

of date. The only journal, to my knowledge, that includes a regular and comprehensive bibliography on religion and literature is the quarterly *Newsletter of the Conference on Christianity and Literature*, subscriptions c/o David O. Dickerson, Department of English, Greenville College, Greenville, Illinois 62246.

Florida Presbyterian College

Robert Detweiler

## history and politics

RUFUS KING: American Federalist. By Robert Ernst. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, for the Institute of Early American History and Culture, Williamsburg. 1968.

King's long career in national politics, from the Confederation Congress to his second appointment as minister to Great Britain in 1825, embraced active participation in the Constitutional Convention and in the Massachusetts ratifying convention, two periods of service as a member from New York in the Senate (1789-1796, 1813-1825), and a successful tenure under three Presidents as minister to Great Britain (1796-1803). As a leading supporter of Hamilton and a major defender of the Jay Treaty, King emerged in the 1790s, the author suggests, as the leading Hamiltonian Federalist, with the possible exception of Jay, but he remained a moderate who avoided the extremism of most Hamiltonians. Though potentially the most promising heir to Federalist leadership after his return from England in 1803, King lacked the cast of a successful party leader and withdrew from active politics. In the twilight of Federalism, the party's dwindling vote was directed to him in the presidential election of 1816, but the times had passed him by. A well-written, carefully documented biography based on exhaustive research, this study is an important addition to the growing literature on Federalist leaders.

University of Missouri

Noble E. Cunningham, Jr.

TWELVE AGAINST EMPIRE: The Anti-Imperialists, 1898-1900. By Robert L. Beisner. New York: McGraw-Hill. 1968.

This Nevins History Prize-winning monograph centers on the opposition to Philippine annexation of six Mugwumps and an equal number of dissident Republicans, including Carl Schurz, E. L. Godkin, Charles Francis Adams and Andrew Carnegie. Arbitrarily excluded are anti-annexationist Democrats, labor leaders and the emerging progressives. Through the author's focus on the social, political and economic arguments of the "anti-imperialists" many subsidiary themes emerge to produce a full bodied taste of the prevailing *fin de siècle* American value system, with its pervasive racism, xenophobia, messianism and jingoism. While the "anti-imperialists" shared these values, they nonetheless united in opposition to the creation of an American colony in the Philippines. This opposition nearly managed to defeat the Treaty of Paris in February of 1899. Engagingly written as the twelve mini-biographies are, the book does suffer from the author's inability to define the meaning of "American imperialism." Hence, several of his "anti-imperialists" favored United States hegemony in the Caribbean, a vigorous pursuit of the Open Door in Asia, Hawaiian annexation and the Cuban protectorate. Thus this traditional use of the evocative term "anti-imperialist" seems much too grandiose for the subjects of a nonetheless arresting study which convincingly concludes that the United States is not fitted either by its democratic principles or by its enduring racism to shape the Asian future.

The City College of New York

James F. Watts, Jr.

THE NATURE OF HISTORICAL THINKING. By Robert Stover. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press. 1967.

Mr. Stover is primarily concerned with how historians make particular happenings intelligible, with what they actually do. Admittedly that process is not simple because what historians do today differs substantially from what they did even a few years ago; moreover historian A differs from historian B. In other words the author posits a pluralistic conception of historical thinking. He develops this position by exploring such problems as determinism, explanation, evaluation and parallels between history and science. Though writing as a philosopher he neither condescends to the "mere" historian nor underestimates the difficulty of the historian's task. On the whole the work has the value of making the historian's problems intelligible to himself.

University of Missouri

Charles F. Mullett

EXPECTATIONS WESTWARD: The Mormons and the Emigration of their British Converts in the Nineteenth Century. By P. A. M. Taylor. Ithaca: Cornell University Press. 1966.

Mormon leaders have claimed that the Atlantic migration of the Saints occurred with a degree of orderliness and cooperation unmatched by other emigrant groups.

Professor P. A. M. Taylor, in his thoroughly researched monograph, documents the Mormon point of view in a most convincing manner. Beginning with an explanation of the concept of the "gathering," Taylor illustrates that every stage of the journey from England to Utah involved detailed planning and execution by Mormon leaders. The efficiency of Mormon missionary activities and emigration provided 55,000 English Saints for the struggling Utah settlements.

