

reviews

AMERICAN BUSINESS CYCLES, 1945-50. By C. A. Blyth. New York: Frederick A. Praeger. 1969. \$9.50.

An example of the "new economic history," with its emphasis on econometric techniques, mathematical models and statistical analysis, this work by an Australian economist provides the first full-scale study of the 1948-49 recession in the United States, attempts with considerable success to fit this recession into a broader pattern of post-war fluctuations, and offers a wealth of evidence to show that these fluctuations resulted primarily from changes in monetary policy, defense appropriations and other autonomous expenditures, not from any self-generating fluctuation in inventory investment. Competent and lucid but highly technical and generally beyond the comprehension of the average layman, the study will be of value chiefly to specialists in national economic management, business cycle theory and recent economic history.

University of Iowa

Ellis W. Hawley

LEWIS TAPPAN AND THE EVANGELICAL WAR AGAINST SLAVERY. By Bertram Wyatt-Brown. Case Western Reserve Press. 1969. \$8.95.

Lewis Tappan and his younger brother Arthur combined prosperous silk wholesaling with involvement in nearly every Congregational evangelical reform venture from the 1820's to the 1850's. They achieved national notoriety by moving into leadership of the American Anti-Slavery Society in 1833. After the split in 1840 Lewis continued to lead the anti-Garrisonians. At the same time he created the first mercantile credit rating agency, the direct ancestor of Dun and Bradstreet. This is a splendid book catching the intricacies of religious moods, abolitionist political strategies and business conditions.

Western Illinois University

Merrill Hough

ANDREW CARNEGIE. By Joseph Frazier Wall. Oxford University Press. 1970. \$15.00.

This widely praised biography by a student of Allan Nevins takes a thousand page look at Carnegie's entire life. It differs from Burton Hendrick's *Life of Andrew Carnegie* (1932) on a number of points, the most drastic being a more analytical and critical evaluation of Carnegie's role during the Pullman Strike. Based on years of research and splendidly written, Wall's study takes a place with Louis Hacker's *The World of Andrew Carnegie 1865-1901* (1968) in the ongoing attempt to provide a systematic understanding of the birth and maturation of a technological era Carnegie helped begin and saw surpassed before he died.

Western Illinois University

Merrill Hough

THE AMERICAN CORPORATION: Its Power, Its Money, Its Politics. By Richard J. Barber. E. P. Dutton & Co. 1970. \$7.95.

Although addressed primarily to laymen and containing little that men like Galbraith, Berle and Means have not already said, this work by an official of the Department of Transportation provides a lively and lucid summary of recent changes in business goals, structures and techniques, bringing out in particular the increasing interdependence of business and government in the United States. Its strength lies in its ability to cut through and dispel individualistic myths about free markets, antitrust policies and the diffusion of power; its weaknesses lie in overstatement, limited analysis and prescription and a lack of historical perspective, especially of any awareness that many historians now see business-government cooperation not as a recent phenomenon following a long period of conflict, but as a central theme in American political and economic development since the turn of the century.

University of Iowa

Ellis W. Hawley

WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN: III. Political Puritan, 1915-1925. By Paolo E. Coletta. University of Nebraska Press. 1969. \$8.25.

The final volume of Coletta's work shows that the crusading Nebraskan did not become an embittered crank at the close of his career. He continued to cleave to many of his old reform goals; and his biographer demonstrates that Bryan's religious fundamentalism and "progressive" politics were inseparable elements of the same creed. Equally evident, however, is that his characteristic good humor in the face of opposition was wearing thin. Among the many contributions of this volume is the portrayal of the confused state of national Democratic party politics in the early 1920's. The magisterial summing up of Bryan's life in the last chapter closes the splendid biography which the subject and students of the period have so long deserved.

Michael J. Brodhead

THE CROSS OF CULTURE: A Social Analysis of Midwestern Politics, 1850-1900. By Paul Kleppner. New York: The Free Press. 1970. \$9.00.

