

reviews

the turn of the century: imperialism, progressivism and the social gospel

CATHOLIC INFLUENCE ON AMERICAN COLONIAL POLICIES 1898-1904. By Frank T. Reuter. Austin and London: University of Texas Press. 1967. \$6.00.

Following the "Splendid Little War" of 1898, Spain ceded Guam, the Philippines and Puerto Rico to American sovereignty. In the process, however, the ancient controls which the Catholic Church had exercised over real property, education and social services were maintained largely intact despite the American constitutional separation of Church and state. The process by which the Catholic Church reached accommodation with the American government is a central issue of this book. Author Reuter, however, focuses his attention on the supposed influences of American Catholic opinion on the outcome. Unfortunately, Catholic opinion was only rarely homogeneous, and the Catholic press was never a single voice.

The deficiencies in Reuter's monograph arise from weaknesses in method and conceptualization. Nowhere is it apparent how Reuter perceives *public opinion* or *influence* within his context. He contends that the Church-State confrontation which surfaced in 1898 was unprecedented. Quite innocently, he ignores the American acquisition of Catholic Louisiana, Florida, New Mexico and California with their analogous challenges to American notions of church and state. Reuter doesn't always distinguish between anti-clericalism and anti-Catholicism. I believe that his book would have greater value had Reuter treated Catholic "influence" within some context of the domestic struggle between imperialists and anti-imperialists. Moreover, the lack of any conclusion is a serious omission. Yet Reuter's final chapter concerning Taft's mission to Rome and his negotiations for the Friar lands makes the book worthwhile.

University of Iowa

Lawrence E. Gelfand

RAY STANNARD BAKER: THE MIND AND THOUGHT OF A PROGRESSIVE. By Robert Bannister. New Haven: Yale University Press. 1966. \$7.50.

Collectively, muckrakers have been given careful treatment by scholars, but Robert Bannister is the first to produce an illuminating biography of one of the most important journalists of the progressive era, Ray Stannard Baker.

Baker was a prolific reporter, chronicler of the Versailles Peace Conference, and Pulitzer-Prize winning biographer of Woodrow Wilson. Under the pseudonym of David Grayson, he also wrote a series of highly popular adventure stories. Because Baker lived and worked in the industrial-urban society of the new America, and Grayson's characters lived in the mythical land of the agrarian past, the result is an interesting intellectual duality. Bannister demonstrates, however, that the nature of Baker's experience as a progressive was not unique, for like many other middle-class reformers, he yearned for the past as he confronted the problems of the present.

This well-written book is based primarily upon the diaries, journals and correspondence of Baker. The author has a good command of the interpretations advanced by other scholars who have written about this era; thus he addresses himself to the right questions even if Baker sometimes did not.

University of Southern California

Franklin D. Mitchell

EUGENICS AND THE PROGRESSIVES. By Donald K. Pickens. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press. 1968. \$7.95.

Victorian science and progressive politics merged when the theories of Sir Francis Galton "provided a means of defending the status quo in the name of an apparent radicalism—eugenics" (4). Scientific naturalism was a link between racial romanticism and conservative political reforms for Theodore Roosevelt, Herbert Croly, E. L. Godkin, William Allen White and David Starr Jordan. As applied racism, eugenics justified immigration restriction, racial segregation and sterilization programs for social defectives. But biological solutions also resolved social problems in education, mental health and social welfare for Charles B. Davenport, Henry F. Osborn, Margaret Sanger, Paul Popenoe, G. Stanley Hall and Edward L. Thorndike. Gradually eroded by new studies of genetics and environmentalism, the eugenics movement declined after 1930 only to be replaced by more sophisticated theories of biological perfectability. Although the thesis is challenging, naturalism, conservatism and progressivism need to be more clearly defined.

University of Wyoming

Eckard V. Toy, Jr.

WASHINGTON GLADDEN: Prophet of the Social Gospel. By Jacob H. Dorn. Columbus: Ohio State University Press. 1967. \$8.00.

The life of Washington Gladden covered eighty-two years of far-reaching changes in America. Born in 1836, he grew up under the influences of the Burned Over district of the northeast and lived to see his doctrines of humanity tested by World War I. Professor Jacob H. Dorn treats one of the fascinating spokesmen of the Social Gospel in this badly needed biography, and the results are impressive.