Written with great attention for detail, Taylor's work joins William Mulder's more narrative *Homeward to Zion* as one of the definitive works on the Mormon migration to Zion.

University of Missouri

Stanley Parsons

**JOE LANE OF OREGON: MACHINE POLITICS AND THE SECTIONAL CRISIS, 1849-1861.** By James E. Hendrickson. New Haven: Yale University Press. 1967.

For all the studies that have been made of American politics during the troubled decade before the Civil War, one aspect still remains neglected—the impact of the divisive national political issues on the politics of the nation's frontier areas. Political institutions and alignments appeared early in the life of the frontier (politics was one of the most important parts of the pioneer's baggage) and this seems especially true during the years of the sectional controversy over slavery's expansion. Professor Hendrickson has sought to illuminate this impact by focussing on the figure of Joseph Lane, Oregon's first territorial governor, delegate in Congress and first United States Senator. Through a thorough examination of primary sources, he has revealed Lane's involvement in both local and national Democratic politics. Sympathetic in its treatment of Lane, the study suffers perhaps from too great an emphasis on the intricacies of local machine politics and too little attention to the national developments that dictated the local alignments. But the work is well-done and deserves the serious attention of those interested in probing the complicated politics of the 1850s.

University of Illinois

Robert W. Johanssen

**PRESIDENTIAL SEIZURE IN LABOR DISPUTES.** By John L. Blackman, Jr. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. 1967.

This book, obviously designed as a handbook for future seizures, provides a detailed statistical comparison of the 71 instances of presidential seizure of private industry during labor-management disputes. Presidential seizure as a useful, if not vital, instrument for maintaining production during periods of national emergency is Mr. Blackman's theme, but his emphasis is upon the mechanics of seizure itself. Such questions as the justification for seizure, political considerations involved and the comparative effectiveness of government management of seized industries receive only perfunctory treatment. Although a valuable source of information on industrial seizures, this book will disappoint those interested in the broader implications of such presidential intervention.

Mankato State College

Gary M. Fink

## the negro

**THE FRONTIER AGAINST SLAVERY: Western Anti-Negro Prejudice and the Slavery Extension Controversy.** By Eugene H. Berwanger. Urbana: University of Illinois Press. 1967.

Prejudice against the Negro, rather than opposition to slavery itself, was the most important factor in preventing slavery extension or Negro settlement in the Old Northwest, Iowa, Kansas, California and Oregon. The White settlers objected to the Black ones because of miscegenation, economic competition and the social status of poor Whites in a slaveholding community. They denied Blacks the right to seek poor relief, to attend desegregated schools, to testify in court against a White man or to marry outside their own race; they tried to prevent them from settling. The Whites wanted the new frontier areas for themselves and to confine the Negroes to the South, according to this documentation.

University of Idaho

William S. Greever

**THE INVENTION OF THE NEGRO.** By Earl Conrad. New York: Paul S. Eriksen, Inc. 1966.

"If I am a nigger you invented me," James Baldwin angrily exclaimed to a nationwide television audience of whites in 1964. To illuminate that invention, Earl Conrad (prolific author and one of the few white columnists of a Negro newspaper in the 1940's) explores white institutions, "white concepts, white commerce and white self-deception, from the days of Columbus and earlier down to the present." Yet one cannot comprehend the invention or the dehumanization of blacks and whites alike by examining only one-half of the relationship. Moreover, irritating slips and reckless

generalizations abound, proceeding apparently from the author's passion and from his unacquaintance with recent literature in the field. Surely, few scholars would agree, for example, that the power of England over the American colonies "became totally oppressive" by 1750. This monograph mainly provokes the question of why it was published, at least in its present form.

San Diego State College

Richard T. Ruetten

## literature

CONCEPTIONS OF REALITY IN MODERN AMERICAN POETRY. By L. S. Dembo. Berkeley and Los Angeles: The University of California Press. 1966.

Mr. Dembo has written a book about poems and poets which as its title suggests is concerned at least as much with philosophical as it is with poetic questions. He begins with the premise that for a poet to explore "objective reality," he must concern himself also with the relationships of the perceiver to the perceived, the knower to the known. He must furthermore do this in terms of language, specifically poetic language and the poetic sensibility. Examining this quest in modern American poetry, Mr. Dembo discovers a common logic, despite differences in temperament and idiom, in the works of Amy Lowell, Fletcher, H. D., Williams, Stevens, Moore, Cummings, Crane, Pound and Eliot. His inquiry centers around this logic, developed from certain objectivist premises.