In this full-scale assault on traditional interpretations of late nineteenth-century American history, Paul Kleppner presents an array of evidence drawn from Wisconsin, Michigan, and Ohio sources to support his thesis that ethno-cultural differences explain the political behavior of the period. His central analytical proposition is that "the more ritualistic the religious orientation of the group, the more likely it was to support the Democracy; conversely, the more pietistic the group's outlook the more intensely Republican its partisan affiliation" (p. 71).

After examining the "era of stalemate" of the 1870s and 1880s, Kleppner focuses on the social restructuring of politics that occurred as William Jennings Bryan converted the Democracy into a vehicle of pietistic reform and as the Republican party broadened its bases to attract ritualistic groups, notably the German Lutherans. Especially refreshing is Kleppner's command of the subtle differences that distinguish the several ethnically based Lutheran groups as they relate to political behavior.

Kleppner employs a variety of social science concepts and methods as he analyzes the social bases of politics. Through the use of standard formulas and aggregations, he correlates and compares election data over time with appropriately controlled economic and ethno-cultural factors. He properly rejects the county as too heterogeneous a unit for reliable generalizations as he concentrates on townships and wards. Content analysis is also effectively used to reveal the cultural orientation of newspaper treatment of the tariff and currency issues.

Although Kleppner's style tends to be unnecessarily repetitious and unintentionally dogmatic, his ideas fairly crackle with vitality. They mirror wide reading and deep reflection. This book will evoke much debate; American Studies will be the richer for it.

University of Nebraska

Frederick C. Luebke

THE SUBURBAN MYTH. By Scott Donaldson. Columbia University Press. 1969. \$10.00.

"The suburb does not represent a return to the best of all possible worlds, but merely the most comfortable of all present worlds." So writes Scott Donaldson who, quite simply, likes suburbia and thinks it a good place in which to live. The purveyors of "the suburban myth"—which sees suburbia as an odious place typified by conformity, prejudice, and mediocrity—judge suburbia a failure because Levittown does not measure up to Monticello. Tracing the myth back to Jefferson's agrarian concepts, and seeing it as an initial liberal-intellectual response to the sterility of the Eisenhower years, Donaldson argues persuasively that much of the criticism leveled against suburbia is misinformed, incorrect and contradictory. A crisp style, together with a useful bibliographic essay, helps to make this an enjoyable and valuable contribution to the environmental and urban debates.

Emory University

Mark B. Lapping

THE STRUGGLE FOR LABOR LOYALTY: Gompers, the A. F. of L. and the Pacifists, 1917-1920. By Frank L. Grubbs, Jr. Duke University Press. 1968. \$7.50.

This tightly written little book will contribute to an understanding of organized labor and its problems in World War I. The focus of the study is on two wartime organizations, one of which, the Peoples Council of America for Democracy and Terms of Peace, was boldly critical of American policy. The other, the Alliance for Labor and Democracy, was sponsored by Samuel Gompers' American Federation of Labor and received financial support from both the A. F. L. and the government. Gompers and his supporters had the best of this rivalry in 1917-18; then, in the wave of reaction that followed the war, moderate unionists suffered in public opinion along with the pacifists and socialists.

University of Illinois, Urbana

J. Leonard Bates

A BIBLIOGRAPHICAL GUIDE TO THE STUDY OF SOUTHERN LITERATURE. Edited by Louis D. Rubin, Jr., with an Appendix Containing Sixty-eight Additional Writers of the Colonial South by J. A. Leo Lemay. Louisiana State University Press. 1969. \$3.25.

Professor Rubin and his specialist contributors have succeeded admirably in the attempt to compile "some of the most useful material available for the student who would begin work in the field of Southern literary study." The three sections: "General Topics"; "Individual Writers" (135 of them both major and minor); and the Appendix (68 Colonial writers) all contain valuable listings. There are many entries listing sources on Southern history and culture, humor, folklore. The selective checklists of individual writers are chosen, but, as would be expected bibliographies for minor writers are more complete than those of major figures such as Mark Twain. An excellent beginning, the bibliography as it stands is indispensable.

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

George Hendrick

A CERTAIN MORBIDNESS: A View of American Literature. By Edward Stone. Southern Illinois University Press. 1969. \$4.95.