Gladden received his undergraduate work at Williams College in a period when its faculty included Mark Hopkins, John Bascom and Charles Van Hise. Influenced by Horace Bushnell's thought, he developed an attachment to theological liberalism. And as many of his 1500 sermons revealed, religious thought must be applied to social conditions. His faith in progress presupposed a belief in the melioration of the environment, and the brotherhood of man was as important as the hegemony of God.

Professor Dorn has dealt with all aspects of Gladden's life from his belief in civic reform to his disputations with Billy Sunday. Chapter 8, an examination of his subject's popularization of the Social Gospel, is one of the best explanations of that movement. This volume will be the standard life of Gladden for some time to come.

University of Missouri at St. Louis

Richard W. Resh

bibliography, edition, dictionary

DICTIONARY OF NAMES AND TITLES IN POE'S COLLECTED WORKS. By Burton R. Pollin. New York: DaCapo Press. 1968. \$12.50.

This is a computerized index based upon the James A. Harrison edition of 1902, *The Complete Works of Edgar Allan Poe*. Professor Pollin's staff went through the Harrison edition coding evidence for names, titles, allusions, reviews, fictional characters and so forth. Data from the survey were fed into a computer, which printed out indices entitled,

- Names in Poe's Works
- Titles in Poe's Works
- Fictional Characters in Poe's Works
- Titles of Poe's Poems and Tales
- Titles of Poe's Articles
- Titles of Poe's Reviews.

With the recent death of Thomas Ollive Mabbott, it is hard to say what is the status of the long-awaited standard edition of Poe which Mabbott and the Harvard University Press were to have produced. I've written to Harvard to find out what's going on, but have received no answer. Professor Mabbott had told me in a series of letters that he had finally been relieved in the last few years of an onerous teaching load, and had been making excellent progress on the *Works*. The first volume was to have appeared during the current year. He had also sent me sample sections of his typescript for the edition. One is tempted to say that it is a shame that Professor Pollin could not have based his index on the forthcoming edition rather than upon that published in 1902, but in truth it seems to me a most useful tool even as matters stand. There are not very many important bibliographical problems in Poe—certainly nothing comparable to the *Billy Budd* mess which for so long vexed Melville scholars—and it would not be very difficult to work from Pollin's book, through the Harrison edition and then back to the Harvard-Mabbott edition when and if it appears. Moreover, Pollin had Mabbott's help in excluding items in the Harrison which Mabbott believed were not really Poe's.

I have not done a very thorough job of checking the index for completeness and accuracy, but the dozen or so times that I have used it myself, I've found it right on target. The reader who wants to know what Poe said about Hazlitt, about Hawthorne, about Griswold, or who can't remember where it is that Poe mentions Orestes Brownson, can now find out in a moment.

It's worth pointing out that computer studies in the humanities can do more than this modest book attempts. But people involved in such studies too often strike traditionalists as being more concerned with *how* than with *why*. Conversely, too many humanists not involved in computer studies regard the computer as just one more machine in their garden. Given meaningful hypotheses and adequate programming, computers can, even at the simple level of data sorting, handle our evidence effectively. The problem then becomes "Do humanists ever pose significant hypotheses?" The response is in Cummings: "Always the beautiful answer who asks a more beautiful question."

SGL

THE PAPERS OF ANDREW JOHNSON. Volume I, 1822-1851. Edited by LeRoy P. Graf and Ralph W. Haskins. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press. 1967. \$15.00.

In the last two decades, multivolume letterpress editions have been announced, begun or completed on the papers of a dozen American Presidents and an even longer list of non-presidential notables. Since the appearance of the first volumes of Julian Boyd's *Jefferson Papers* (1950) and the publication of Roy P. Basler's *Lincoln's Works* (1953), we have come to expect an exceedingly high level of editorial diligence, judgment and skill in the assembling, selecting and annotating of the papers of our famous men. It is a measure of their success that Professors Graf and Haskins have met the high standards set by their most distinguished peers and have impressively launched a project (ten volumes are anticipated) which should go a long way toward revealing the nature and role of one of our most enigmatic and controversial national leaders.