Mr. Dembo cites as the principal thesis of objectivism that "art must be directed toward the object and not the subject." From this, it is clear that "art is a medium for 'knowing' the world in its 'essentiality.'" The poets he discusses share a desire to purge from their vision, and hence from their poetry, conventional responses of reason, sentiment and even conception. In the process, language becomes a means of revealing the object in its essentiality, a logos which, stripped of particular response, can describe "reality."

The extension of this logic from an aesthetic into a social, historical and moral realm, he goes on, produced the phenomenon of the modern American "neo-epic"—poems like *Paterson*, *The Bridge* and the *Cantos*. In this sphere, radical perception of external reality tends to become the poet's quest for creativity, his struggle with language and his search for a muse-figure with whom union means self-realization as well as social salvation. The poets posit different ideals: for Williams and Crane, it is union with a goddess, which would bring knowledge, creativity, the "nuclear self"; for Pound, Mt. Taishan, or serenity; for Eliot, the "still point of the turning world." But the poet's ultimate inability to achieve more than moments of the ideal makes his quest tragic, and only his continued ability to conceive and assert poetic values saves it from despair.

The book is so strongly committed to demonstrating its thesis that the reader suspects Mr. Dembo of a curious failure of consistency with his subject. He seems to have in mind an almost Platonic Ideal Poem—or Ideal Poet—of which all these particularities are reflections. Nonetheless, he cannot resist a disconcerting number of unrelated insights, from which we must draw our own conclusions. At other times his prose falls into over-ism'd abstraction. Although he quotes copiously from poems, he only scantingly discusses them as poetry, finding his primary supports in prose statements of the poets. Writing about poets who strove to remove from our vision the abstractions which prevent a clear view of reality, he reimposes abstractions between the reader and the poem. In seeking to prove similarity he tends to overlook the uniqueness and individual inspiration which, passionately respecting particularity, makes a poem of a genuine contact with reality.

University of Chicago

Fairinda W. West

THE DRAMATIC IMPULSE IN MODERN POETICS. By Don Geiger. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press. 1968.

Professor Geiger contends, in an urbane discussion, that a poem's meaning is more precisely rendered if the reader understands the poem to be the utterance of a Speaker. In the dramatic theory of poetry, "the poem is an author's construction of a Speaker's expression of attitudes," as distinct from an author's expression of his own emotion, or a construction of feeling, suggested respectively by Romantic and New Critical theories. Geiger's dramatic theory resolves the professional literary criticism of English Departments and the oral interpretive and dramatic emphasis given literature by Speech Departments, too often mutually exclusive disciplines. The dramatic theory of poetry evolves from the traditions of modern literary criticism, particularly T. S. Eliot's and the New Criticism, in which the theory is implicit. For both the academic critic of poetry and the advanced student of literature, speech and drama, this informed and persuasive book can sharpen critical perspective and response to poetry and help the reader to discover the integrity and accuracy of poetic statements.

University of the Pacific

Sy Kahn

THE EDGE OF THE IMAGE. By A. Kingsley Weatherhead. Seattle: University of Washington Press. 1967.

Rehearsing Coleridge's distinction between "imagination" and "fancy," Professor Weatherhead establishes a critical framework in which to examine the poetry of William Carlos Williams and Marianne Moore and their poetic descendents. Wishing to draw attention to the *dinglichkeit* of the image, he stresses that imagination subordinates the brilliancy and integrity of the image and makes it serve a controlling, overriding theme in a poem. The images generated by fancy, however, are associative, exploratory and more directly responsive to fundamental reality.

Two extensive chapters retail the methods by which fancy operates in the poetry of Williams and Moore, and a final chapter discusses those poets who have taken their main cues from Williams: Charles Olson, Robert Duncan, Robert Creeley, Denise Levertov. These poets do not permit argument or thesis to blur perception; the edge of the image remains unnicked. Further, order and form are much more a by-product than end-product in their work. Poetry of this order is "art in our time," says Weatherhead, "avoiding greatness, beauty and truth as traditionally conceived," not permitting form to contain or constrain the particulars of the work.