In this "Crosscurrents/Modern Critiques" volume, Edward Stone traces elements of irrationality through the writings of Herman Melville, Henry James, Stephen Crane, Robert Frost, William Faulkner and J. D. Salinger. His insights are fresh and knowledgeable as when, for example, he inquires into the influence of Goethe's theory of color psychology upon Crane's "The Blue Hotel." The strongest essays include a study of associationism from Poe to Hemingway and an analysis of Faulkner's "A Rose for Emily" and of the Labove episode in *The Hamlet*. The principal weakness of the book is a tendency to shift focus; in his essay on Frost's "Spring Pools," for example, Professor Stone turns from his stated topic to a close analysis of grammar and syntax through which he isolates, convincingly, all *ubi sunt* motif within the poem.

Southern Illinois University

Betty Hoyenga

CELEBRATION IN POSTWAR AMERICAN FICTION. By Richard H. Rupp. University of Miami Press. 1970. \$7.95.

I find myself steadily disagreeing with the judgments expressed in this gracefully-written, skimming survey of the works of ten recent writers. Of some use to the literature teacher as a source of ideas which his class might try out (and, hopefully, reject), it is not of much interest to American Studies, and certainly is not, as its jacket proclaims, "a new approach to the major works of James Agee, Saul Bellow, John Updike," and so on.

SGL

THE ROLE OF MIND IN HUGO, FAULKNER, BECKETT AND GRASS. By Martha O'Nan. Philosophical Library. 1969. \$3.95.

To illustrate the thesis that philosophical and/or psychological theories of mind are pertinent to understanding the behavior of fictional characters, Professor O'Nan examines the role of mind in Hugo's Quasimodo, Faulkner's Benjy, Beckett's Lucky and Grass's Oskar. After linking the working of Quasimodo's mind, with its dependence upon defective senses, to the views of Locke, the French *philosophes* and Maine de Biran, she finds a theory for Benjy (whose unconscious is provoked to action by hysteria) in Briquet, Janet and Freud. Lucky, she suggests, suffers from the sin that Bergson described as "the mechanical encrusted upon the living," whereas Oskar oscillates between the mechanical and the living, between the worlds of essentialism and existentialism. Although Professor O'Nan's general thesis is certainly sound, her task is to ambitious for this very slim volume, with its all-too-obvious dilettantism, compounded by needless repetition.

Southern Illinois University

Carol Ann Keene

ANDREW LAW, AMERICAN PSALMODIST. By Richard A. Crawford. Northwestern University Press. 1968. \$12.00.

Andrew Law (1749-1821) is now the earliest American musician to be the subject of a full-scale biography. His career was compiling, arranging, and publishing psalm tunes, and conducting singing schools in various towns. The music was a polyphonic folk music, by native self-taught composers, for use in church. However, Law was an early advocate of reform to a "better" style as seen in music by now-unknown English composers. He was also one of the first Americans to receive a copyright, and claimed (without justification) the invention of the shape-note system of musical notation. Crawford's book furnishes valuable insight into the musical life and tastes of that time.

University of Kansas

J. Bunker Clark

LITERATURE AND THE SIXTH SENSE. By Philip Rahv. Houghton Mifflin Company. 1969. \$10.00.

Defining the sixth sense as the "development of historical insight," Philip Rahv,

in his essay "Paleface and Redskin," offers as his own main insight the belief that our national literature suffers from "a split personality." One type of writer exclusively cultivates theories of conduct, while an opposing type seeks solely an unthinking immersion in the flux of experience. Rahv wants writers to participate in and lucidly evaluate the totality of human experience. He praises such writers as Henry James and Thomas Mann for achieving this goal; and, in the majority of his essays, pinpoints the failure of other writers to do so. Thus, discussing Proletarian Literature, he censures writers who wear political blinkers. In other essays, he criticizes our culture for its mythomania (in reality, "a fear of history"), for its idealization of the past (a "perverted historicism") and for its demand that writers express a blind affirmation of America. Similarly, he attacks such writers as D. H. Lawrence for forcing his characters to illustrate his narrow theories and Norman Mailer, whose *An American Dream* presents merely "a dream of romantic omnipotence."