Professors Graf and Haskins have labored under severe handicaps in attempting to compile the record of Johnson's first forty years. Because he was born in poverty, did not learn to write until he was in his twenties, and did not find writing easy until his late thirties, the written legacy of his early life would be small under any circumstances. Unfortunately, this shortage of material was made even more acute by the destruction of most of his personal papers during the Civil War. As a result, there is practically no correspondence of any sort for the crucial 1830's when Johnson was launching his career in Tennessee politics. After he enters the state legislature, the few incoming and outgoing letters can be supplemented by his recorded speeches and by occasional press reports, but even so the record is fragmentary. As the editors note in their introduction, much remains, and probably will remain, obscure about Johnson's early political life, including his alleged relationship with Andrew Jackson.

The papers begin to fill out following Johnson's election to Congress in 1843, and the outlines of his political principles emerge gradually in his correspondence and speeches on the floor of the House. The resulting picture does no damage to the traditional portrait of Johnson as a loyal Democrat and a fervent spokesman for the common man. Indeed, there are very few surprises of any sort in this volume, as the editors readily acknowledge. What it offers is the fullest documentary view we are ever likely to obtain of Johnson's early years. The richest material will obviously come when Johnson leaves the political wings and becomes the central figure in the drama of Reconstruction. If this volume is indicative of the quality of the editorial work that will follow, we can look forward to learning a great deal about the part Johnson played, or failed to play, in one of the most critical episodes in American history. The University of Tennessee Press deserves a final word of commendation for providing a format and design which does justice to a work of this substance and scholarship.

University of Missouri

Charles B. Dew

THE CRITICAL REPUTATION OF F. SCOTT FITZGERALD: A Bibliographical Study. By Jackson R. Bryer. Hamden, Conn.: Archon Books. 1967. \$15.00.

The results of Professor Bryer's staggering labor make us aware of the fantastic volume of talk about Scott Fitzgerald. The compilation lists more than a thousand reviews of Fitzgerald's books, more than 600 articles about him (almost half of them written in the ten years beginning in 1956), nearly 200 books or sections of books about him and nearly 100 each of foreign books or articles and dissertations—all this by 1965. This book, however, is far more than a catalog of this outpouring. Through the presentation of succinct, but judicious summaries—often in the form of quotations of principal points—the compiler has turned what might have been another computer print-out into a truly running account of the responses to Fitzgerald's work

from which any interested students may reconstruct the fluctuations in Fitzgerald's critical repute without having to seek out hundreds of obscure and fugitive publications. Only one of the most interesting things to be learned is that of more than sixty American and British reviewers, only three recognized the distinction of *The Great Gatsby* and only Gilbert Seldes had the perspicacity to proclaim it "one of the finest of contemporary novels." By providing an invaluable reference tool that makes fascinating browsing, Bryer has established a model that we can hope others may follow.

University of Missouri at Kansas City

Warren G. French

minorities, pacifists, extremists

NAACP: A History of The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Vol. 1. By Charles Flint Kellogg. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press. 1967. \$8.75.

Based upon detailed examinations of the manuscript collections of Oswald Garrison Villard, Du Bois, the NAACP and other leaders of the movement, this first of two volumes is a competent, complicated and perceptive account of the movement and of political leaders, like Woodrow Wilson, who were unable to reconcile political necessities with democratic ideals. At times, the varied ideological strains and contradictions of the "new abolitionism" seemed overwhelming; the differing demands of pacifism, humanitarian socialism and the drive for women's rights dissipated the ideological thrust of an organization that depended upon unity of purpose. More crucial, perhaps, was the continuing crisis of leadership which was complicated by the intense egotism of Villard and Du Bois, the opposition of Booker T. Washington and his followers and the lack of financial independence. Unfortunately, some excruciatingly obvious typographical errors mar this admirable study.

University of Wyoming

Eckard V. Toy, Jr.

THE PEACE PROPHETS: American Pacifist Thought, 1919-1941. By John K. Nelson. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press. 1967. \$4.50.