The poet following Williams's lead employs fancy rather than imagination because in a fragmented and fast-paced world he distrusts grand designs and abstract ideals and trusts only limited truths and small, hard facts. His imagery is a response to the discrete moment and object. Though the discussion of the thesis seems over-elaborate, the book is both readable and worth reading, especially if the reader would understand one strong line of development in contemporary poetry—and, by implication, in other contemporary arts as well.

University of the Pacific

Sy Kahn

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF EMANUEL CARNEVALI. Compiled and prefaced by Kay Boyle. New York: Horizon Press. 1968.

Compiled mainly from the letters and poems Emanuel Carnevali sent to Kay Boyle, this book traces Carnevali's life from his childhood years until World War Two, when Miss Boyle lost contact with him. Born in Italy, Carnevali was raised by a callous father and a drug-addicted mother. Upon reaching adulthood, he journeyed to the United States and decided to devote his life to poetry. His poems—inspired by Rimbaud's writings (but vastly inferior in quality)—appeared in several "little magazines." He spurned steady employment and had to depend on handouts from others, including a wife he consistently mistreated. Then, stricken with an incurable form of sleeping sickness, he returned alone to Europe. There, while confined to various hospitals, he displayed great courage in the face of constant suffering. Carnevali's autobiography depicts a complex man and increases our knowledge of the spirit of the Nineteen Twenties.

Suffolk University

Kenneth Johnson

THE SEARCH FOR FORM: Studies in the Structure of James's Fiction. By J. A. Ward. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press. 1967.

J. A. Ward here studies seven of James's narratives in the light of his formal preoccupations. After struggling with the language of the Prefaces and Notebooks, Ward concludes that James's novels are developed "both from the outside in (that is, in accordance with some predetermined ideal of what the shape should be) and from the inside out (that is, in accordance with the organic development of the 'germ')." Was James both a "romantic organicist" and a "neo-classical formalist"? Ward suggests that James believed that somehow both were one. Such is the madness of art.

New York University

James W. Tuttleton

LITERARY WISE MEN OF GOTHAM: Criticism in New York, 1815-1860. By John Paul Pritchard. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University. 1963.

Boston, John Paul Pritchard suggests, "was to New York as classical Athens was to Hellenistic Alexandria." Unconfined by tradition and geography, New York had an open literary situation and was more truly representative of American literature than Boston. To show how this was so, and in general to support the significance of New York criticism, Pritchard organizes evidence drawn from the files of the *Knickerbocker*, *New York Review*, *Arcturus*, *Putnam's*, and the *Mirror*. Although his close knowledge of his materials is impressive, his argument for the wisdom of the New York critics—their sensitivity to the direction of American literary thought—is not entirely convincing. Instead the author tends to convince us that the wise men of Gotham were often uncertain of their vocation to letters and of the relationship of literature to the dynamics of American democracy. The study of their careers and of their age shows—in a way that may be regarded as both exciting and depressing—how New York was emerging as the great trading center of American letters. It was to be a place where the modern concept of literature as a commodity would come into full flower.

Louisiana State University

Louis P. Simpson

## the press

PULITZER. By W. A. Swanberg. New York: Scribners. 1967.

Though it does not carry the interest and the excitement of his previous biography, *Citizen Hearst*, W. A. Swanberg's *Pulitzer* is the best volume yet written on the stormy king of New York journalism. It may be that Joseph Pulitzer simply lacks the flamboyance and the gutty fascination of his famous rival, William Randolph Hearst.

In considerable evidence here are the journalistic episodes of Pulitzer's life, of course. Pulitzer was born in Hungary in 1847, came to America as a Union Army recruit in the Civil War, went to St. Louis, rose in journalism and politics, consolidated two dying papers, the *Post* and *Dispatch*, in 1878, invaded New York in 1883 after buying the *World*, built that paper into the mightiest of its time, engaged in a scurrilous circulation war with Hearst in the late nineties, then returned to respectability and published a great crusading journal in the years prior to his death in 1911.

Those are the bare bones of his life. I have taught *History of American Journalism* for many years, but this book is the first to have convinced me that Pulitzer was genuinely a genius, almost a symbol of the late century immigrant who rose to fame and power. It also reveals Pulitzer in all the physical and nervous torments of his life—this genius was blind through much of his publishing career, was so nervously afflicted that the slightest sound irritated him, had to live in virtual isolation, and ran his great *World* from a yacht. He must have been a terrible tyrant to both family and associates, and it seems likely that his sons, Herbert and Ralph, may have been reacting against the old man when they finally (and brutally) disposed of the *World* properties in 1931. As for his son, Joseph, Jr., well, he made the *Post-Dispatch* the twentieth century successor of the *World*, and he apparently was much like his father in appearance and temperament.

