-sighted planning was shown in this, as well as in a later policy by which the FERA field staff urged states to use their final federal grants to pay salaries and hold their experienced staffs until re-organization could be accomplished, rather than spend the money for inadequate relief and allow the staff to scatter.

But it is in Part IV, which discusses the period following the dissolution of FERA, that the material most provocative of discussion may be found. Miss Brown shows that, contrary to common impressions, state and local obligations for general relief during the four years following the folding-up of FERA averaged per year more than the average per year spent for emergency relief during 1934 and 1935. She points out what seems to her the significance of this: "... because it was done without the stimulus of federal grants, and in the face of the urge to put state and local money into the categorical assistance or work relief programs where it would be matched by federal funds or, by sponsoring federal work projects, would bring additional relief wages into the states. These general relief appropriations also continued to be made in spite of the stigma which the Federal Relief Administration itself had attached to all direct relief by rejecting it in favor of work relief. . . ."

To others, the most significant thing might seem to be that, since 1935, state

and local governments have been bearing an increasing proportion of the total relief bill, even when costs of the WPA program are included. She does not maintain, however, that these expenditures were at any time adequate to the need. "No count has been kept on a national basis of the numbers of applicants who were turned away empty-handed."

Miss Brown's discussion of why the problem of the Far West and the South in establishing permanent welfare units has been less serious than that of the East and Middlewest, will be found illuminating and provocative. She packs many home thrusts into a little space! Perhaps most controversial of all her material will prove to be her simple story, of how a bright hope that ADC might have been so interpreted as to mean assistance to any family in need of which a child was a member, was done to death by those who should have been its friends.

JOANNA C. COLCORD  
*Russell Sage Foundation*

### Understanding for Our Times

**YOUR MENTAL HEALTH**, by B. Liber, M.D. Melior Books. 408 pp. Price \$3.

**THE NEUROSES IN WAR**, by Emanuel Miller, M.D., with a concluding chapter by H. Crichton-Miller. Macmillan. 250 pp. Price \$2.50.

**HUMAN NATURE, IN THE LIGHT OF PSYCHOPATHOLOGY**, by Kurt Goldstein. Harvard University Press. 258 pp. Price \$2.50.

Postpaid by Survey Associates, Inc.

**DR. LIBER** has collated numerous articles which have appeared in the medical press for the purpose of presenting somewhat non-technical case material illustrating simple principles of mental hygiene. The book contains little that is new and is a rather journalistic statement of transition cases that suggest various borderline areas between normality and mental illness.

It is pleasant to shift to a work of greater promise and interest, with its helpful suggestions for meeting threats to mental stability, taking into account the medical stress and strain on the military and civil population under conditions of active warfare. Dr. Emanuel Miller and his colleagues offer a volume particularly helpful to medical groups, but the chapter on "War of Nerves" should interest all citizens. It describes the prophylactic values of the English ARP organization. The description of community efforts to maintain mental balance reveals the basis of community morale when citizens grope for safety rather than flee to escape peril.

Laymen and physicians will find much of value in the analysis of neurotic disorders that have grown out of actual conditions of warfare. The data and arguments are especially useful for clarifying the importance of national preparedness in a period when civilians are more in need of psychological training and support than are members of the army.

The chapters on mechanisms and symptoms accompanying a variety of

psychoneuroses are excellent. The collaborating authors discuss various functional disorders in the light of psychosomatic relationships, differential diagnoses and the various theories which are applicable to neuroses in war time. This theoretic phase is supplemented by a discussion of various methods of psychotherapy, and by an explanation of the English psychiatric organization in the government services concerned with prophylaxis and treatment.

Dr. Goldstein's theories were developed largely during the first World War, in facilitating the adjustment of individuals whose personalities had been disturbed by brain lesions. His experiences are crystallized here in the William James Lectures of 1938 and 1939.

Dr. Goldstein systematically interprets man as a unity, functioning as a unity. With scholarly organization he develops his social philosophy and reveals man's interaction to the world and society in terms of his personal attitudes toward the abstract as well as the concrete. He shows the necessity for the individual to realize his own potentialities, and to evidence preferred tendencies in developing life experiences. He indicates the value of behavior patterns that will permit self-actualization by reasonable self-restriction. This view merely means that situational factors play a large part in determining human aggression and submission.

Dr. Goldstein feels that under collectivism freedom is limited, because the right of self-actualization presupposes the possibility of an equal right for all other individuals. The individual, while primary to society, is subject to a large extent to the habits, customs, and institutions characteristic of the society in which he lives. All would agree that the capacity for freedom inheres in man's "readiness to restrict oneself and to encroach upon others in the interest both of one's own actualization and that of others."

IRA S. WILE, M.D.  
*New York*

### You and Your Budget

**INCOME MANAGEMENT FOR WOMEN**, by Louise Hollister Scott. Harper. 298 pp. Price \$3, postpaid by Survey Associates, Inc.