John K. Nelson analyzes the pacifist arguments on the nature of war, on the building of a peaceful world and on the attainment of social and economic justice. He focuses on the thought of key individuals rather than on organizations, although there is an interesting analysis of how a split within the Fellowship of Reconciliation reflected tension between the peace ideal and demands for economic change. Nelson criticizes pacifists' arguments as vague, negative, contradictory and obsessed with World War I. He concludes that pacifism failed to become a "cause" in the period but was variously "a subdivision of socialism, of social religion or of the radical labor movement." (132).

Nelson's research is perfunctory, with a heavy reliance upon *The Christian Century* and *The World Tomorrow*; however, his analysis, although unfortunately sarcastic in spots, is suggestive and well-organized. But his book should be considered only a competent introduction to the subject.

University of Missouri

Walter Brayman

THE AMERICAN FAR RIGHT. By John H. Redekop. Grand Rapids, Michigan: W. B. Eerdmans Pub. Co. 1968. \$7.50.

In these days in which American opinions seem more and more polarized, and acrimony crackles through human relationships, and the most popular form of "logic" is the *ad hominem*, it is encouraging to be reminded that better things are possible. When even social scientists succumb to the feelings of the times, it is a sign of hope to note that some are engaged in their task.

John Redekop, a political scientist at Pacific College in Fresno, California, has taken as his theme the "true believer," Billy James Hargis of the Christian Crusade. Largely through Hargis' own words, and with a minimum of discursive commentary, he builds a composite *weltanschauung* of the Political Right.

What is the picture that emerges? Briefly, it is that of a passionate, romantic, sincere person, fleeing an imaginary future towards an equally imaginary past. If we needed such a reminder, here is another evidence that sincerity is no substitute for substance.

University of Nebraska at Omaha

George W. Barger

other topics

ON MODERNISM: The Prospects for Literature and Freedom. By Louis Kampf. Cambridge, Massachusetts: The M.I.T. Press. 1967. \$2.95.

The first half of Mr. Kampf's study attempts a philosophical, historical, artistic

history of modernism since the Enlightenment. Its inexcusable weakness is that it never clearly defines modernism, although this seems to be part of the author's plan. Kampf traces the sources of modern skepticism to Descartes, Hume and Rousseau and concludes that art today, like science and politics, is so concerned with epistemology that it has lost all sense of form and function in the search for its own definition. In the second half of the book, Kampf reveals his main concern: Today's intellectuals (i.e., academicians like LBJ's advisors) have sold out to political and social ideologies. Kampf pleads with the revolutionary intellectual to retain his freedom through continuous skeptical inquiry and resistance against pat ideologies. By so doing, the intellectual (apparently the critic) may then inspire high moral values within his decadent society and ultimately encourage a productive and humane civilization. An erudite and potentially provocative book, *On Modernism* is marred by a diffuseness of purpose and turgidity of style.

Fairleigh Dickinson University

Lois G. Gordon

VISION FUGITIVE/EZRA POUND AND ECONOMICS. By Earle Davis. Lawrence: The University Press of Kansas. 1968. \$6.95.

It is refreshing to discover this is not simply another partisan account of Pound's career, but a well-balanced, perceptive and lucid introduction to the complex subject of the economic ideology of *The Cantos*. Nevertheless, it falls short of being the definitive study because of a reluctance to venture beyond the most obvious published sources and into the virtually unexplored mass of available manuscripts. (The inaccurate transcripts of the Italian broadcasts, for example, are cited rather than Pound's typescripts containing much relevant material unavailable on the FCC microfilm.) But if this is not the full account of Pound's economics, the student of American culture will still welcome its very necessary new concern with the "matter" as well as the "manner" of Pound's verse.

University of Iowa

Robert A. Corrigan

SPANISH WAR VESSELS ON THE MISSISSIPPI 1792-1796. By Abraham P. Nasatir. New Haven: Yale University Press. 1968. \$10.00.

Abraham Nasatir has written a painstakingly detailed narrative of Spain's naval operations on the Mississippi during the last decade of the eighteenth century. The intensity with which he has approached the problem is apparent. There can be no quarrel with the book's factual soundness. Interpretively, however, it leaves much to be desired. What was quite obviously the dying gasp of Spain in the Mississippi Valley hardly seems so to Nasatir. Rather, the pathetic roivings of a few hundred men in a few galleys over twelve hundred miles of river frontier in a series of desperate attempts to meet rumored assaults either by the French or by American frontiersmen, appear to him as effective measures of defense. To conclude, as he does, that because none of the threatened assaults on Spanish Louisiana materialized that Spain's fresh water fleet must have succeeded in deterring them, is simply unsupported.