No figure, except for Horace Greeley, has dominated American journalism quite like Pulitzer. No one is as responsible for the mass press concept so significant in American life today. Swanberg captures on paper the essence of Pulitzer, and he offers a book that all interested in the mass media should know.

University of Kansas

Calder M. Pickett

THE FIRST FREEDOM. By Bryce W. Rucker. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press. 1968.

Bryce W. Rucker, a professor of journalism at Southern Illinois, has endeavored to present a treatment of freedom of the press in the sixties that will compare with and supplement the earlier volume by Morris Ernst. I write this a few days after the press took its lumps from the Chicago police during the Democratic national convention, but Rucker's excellently documented story demonstrates that the press (a word loosely used, probably, to describe the mass media) does a good job of restricting its own freedom without help from outside sources.

The book is factual, almost over-factual, missing the occasional touch of poetry that always marked the writing of Morris Ernst. The plea of Rucker obviously is that of the Mill-Milton-Zenger libertarian, one who deplors the control of business interests over the press. Numerous charts and tables dot the pages. So it becomes economic as well as social commentary.

To be specific, Rucker considers the continued decline of the daily newspaper (yes, it declines, despite those who point to suburban advertising throwaways as fit successors to the *Herald Tribune*), the continued role of chains, weeklies and minority group publications, press associations, radio, commercial television, the role of the networks, UHF and FM, and CATV, educational television, control of broadcasting and magazines.

Rucker would restore to the mass media the guarantees of the first amendment. He sees the greatest hope in the weekly press, and perhaps those persons who point to the vigor of the non-establishment "hippie" press may be the prophets of a new day in journalism.

University of Kansas

Calder M. Pickett

HONESTY AND COMPETITION: False-Advertising Law and Policy under FTC Administration. By George J. Alexander. Syracuse: Syracuse University Press. 1967.

The Federal Trade Commission has, what might well be, the impossible task of fighting monopolistic activities on one hand and improper advertising techniques on the other. Law professor George Alexander has dug through literally thousands of decisions on false-advertising to determine the impact of advertising controls on competition. Although Alexander applauded the fact that "*caveat emptor* is dead," he concluded that suppression of certain kinds of advertisements had developed without sufficient cognizance of the competitive impact. Occasionally his citations to cases in a

non-chronological order tend to confuse the reader about the cumulative nature of FTC decisions. The book has a sizable appendix of FTC advertising "Guides," but no bibliography or list of cases cited, although decisions referred to are in the index. Yet I felt, on the whole, that *Honesty and Competition* was worthwhile for anyone interested in false-advertising or antitrust matters in general.

University of Missouri

Robert L. Branyan

## books received

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

AMERICAN SHORT SPEECHES. Edited by Bower Aly and Lucille Aly. New York: The Macmillan Co. 1968. \$1.95.

THE FINE HAMMERED STEEL OF HERMAN MELVILLE. By Milton R. Stern. Illinois: University of Illinois. 1968. \$2.95.

FRONTIERS OF AMERICAN CULTURE. Edited by Ray Browne, Richard Crowder, Virgil Lokke and William Stafford. Indiana: Purdue University Studies. 1968. \$6.50.

THE HAWK'S DONE GONE AND OTHER STORIES. Edited by Herschel Gower. Tennessee: Vanderbilt University Press. 1968. \$7.95.

HOW WE LIVE: Contemporary Life in Contemporary Fiction. Edited by Penny Hills & L. Rust Hills. New York: The Macmillan Company. 1968. \$12.50.

OUTLAWING THE SPOILS: A HISTORY OF THE CIVIL SERVICE REFORM MOVEMENT, 1865-1883. By Ari Hoogenboom. Illinois: University of Illinois. 1968. \$2.95.

THEATER IN AMERICA, APPRAISAL AND CHALLENGE. By Robert Gard, Marston Balch and Pauline Temkin. Wisconsin: University of Wisconsin Press. 1968. \$6.50.