



Book Reviews

THE LIBERAL TRADITION. By Lewis W. Douglas. D. Van Nostrand Company, Inc. 1935. \$1.50.

Originally delivered as four lectures at Harvard University, the *Liberal Tradition* is a frank analysis of the trend of our government. Mr. Douglas is frightened at the tendency toward dictatorship and wants to apply the brakes. As a representative of the Woodrow Wilson progressive school, he advocates trust busting, a lowering of trade barriers, a balanced budget: in short, the establishment of a system of free competition. He believes that government aid to business in the past has inevitably led to a false bubble prosperity. Business should have been allowed to adjust itself to conditions through the media of free competition and an unhampered law of supply and demand.

The former Director of the Budget sees that an unbalanced budget and the resultant inflation must lead to more and more government regulation until in the end America will have unlimited federal control. This trend, Mr. Douglas thinks, is so real and of such immediate importance that

“we Americans should begin to think and think carefully on the general subject of the kind of social and economic system under which we want to live, that we should decide whether we are willing consciously to discard the basic principles of freedom on which this country was built, . . . whether mankind will be happier by throwing these principles overboard, or by insisting on the performance of those acts which again must make them vital living things. This is the basic question. We cannot long ignore it.”

The former congressman from Arizona remembers his practical legislative experience and is dubious that a plan such as he proposes is possible of adoption. He admits, for example, that when in Congress he voted for a copper tariff because the entire state of Arizona “had been worked up to a fever pitch in advocacy of it.” Mr. Douglas sees that the power of vested interests—those benefited by the New Deal—is great. How are we to combat that power?

The *Liberal Tradition* presents clearly and concretely the objections of the Douglas school to the administration’s economics. It has its place in this year’s presidential campaign because of its intelligent discussion of issues which are sure to arise.

ARCUS REDDOCH.

PRATT. THE RED MAN’S MOSES. By Elaine Goodale Eastman. 285 pp. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1935.

A timely and authoritative book dealing with the life and struggles of the man who fought for Indian

education and who founded and developed the Carlisle Indian School, but a book which is, as the author says, much less a chronicle of events in the life of General Richard Henry Pratt than it is a history of a cause which Pratt initiated and with which he identified himself from the close of the Civil War until his death in 1924. It is refreshing to find in the long, tangled history of Indian administration or misadministration one man who had a policy. That policy, based on long and close contact with Indians on and off reservations was one of nonsegregation, nonreservation, nonpreservation of Indian life, noneverything almost that has been and is the policy of the Indian Bureau. Let the Indian quit being an Indian, a curio, an outsider; let him, instead, by active participation become a useful member of the more powerful and materially advanced civilization which has enveloped him.

Incidental to Pratt's stand on the Indian question, the book reviews and discusses many of the fundamental problems of Indian administration and policy: land allotment versus reservations; Canadian versus United States policy on Indian land matters; day schools versus boarding schools; the shortcomings of missionary activities; and is brought up to date in many places by numerous comparisons with the present policy of Mr. Collier and the Indian Bureau.

The book suffers somewhat in readability because of numerous quotations, reports of conferences, excerpts from letters, which fre-

quently interrupt the presentation of a genetically smooth narrative. Despite this, it is decidedly not a scrap book, and can be read with interest and profit by all who are concerned with Indian history, Indian administration, and Indian acculturation.

JOHN H. PROVINSE.

MY HOUSE OF DREAMS. By Mabel C. Kimball. Published by Clifford Cassidy, Los Angeles. \$1.00.

Arizona poetry too frequently bears the stamp of the tourist who meticulously records the colors of our sunsets and, aided by a hastily-consulted botany text, gives an imposing catalogue of desert plants. Mrs. Kimball, at home in Arizona, writes of the Joshua tree, ocotillo, sahuaro, and yucca with the same natural simplicity and spontaneous affection that characterize her treatment of petunias and maples. She is not only at home but at peace. "Altars iridescent" of the mountains and a desert road leading "To that far rim where earth meets sky" symbolize this peace. Religious faith pervades the book in passages such as: "That we are God's, and God is true, and nothing dies."

The poems are various in form, including cinquains, sonnets, and many lyrics which, though frequently irregular, show the author's innate sense of rhythm. "Olivera Street" is particularly colorful and musical.

IRENE TAYLOR HERRICK.