University of Missouri

Gerard H. Clarfield

books received

(The Journal does not, as a general rule, review paperback reprints, anthologies or collections of scholarly essays.)

THE APPALACHIAN INDIAN FRONTIER. Edited by Wilbur R. Jacobs. The University of Nebraska Press. 1967. \$1.95.

THE ART OF F. SCOTT FITZGERALD. By Sergio Perosa. The University of Michigan Press. 1968. \$2.25.

THE ART OF SOUTHERN FICTION. By Frederick J. Hoffman. Southern Illinois University Press. 1967. \$4.95.

THE BURDEN OF SOUTHERN HISTORY. By C. Vann Woodward. Louisiana State University Press. 1968. \$4.95.

DEATH OF A DEMOCRACY. By Stephen Rousseas. Grove Press. 1968. \$6.50.

DRED SCOTT'S CASE. By Vincent C. Hopkins. Atheneum Press. 1967. \$2.45.

EDGAR SALTUS. By Claire Sprague. Twayne Publishers. 1968. \$1.95.

EDMUND WILSON. By Sherman Paul. The University of Illinois Press. 1967. \$6.50.

ESSAYS ON AMERICAN LITERATURE. By Clarence Gohdes. Duke University Press. 1967. \$8.50.

EVERY MAN A KING: the Autobiography of Huey P. Long. Introduction by T. Harry Williams. Quadrangle Paperbacks. 1964. \$2.45.

HAMLIN GARLAND'S DIARIES. Edited by Donald Pizer. The Huntington Library. 1968. \$7.50.

THE HEART PREPARED: Grace and Conversion in Puritan Spiritual Life. By Norman Pettit. Yale University Press. 1966. \$5.75.

- THE IDEA OF THE MODERN IN LITERATURE AND THE ARTS. Edited by Irving Howe. Horizon Press. 1968. \$6.50.
- ILLINOIS IN 1818. By Solon J. Buck. The University of Illinois Press. 1967. \$7.50.
- THE IMMIGRANT'S INFLUENCE ON WILSON'S PEACE POLICIES. By Joseph O'Grady. The University of Kentucky Press. 1967. \$8.50.
- IOWA AUTHORS: A Bio-Bibliography of Sixty Native Writers. By Frank Paluka. The University of Iowa Press. \$7.50.
- IRONMAKER TO THE CONFEDERACY. By Charles B. Dew. Yale University Press. 1966. \$10.00.
- LECTURES READ TO SENIORS IN HARVARD COLLEGE. Edited by Edward Channing. Southern Illinois University Press. 1968. \$10.00.
- THE LEOPARD'S SPOTS. By Thomas Dixon. Gregg Press. 1967. \$6.50.
- MAN AND THE MOVIES. Edited by W. R. Robinson. Louisiana State University Press. 1967. \$7.95.
- THE MEDICAL MESSIAHS. By James H. Young. Princeton University Press. 1967. \$9.00.
- MILITARY POSTS IN THE POWDER RIVER COUNTRY OF WYOMING, 1865-1894. By Robert A. Murray. University of Nebraska Press. 1968. \$5.50.
- THE NEW EMPIRE, 1860-1898. By Walter La Feber. Cornell University Press. 1967. \$8.75.
- THE NOTEBOOKS OF ANDRE WALTER. By Andre Gide. Philosophical Library. 1968. \$4.75.
- POE THE DETECTIVE. By John Walsh. Rutgers University Press. 1968. \$7.50.
- SHERWOOD ANDERSON. Edited by Ray L. White. Case Western Reserve University Press. 1968. \$8.95.
- TALES OF THE 04 RANCH. Introduction by Agnes W. Spring. University of Nebraska Press. 1968. \$5.95.
- V. W. BROOKS: The Early Years. Edited by Claire Sprague. Harper & Row Publishing Co. \$2.95.