**THIS** is a practical, factual treatment of the "budget problem" directed toward the woman in the middle income group, employed or at home. Experience in teaching this subject to girls has provided the author with a direct and simple approach which makes the volume good reading.

Budget making for the individual or family is merely one small fraction of social and economic planning which we are all slowly learning is a necessity in present day life. Its purpose is not saving in the old sense, but rather creative spending, making the most of one's resources to the end that life will be better balanced.

The classification of expenditures and the record forms suggested are simple and sensible. Food expenditures are discussed from the point of view of health; clothing expenditures from the psychological as well as the economic angle. Good common sense is indicated in the chapter on housing in regard to the question of owning or renting, and of relative costs and merits of the various types of housing—apartment, hotel, suburban home, and so on. A curious omission here is the failure to make any mention of the various housing financing plans of the federal government, only private mortgages being described.

There are good brief summaries of facts everyone should know concerning insurance, annuities, trusts, wills, and stocks and bonds. The two chapters on arithmetic and on reading the financial page describe very clearly a number of processes which to too many women are impenetrable mysteries.

Throughout the book the practical advice and the social approach to spending provide most useful material. It is an interesting indication of how fast we are moving to note how out of date is the chapter on money, a chapter, however, which is not vital to the group for which the book is intended. In all such books one might wish for a bit more emphasis upon the responsibilities of the consumer in helping to shape our economic organization and upon the value for each person of a real life goal and of a determination to work toward it, using budget planning as one tool.

CHASE GOING WOODHOUSE  
*Connecticut College, New London, Conn.*

### Springs of Quaker Action

QUAKER EDUCATION IN THEORY AND PRACTICE, by Howard H. Brinton. Pendle Hill, Wallingford, Pa. 136 pp. Price 75 cents, cloth; 50 cents, paper. Order direct from Pendle Hill.

WRITING up the Quakers has seemed of late to be a favorite literary pastime. A reason for this was succinctly put to this reviewer not long ago by an editor of *The Survey*, whose social concerns had brought within his range of vision the work of the American Friends Service Committee. "How do they get that way?" he asked.

This question is answered briefly and satisfactorily in this little book by one of a deep-rooted family of Friends in that most "Friendly" of countrysides, Chester County, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Brinton opens up the hidden springs of the conduct which has characterized the Society of Friends as a community apart, for three hundred years exerting an influence in political and social history incalculably beyond their small numbers; and even now engaged in performance of a nature and in a manner peculiar to themselves.

The section of the book that sets forth the nature of Quakerism, is, in itself, a

brief and valuable exposition of facts which a surprising number of people are interested in knowing. "The doctrine of the Society of Friends may be divided into three classes . . . the primary doctrine concerns the 'Inner Light,' the secondary, the meeting for worship and the meeting for business, and the tertiary the outreaching social implications of the type of community life expressed through these meetings."

To build an educational system out of these beliefs and practices, "the school must learn how to create for its pupils a set of inner dimensions large enough for a habitation of the soul, a center of life somewhat detached from outward changes and independent of the vicissitudes of fortune." This obviously is not educational theory or practice for the many. But, as the Quaker puts his trust in slow growth, so he works through the principle of the "little leaven." The author explicitly states this: "The higher way can only be achieved with small units and thoroughly dedicated teachers, 'enlightened and enlivened souls traveling and breathing to God'."

FLORENCE LUCAS SANVILLE  
*Westtown, Pa.*

### National Treasure

FOREST OUTINGS, by thirty foresters, edited by Russell Lord. U. S. Department of Agriculture. 311 pp. Price 75 cents paper; \$1.25 buckram, from superintendent of documents, Washington, D. C.

WITH better roads and more automobiles, the national forests have become important recreational areas as well as timber and wildlife preserves. Camping, fishing, hiking, and winter sports are on the increase in America, and the irresistible pressure of people seeking clean air, trees, and grass is forcing the development of safe, adequate water supplies, sanitary facilities, roads and winter sport grounds. The forester, realizing that the forests belong to the people, tries hard not to resent this trend, though often his personal preferences would be for less development and fewer visitors.

There are 161 national forests, lying in thirty-six states, Puerto Rico and Alaska, with a total of 176,000,000 acres—an acre and a third for every American. No one knows how many visitors come to them each year, for in most forests no count is kept, but the number is very large and is increasing.

This book is primarily an account of recreational use of the forests, but their other functions are not neglected. There is a brief sketch of the history of the forest service, mention of the shelter-belt of newly planted trees stretching from Canada to Mexico, and material on conservation problems and lumbering methods, good and bad. And there are statistics, tables, a map, and lots of good photographs. You don't need this book to

enjoy the forests, because there's no red tape involved in forest use by citizens. But it will help you to understand how the forests happened to be set aside and what they are for.

A Department of Agriculture publication, "Forest Outings" says nothing about the national parks, which are under the Department of the Interior. From the standpoint of the man looking for a place to spend a weekend or a month out of doors, the parks really ought to be discussed along with the forests. Both are government operated recreational facilities.

