exploration to begin with, all on a high level, squabbles, manoeuvrings, business deals, and tuft-hunting on the ground level, and as background to it all a non-stop series of entrances and exits by famous men who are held long enough on the screen to be related to the central figure and then whisked away to make room for others. There is every imaginable fault in the selection and arrangement of the material, irrelevancies dragged in as a chance word recalls them, as for example more than three pages on Haast's repertoire of songs because a note in his diary of the Haast Pass journey says that he sang his companions to sleep one night when they camped in the rain under a rock. It is absurd, but it is very human and genuinely diverting, since you never know when you are going to come on something else as ridiculous in another way (like the unconsciously ludicrous precis of the correspondence with Hochstetter about a title).

It is the first time I have read so big a book without boredom, but having done it, I find myself unable to decide how big a man von Haast senior was. I have no difficulty in accepting his intelligence, his scientific zeal, his services to New Zealand, his restless but shrewdly directed energy. There was bigness in his mind as well as in his body, heat in him, and much generosity. But from beginning to end of this long story his son, though his own faith never falters, is pulling out the arrows of envy and doubt. It is difficult to avoid wondering whether the father was a great man greatly misjudged or a little less than great and no longer quite safe on his high seat. But whatever history does with him, I am sure that he will remain what a contemporary called Whitman—a great big something.

(As the author is his own publisher, the printer's responsibilities ended at his factory door. It should however be pointed out that his long and difficult task has been carried through with far more than the average degree of competence.) —O.D.

SHORTWAVE HIGHLIGHTS

ALTHOUGH the Voice of America programmes beamed to the Pacific have only an hour-and-a-half of programmes in English, they contain many interesting features besides the news and news analyses.

Stations, Frequencies, Wavelengths (9.0-10.30 p.m.): KNBA (9.65 mc/s., 31.09 metres), KNBI (9.75, 30.77), KGEX (11.73, 25.58), KNBX (11.79, 25.45), KCBR (15.15, 19.81), KRHO (15.25, 19.67).

Headlines in the Programmes: Sunday—9.0, World News; 9.15, Radio Forum; 9.30, NBC Symphony Orchestra; 10.15, Late World News. Monday—9.0, World News; 9.15, Analysis of the News; 9.30, Fashions in Swing; 9.45, Cavalcade of America; 10.0, Women's News Letter; 10.15, Late World News and Press Opinion. Tuesday—9.0, World News; 9.15, Analysis of the News; 9.30, Fashions in Swing; 9.45, Music America Loves Best; 10.0, New Roads in Science and Education; 10.15, Late World News and Press Opinion. Wednesday—9.0, World News; 9.15, Analysis of the News; 9.30, Radio Theatre; 10.15, Late World News and Press Opinion Thursday—9.0, World News; 9.15, Analysis of the News; 9.30, Fashions in Swing; 9.45, Here are the Answers; 10.0, Sketches in Harmony; 10.15, Late World News and Press Opinion. Friday—9.0, World News; 9.15, Analysis of the News; 9.30, Fashions in Swing; 9.45, This Land and its People; 10.0, News of the Theatre and the Films; 10.15, Late World News and Press Opinion. Saturday—9.0, World News; 9.15, Analysis of the News; 9.30, Stamp Club; 9.45, First Piano Quartet; 10.15, Late World News and Press Opinion.