



ELSIE K. MORTON, who will discuss "In Search of South Africa," by her namesake, H. V. Morton, in the ZB Book session on Sunday evening, May 1. The session will be chaired by A. W. Reed, of Wellington, and the other books, and reviewers, will be: "The Heathens," by William Howells (reviewed by Dr. Tom Garland); "The Phasian Bird," by Henry Williamson (J. H. E. Schroder); "Taina," by G. M. Henderson (G. C. Petersen).

could reasonably have been expected. Lighting of the wharves, the provision of safe gear and of adequate shed space, the re-organisation of transport from the sheds are all matters meriting discussion. It is unfortunate that most of these did not fall within the scope of the author's inquiry.

Those interested in the early days of industrial organisation in our country will, however, find a good deal that they will not find so easily anywhere else. The only pity is that a wider view was not taken. The explosive nature of the relations between the watersiders and certain other sections of the community needs probing, and in no field is the necessity for guidance in industrial relations more acute.

—J.D.McD.

LITTLE GIRL IN VALHALLA

THE ROYAL FAMILY OF BAYREUTH. By Friedelind Wagner, with Page Cooper, Eyre and Spottiswoode. English price, 15/.

THIS book is by the daughter of Richard Wagner's only son, Siegfried. On the death of Siegfried in 1930, Winifred Wagner, Friedelind's mother, took over the direction of the Bayreuth festivals. Winifred was a passionate supporter of Hitler; her daughter revolted against the Nazi regime, and left the country. What the book gives us, therefore, is a behind-the-sofa view of Bayreuth on the one hand, and of the Nazi circus on the other. There are some intimate pictures of Hitler, and of other and more reputable celebrities. The story is exciting at times, and there are moments when it is quite moving. It will interest both the opera enthusiasts and the student of world affairs.

The authoress is an ardent personality, a cross between Marie Bashkirtseff and Margot Asquith. She has an excellent memory, and the book is packed

with anecdotes. At times she seems to me to be a little naive. For example: "I feel very strongly about the frequently heard statement, totally untrue, that my grandfather was a Nazi in spirit and that his music exemplifies the Nazi ideology. He never could have endorsed such a pattern of thinking. His whole life, his writing and his music all deny such a possibility. If only people would read what he wrote instead of listening to Nazi propaganda. Wagner foresaw with prophetic clarity the drama and tragedy of our time. If Hitler had read the Ring of the Nibelung with understanding he could have foreseen his own doom."

—A.R.D.F.

FRENCH AND ENGLISH

CONCISE FRENCH AND ENGLISH DICTIONARY. Abridged by R. P. Jago from the larger volume of J. E. Mansion. George G. Harrap. English price, 10/6.

THIS is a dictionary for schools, for home readers who have forgotten their school vocabularies, and for travellers who want enough French to read public notices and make known their needs in hotels and shops. For all those purposes it will be found helpful, but there is not much more to be said for it except that it is well bound and clearly printed.

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