Suffolk University

Kenneth Johnson

VOYAGER: A LIFE OF HART CRANE. By John Unterecker. Farrar, Straus, and Giroux. 1969. \$15.00.

There are too many facts and too few evaluations in this biography of Hart Crane. Only in the final sequence, when Crane's turmoil reaches its climax, do *all* the facts hold the reader's attention. And, yet, this book should be read, for Crane's life was as much a symbol of the American experience in the 1920's—and, in some ways, before and after that period—as Scott Fitzgerald's life was. The product of an unhappy marriage, Crane had an intensely possessive mother and a well-meaning, but Philistine father. As a result, behind his—typically American—mask of buoyant optimism, he suffered from melancholia and self-doubt. He tried to decrease his unhappiness in many ways—in homosexuality, the Retreat To The Country, artist-cliques, alcoholism, expatriate-filled Europe and Mexican primitivism. However, only his writings brought him temporary relief—and when he also began to doubt his artistic ability, not even the new-found love he shared with Peggy Cowley could sustain him. Thus, at the age of thirty-two, he committed suicide.

Suffolk University

Kenneth Johnson

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL GUIDE TO THE STUDY OF THE LITERATURE OF THE UNITED STATES. Third edition. Edited by Clarence Gohdes. Duke University Press. 1970. \$5.00.

Though this journal is listed incorrectly (under *American Quarterly*) and omitted from the index, and though there are other errors and omissions, this slim volume is useful to those American Studies practitioners who deal with literature.

SGL

JOHN FORD. By Peter Bogdanovich. University of California Press. 1968. \$1.95.

John Ford's name conjures in most minds a film shaman of the west—the man who invented the cowboy or at least the horizon. Many of his films were not westerns at all. This book displays excellent photographs from Ford's many works—works expressing the Irish and American experiences. It contains an interesting Ford interview, a sketchy filmography and no index.

Bogdanovich utilizes a quote from *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance*: "When the legend becomes fact, print the legend." Much of Ford's work has been with our common myths, our legends. His power has been to translate those legends into moving images. Hence with John Ford we need no legends. We watch his films.

Southern Illinois University

G. W. Linden

THE EUROPEAN DISCOVERY OF AMERICA: THE NORTHERN VOYAGES, A.D. 500-1600. By Samuel Eliot Morison. Oxford University Press. 1971. \$15.00.

This is a volume which is going to be very heavily praised, and deservedly. It is a painstaking and imaginative review of what is known and what can be established about European voyages of discovery in the period and area named in the subtitle. Professor Morison has fingered every available book, manuscript and chart, visited and flown over every plausible harbor and place of settlement, and handled all the old instruments in his effort to find out who got where how, and what it must have felt like. And, as everyone knows, he is fun to read. We can expect detailed, friendly reviews from cartographers, historians and geographers, cranky reviews from proponents of theories of prior visitations, as well as high praise from the less specialized press, for Oxford is promoting the hell out of this, and it has been chosen as a Book-of-the-Month Club selection.

Perhaps the most useful thing *American Studies* can do for its readers, then, is to cover points likely to be skipped elsewhere, to quibble with a book, which, because it is very good, will not be quibbled with very much, and to say a word about it and our field.

1. I note a minor inconsistency. On page 87, Morison approvingly quotes the Bureau

of American Ethnology: "There is not a provable trace of Welsh, Gaelic or any other European language in any native American language." On page 677, arguing for what he feels is the most plausible explanation of the fate of the "Lost Colony" of Virginia, he writes, "These Indians [the Croatoan, or Hatteras, or Lumbee tribe] have a strong tradition that the Roanoke colonists amalgamated with them; and the existence of blue-eyed and fair-haired types among them, as well as the incorporation of Elizabethan English words in their language and their using surnames from John White's lost colonists, bears this out."