New York

ALDEN STEVENS

### Working with the "Y"

WORK BEGUN, by Lawrence K. Hall. Association Press. 160 pp. Price \$2, postpaid by Survey Associates, Inc.

THE author of this little book reports on a study concerned primarily with the impressions made upon beginning YMCA secretaries by their early experiences, in terms of their feelings of satisfaction and dissatisfaction, their sense of personal and professional status or lack of it, their sense of success or failure in their work. The study involves 444 college graduates who entered the YMCA secretaryship from 1927 to 1932, shortly after graduation from college.

The most marked differences between the group of well-adjusted secretaries and the poorly adjusted secretaries were found in their staff relationships, especially with the general secretary; in the amount and quality of their supervision; in the general atmosphere in which the work went on. Differences appeared between the two groups in terms of their belief in the association as an agency interpreting the highest values. Other differences were indicated in their adjustment to community life and in their sense of personal growth and status. There are, of course, great overlappings and there is certainly no clear cut differentiation between what is concomitant with good adjustment or with bad adjustment. Within the limits of reliability mentioned by the author, the book indicates what college men entering the secretaryship of the YMCA may expect to find.

The study very properly takes its place among many efforts to understand and improve the process of helping men make a satisfactory start in their life work. It probably is bound more than the author indicates, however, to the fact that human nature, biologically and psychologically, seems to give us all a preference for doing work our own way, and a resentment of any attempt to tell us how to perform. Perhaps the application to working groups of a technique like Moreno's sociometric approach may be expected to bring marked increase in satisfactions—even in YMCA work.

FORREST H. KIRKPATRICK  
*Bethany College, Bethany, W. Va.*



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**HOUSING AMERICA,** by John H. Haefner and others. 80 pp. Bulletin No. 14 of the National Council for the Social Studies, 1201 Sixteenth St., N. W., Washington, D. C. Price 50 cents.

A simplified presentation of the various facets of the housing problem, for use as a teacher's source unit. Bibliography and tests.

**BE IT EVER SO TUMBLER: THE STORY OF A SUBURBAN SLUM,** by Marvel Daines. 51 pp. (mimeographed) Prepared for the Citizens' Housing and Planning Council. 1719 Penobscot Building, Detroit.

Statistics and background are necessary to a housing study—and they are here. What makes this one different is the author's vivid portrayal of the people who live in "Eight Mile Road," their humor and tragedy.

**DEFENSE HOUSING IN OUR TOWN.** 13 pp. Public Policy Bulletin No. 13 of the Twentieth Century Fund, 330 West 42nd Street, New York. Price 2 cents each in quantities up to 500.

A brief resumé of the results of the Twentieth Century Fund's emergency survey on housing, with suggested programs for local communities faced with a housing shortage.

### Refugees

**MEET THE REFUGEES,** by the Secretary, Committee on Refugees, National Board, YWCA. 24 pp. Free for distribution, on request from the Woman's Press, 600 Lexington Ave., New York.

Facts about refugees in this country debunking adverse rumors on their effects on public relief, employment opportunities, Fifth Column activities.

**EXCLUSIONARY IMMIGRATION LAWS,** by Felix S. Cohen. 14 pp. Free from the American Jewish Committee, 386 Fourth Avenue, New York.

A look-see at some historical facts showing the relation of the immi-

grant to American ideals of liberty and of free immigration to American prosperity.

**FAMILY CASE WORK SERVICES FOR REFUGEES,** by Joseph E. Bach, Florence Nesbitt, and Helen Wallerstein. 39 pp. Family Welfare Association of America, 122 East 22 St., New York. Price 40 cents.

Three papers based on experience in family agencies—"Planning Refugee Services within the Social Work Setting"; "Service to Refugees in a Family Agency"; "Refugee Clients: Their Problems and Needs"—point up the likenesses and differences in work with refugees and normal family case work.

### War and Defense

**AMERICA'S CHOICE TODAY,** by William T. Stone. 47 pp. World Affairs Pamphlet No. 9. Foreign Policy Association, Inc., 8 West 40 Street, New York. Price 25 cents.

A discussion of America's foreign policy from the viewpoints of economic and military defense.

**CHRISTIAN CONSCIENCE AND THE STATE,** by Robert L. Calhoun and Roland H. Bainton. 42 pp. Price 15 cents from *Social Action*, 289 Fourth Avenue, New York.

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**HOW SHALL WE PAY FOR DEFENSE?** by Maxwell S. Stewart. 32 pp. Public Affairs Pamphlet No. 52. Price 10 cents from the Public Affairs Committee, Inc., 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York.

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### Miscellaneous

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A survey of cooperative dairying in the United States and abroad, including an extensive bibliography.

**THE ATTITUDE OF THE SOUTHERN WHITE PRESS TOWARD NEGRO SUFFRAGE: 1932—1940,** edited by Rayford W. Logan, Ph.D. 115 pp. The Foundation Publishers, Inc., P. O. Box 1382, Washington, D. C. Price 75 cents, postpaid.

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