2. Morison is a little more breezy than necessary or judicious in putting down all offbeat theories of visitation. He convinces me that in the light of the best available evidence and his own excellent judgment, these should currently be regarded as unlikely. But I would venture to guess that at least one of them will turn out to be not wishful thinking by an ethnic group eager to pre-date Columbus, or a local historical club, Chamber of Commerce booster or over-ambitious historian. It was not too many years ago that we were quite sure Leif Ericsson's visit was myth; Morison is certain it occurred. There was no firm evidence then; now there is. In history as in science, a certain percentage of crack-pot theories turns out correct.

3. Admiral Morison knows ships, and it is splendid to have his expertise. He knows how different vessels sailed, the history of navigation, of oceanography and so forth. He is right in insisting that we take the details of rigging, provisioning and seamanship seriously. He is also right to explain details. But he explains unevenly. Even the conscientious landlubber, eager to understand, can't.

4. His chapter endnotes are charming and informative. Many are miniature scholarly essays or essays in historiography. But they, too are uneven in coverage. Certain questions raised in or by the text go unanswered; certain gaps are left unfilled.

5. Some reviewer is bound to refer to this as "a handsome volume." It's not, despite the great number of useful and well-utilized illustrations. As book design, *European Discovery* is several cuts below mediocre, an unhappy compromise between traditionalism and somebody's old high school textbook. This despite the author's obvious interest in making format as eloquent as context. His plates are a part of his argument; he has had some old maps simplified and redrawn, for example, to facilitate comparisons. Others are re-aligned on the page for the same reason. Given the wealth of first-rate visual material, the typographical challenge of brisk text and chatty endnotes, the designers should have responded far more imaginatively to produce an unusual and elegant volume. The fault, then, must be Oxford's, and suitable punishments for those responsible appear in the cut on page 133.

6. If pressed by one of my good students to say what this volume taught me about European or American culture or society, I would have to answer in terms of Morison's investigations of material culture, history of technology, and social organization. One is a little reluctant to say that the main point of the book—establishing firmly who voyaged where, and when—doesn't really matter to us. But perhaps it is time for American Studies people to take such positions; certainly our best students feel we should. OK: this volume is a useful and authoritative compilation and analysis of data of interest to culturalists concerned with material culture, etc. To the extent, however, to which its prime purpose is to establish reliable judgments concerning dates, names and places, it is grist for the historians' mill, not ours.

SGL

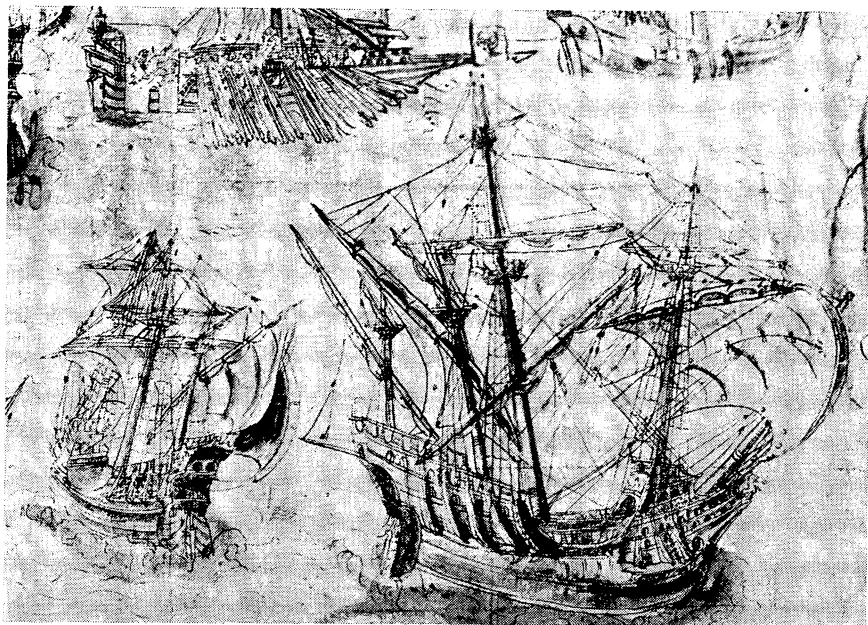
THE PRAIRIE POTAWATOMI: TRADITION AND RITUAL IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY. By Ruth Landis. The University of Wisconsin Press. 1970. \$12.50.

To say that despite obvious sensitivity, considerable on-site personal observation, years of correspondence with tribal friends and distinguished training, the author still does not begin to understand either her closest Potawatomi friends or the operation of their tribal culture as a whole is to say nothing very bad about this book. It is humbling evidence of the limitations of social science. Ruth Landis is reasonably frank about her difficulties; some stem from the notorious factionalism of her subject-tribe (see *MASJ*, VI, 2, 101-123), but some are simply the result of the fact that truly "alien" cultures are lamentably difficult to fathom.

SGL

SUPERGROW: ESSAYS AND REPORTS ON IMAGINATION IN AMERICA. By Benjamin DeMott. E. P. Dutton and Co. 1969. \$5.95.

Despite his prolixity and his obsessive need to create catchy phrases, Benjamin DeMott provides enough stimulating evaluations of our contemporary culture to make his book worthwhile reading. His major concern is that people nurture their imaginations so that they will be more responsive to each other and to change. This concern leads DeMott to disapprove of Marshall McLuhan's theories for offering a facile "release from consciousness." Other targets of his adverse criticism include Living Theatre techniques, which decrease, not increase, audience participation; lyric



WHO SAILED WHERE, IN WHAT? A galley (top left) and two Norman ships from Jean Jolivet's map of Normandy, 1525, an illustration from Morison's **The European Discovery of America**. (See pp. 83-84.)

poetry, too absorbed in the private self; and sex research, blind to the "innerness" of its human subjects. On the other hand, DeMott approves of student rebellions in so far as they attack "the deadness of intellectuality as routine" and applauds teachers who help their students enter "the living world" of literature. So, too, he suggests that critics too glibly dismiss homosexual writers; for, provoked by society's hostility and their own problems, these writers look more deeply into life than many sexually normal people do.

Suffolk University

Kenneth Johnson

IDEOLOGIES OF UTOPIAS. By Arthur A. Ekirch Jr. Quadrangle Books. 1969.

In his analysis of the impact that the New Deal had on American thought, Professor Ekirch suggests that the decade of the 1930's transformed the values and beliefs of the American people. It conditioned them to look, as they never had before, to the national government as the most important single factor in their lives. A variety of nationalism which Americans had associated with European monarchies was also a characteristic of the changed American outlook that came with the advent of the Second World War. This combination of nationalism and statism, both of which were inaugurated by the New Deal, constituted, in Professor Ekirch's opinion, a profound revolution in American life and thought.

RWS

HUMAN NATURE IN AMERICAN HISTORICAL THOUGHT. By Merle Curti University of Missouri Press. 1968. \$2.50.

In the first chapter Curti deals with those historians, professional and non-professional (from William Bradford to Reinhold Niebuhr), who emphasized "The Limitations of Man's Capacities." The author discusses those who stressed human potentialities in the second chapter, and concludes with a chapter on "The Commitment to Scientific Explanation."

Those students who are familiar with the author's earlier work on American concepts of human nature will find that this volume is an interesting (but small) step toward Professor Curti's long anticipated goal of an inclusive study of American attitudes on this important question.

RWS

ALARMS AND DIVERSIONS: THE AMERICAN MIND THROUGH AMERICAN MAGAZINES 1900-1914. By Maxwell H. Bloomfield. The Hague: Mouton & Co. 1967.

Though this book cannot be written off as one that makes no expression about America and the American mind of its time, it is really quite specialized. Perhaps the problem lies in Maxwell Bloomfield's use of the term "American mind." Perhaps any scholar in American Studies needs to consider the fact that the American mind of a particular time goes beyond the "mind" of a particular group.

Bloomfield's method is to examine five publications of the Progressive era—the *North American Review*, *Forum*, *Outlook*, *Cosmopolitan* and the *American*—to ascertain how each of these dealt with such matters as the growth of the trusts, the businessman in America, the development of organized labor, the significance of democracy and politics, racial relations and urbanization. All of these publications did not dwell extensively on all these matters; three of them are special interest more than mass; two are mass and were at least on the fringes of the muckraker movement. The chief merit of this book is that in these analyses the reader at least can learn what these magazines had to say about the subject matter at hand, and how some ideas were being shaped in the early part of the century. All five magazines showed the development of a social conscience (and consciousness) in America; this fact is not too surprising when one considers the intellectual ferment marking the magazine in that period of our journalism.

University of Kansas

Calder M. Pickett

THE PHILOSOPHY OF INDIA AND ITS IMPACT ON AMERICAN THOUGHT. By Rale Riepe. Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas, Publisher. 1970.

This is a very difficult book to review. Its title promises much for readers interested in American Studies, and it provides much valuable information, which is organized chronologically to fill out a clear historical survey of the subject. But it fails to synthesize or interpret this material effectively, and it suffers from faults both of commission and of omission. However, this is an exceptionally difficult book for this reviewer to deal with, personally.

Two chapters of this book deal with individual American thinkers: Emerson and Santayana. Since I had published the first book-length study of Emerson's reading of Oriental literature in 1930, under the title of *Emerson and Asia*, I was especially interested in the chapter on Emerson. I can honestly report that it is very disappointing. But my judgment may be distorted by personal considerations: first, my book is not even listed in the 27-page Bibliography, nor are any of my shorter articles on the subject; and second, "Carpenter" appears twice in the Index—once quoted at second hand from an article in a philosophical journal, and once (not capitalized) in a reference to "a carpenter and a smith." I looked up "Smith" in the Index after this, and—sure enough—this smith was also listed among the philosophical and scholarly Smiths. This may help to explain why the Index runs to 32 double-column pages.

Next I looked up Arthur E. Christy in the Bibliography, and his *The Orient in American Transcendentalism* was duly listed. Then I looked him up in the Index, where he appeared three times—once quoted, once in the Bibliography, and once erroneously in reference to a page where he was not mentioned. This was brief enough, and I concluded that Mr. Riepe must be allergic to the work of literary scholars. But when I read his Chapter on "The Later Transcendentalists," I discovered that Christy was quoted there several times, although these references were not listed in the Index.

But this may be personal pique. My chief criticism is that the chapter on Emerson, for instance, does not summarize or synthesize past literature on the subject. My *Emerson and Asia* has been superseded and corrected by later scholarship, and if Mr. Riepe had offered the results of this scholarship, there would be little room for criticism. But worst of all, his chapter omits much crucial material, which is absolutely central to the subject. For instance, it never mentions Emerson's poem "Brahma." Instead, it deals with four Indian concepts, as they appear in Emerson's writings, but considers them principally as Indian concepts, with the emphasis on philosophical terminology.

Finally, in spite of Mr. Riepe's careful documentation of the factual relationships of Emerson and Thoreau to their Indian sources and later Indian commentators, the reader becomes aware of a repeated animus against the vagueness and lack of "discipline" in the "American Thought" of unprofessional philosophers such as Emerson and Thoreau. This is so vague and pervasive that I can only illustrate by one quotation: Mr. Riepe quotes Thoreau: "In proportion as he simplifies his life, the laws of the universe will appear less complex, and solitude will not be solitude, nor poverty, poverty, nor weakness, weakness." And Mr. Riepe adds his own commentary: "And sexual desires will not be sexual desires, and the biological and social needs of man will not be the biological and social needs of man . . . and so on. . . . One feels a

certain impatience with such logomachy, necromancy, and a spiritualized necrophilosophicalaphagia—the devouring of imported idealistic philosophical corpses.” In other words, Mr. Riepe feels a certain irritation, not only with vague literary scholarship dealing with his subject, but with all vague literature, itself.

University of California at Berkeley

Frederic I. Carpenter

CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE AND MORAL LAW IN NINETEENTH-CENTURY AMERICAN PHILOSOPHY. By Edward H. Madden. University of Washington Press. 1968. \$7.50.

Three schools of thought in nineteenth-century American social philosophy are examined: academic orthodoxy represented by Francis Wayland, Asa Mahan and James H. Fairchild; Transcendentalism represented by Emerson, George Wm. Curtis and Theodore Parker; and the evolutionary hypothesis represented by Chauncey Wright and Charles Eliot Norton. In particular, the book claims to study these thinkers' views on the source of moral law and on civil disobedience.

The study is well researched, is heavily footnoted, is interestingly written and is a solid contribution to the literature of nineteenth-century intellectual history. It does not, however, suffice as a comprehensive survey of its topic. One will not find here a discussion of the ideas on civil disobedience and moral protest of such thinkers as Nat Turner, John Brown, Frederick Douglass or Harriet Beecher Stowe.

This reviewer finds little of the illumination or relevance to the explosive problems of civil disobedience and moral law of our own time that is promised. The book is, rather, an excellent scholarly study of the social philosophies of some *selected* nineteenth-century *academic* philosophers, who wrote in the context of their *own* times and problems. Perhaps too much stress is placed presently upon the need for contemporary relevance, but if that promise is made, and unfulfilled, the reading public will be misled.

Southern Illinois University

John Albin Broyer

books received

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

ADVENTURES TO CHINA—AMERICANS IN THE SOUTHERN OCEANS, 1792-1812. By James Kirker. Oxford University Press. 1970. \$7.50.

AFTER THE REVOLUTION. By Robert A. Dahl. Yale University Press. 1970. \$2.45.

AGRARIAN REVOLT IN A MEXICAN VILLAGE. By Paul Friedrich. Prentice-Hall, Inc. 1970.

AMERICAN INDIAN MEDICINE. By Virgil Vogel. University of Oklahoma Press. 1970. \$12.50.

AMERICAN INDIAN POLICY IN THE FORMATIVE YEARS. By Francis Paul Prucha. University of Nebraska Press. 1970. \$1.95.

AMERICAN SOCIETY, INC. Edited by Maurice Zeitlin. Markham Publishing Company. 1970.

BLACK LABOR IN AMERICA. Edited by Milton Cantor. Greenwood Press, Inc. 1970. \$10.00.

THE BLACK NOVELIST. Edited by Robert Hemenway. Charles E. Merrill Publishing Co. 1970.

BOVARYSM. By Jules De Gaultier; translated by Gerald M. Spring. Philosophical Library. 1970. \$8.75.

A CANOE VOYAGE UP THE MINNARY SOTOR. By George M. Featherstonhaugh. Minnesota Historical Society. 1970. \$20.00.

THE CHALLENGE OF THE PRAIRIE. By Hiram M. Drache. North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies. 1970. \$8.50.

CHARLES G. HALPINE IN CIVIL WAR AMERICA. By William Hanchett. Syracuse University Press. 1970. \$8.00.

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WASHINGTON IRVING: JOURNALS AND NOTEBOOKS, VOL. L. Edited by Nathalia Wright. University of Wisconsin Press. 1969. \$17.50.

CORRESPONDENCE OF JAMES K. POLK: 1817-1832. Edited by Herbert Weaver and Paul Bergeron. Vanderbilt University Press. 1969. \$15.00.

CRISIS AT THE CROSSROADS: THE FIRST DAY OF GETTYSBURG. By Warren W. Hassler, Jr. University of Alabama Press. 1970. \$8.75.

CRITICS ON MARLOWE. Edited by Judith O'Neill. University of Miami Press. 1970. \$3.95.

- D. H. LAWRENCE AND THE DIAL. By Nicholas Joost and Alvin Sullivan. Southern Illinois University Press. 1970. \$8.50.
- DICKENS STUDIES ANNUAL, VOL. I. Edited by Robert B. Partlow, Jr. Southern Illinois University Press. 1970. \$12.50.
- THE DIVERSITY OF MODERN AMERICA: ESSAYS IN HISTORY SINCE WORLD WAR ONE. By David Burner. Appleton-Century-Crofts. 1970. \$4.95.
- DIVIDED WE STAND. By the Editors of RAMPARTS. Harper & Row, Publishers. 1970. \$3.95.
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