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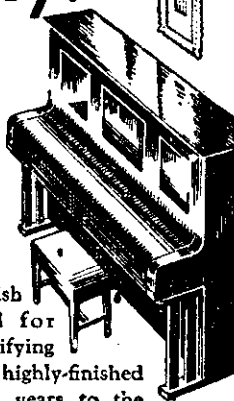
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BOOKS

(continued from previous page)

of order, and entries range from 941 to 1945; another where place is the key, and people are listed under classified centres and valleys; the third where writers' names are given alphabetically, and their works stated as in a select bibliography. Primarily, then, this book is needed by the specialist and the scholar. Though its most continuous use is that of reference, there is a variety of entertainment for those willing to search. Consider the year 1693 when "Sherard was mistaken by a peasant for a wolf as he was creeping in search of plants, and narrowly missed being shot," the year 1767 when a traveller wrote, "Engelberg: what does one find there? Nothing but repulsive mountains," in contrast with the enthusiasm of the year 1787, "Who does not wish fervently to climb these Alps, to get a couple of thousand feet nearer to God?"

Indeed, this chronological section has the most enticing quotations. Some of the best concern the travellers themselves, such as the entry of 1843 when the artist Turner was described as "a rough, clumsy man, and you may know him by his always having a pencil in his hand," or the description of the costume of an alpine dandy as being in 1825 "admirably adapted for exciting female terror at the breakfast table."

This valuable source book includes the travels of men great in other spheres: in art there are Turner and Cezanne; in literature (to name but a few) Goethe, Shelley, Balzac, Gautier, Nietzsche, Gide and Katherine Mansfield; in music Tchaikovsky and Stravinsky; and in politics Disraeli and Winston Churchill. There are surprises for everyone on dipping among these pages. The production is excellent and the illustrations are dramatic and varied. The only fault is that long chunks of French quotations have no translations, and some of the best passages are thus denied to many readers.

—John Pascoe

THE BEVERIDGES

ON AND OFF THE PLATFORM UNDER THE SOUTHERN CROSS, by William and Janet Beveridge; Hicks, Smith and Wright, Wellington, through Roy Parsons. Price, 10/6.

LORD AND LADY BEVERIDGE did so much in New Zealand and attracted so much attention, that the main object of the visit may have been obscured. They came because the University of Otago invited Lord Beveridge to give the first series of lectures on a foundation established by a gift from Miss de Carle. The example of the giver and of the University should be noted by citizens and other University centres. It would be good for this country if a line of eminent persons came from abroad on a similar mission.

If any visitor to New Zealand has deserved the memorial of print, it is surely the author of the Beveridge Report. So here we have in a small neat volume Lord Beveridge's de Carle lectures in Dunedin, and other addresses

and one article by himself and Lady Beveridge. With these is a lively record by Lady Beveridge of their experiences and impressions in New Zealand and Australia.

Much of the value of this printing lies in the assembling of social problem facts and opinions by a great expert and humanist. For example, if you wish to know just what the differences are between the social security systems of Britain and New Zealand, here is the information. "Voluntary Action for Social Advance" sets out admirably Britain's immense achievement through such action, argues that there are things it can do better than the State, and discusses the problem of combining the two policies. "The Economic Position of Britain" is a title that speaks for itself only too insistently. The "Illusions" which, in Lord Beveridge's opinion, help to block the way to national recovery, should be studied by all, for they apply to every democracy. But Lord Beveridge is convinced that the most vital problem of all is how to make peace lasting. World security comes before social security, and he sees the solution in a system of world government.

In her travelogue Lady Beveridge is observant, witty, warmly grateful, critical in a few places, but always sympathetic. She noted aspects of the 40-hour week in New Zealand and Australia. "Generally, the week-end in Australia is not quite as workless as it is in New Zealand," but one or two of her Australian experiences were exasperating. Both she and her husband discuss the alleviation of the housewife's lot. Perhaps the best example of Lady Beveridge's capacity to appreciate the new is her glowing description of Perth University, Western Australia. If a colonial is surprised that an Englishwoman, steeped in the traditions of the old world, should find so much beauty in the buildings and setting of a university in an Australian State with a population of half-a-million, he should also feel encouraged. But—has any New Zealand University centre received such praise? Has any deserved it?

—A.M.

SHELLEY'S POEMS

THE POETICAL WORKS OF SHELLEY. Selected by Morchard Bishop; Macdonald, London. English price, 8/6.

"AS perfect a gentleman as ever crossed a drawing-room," is how Lord Byron wrote of his friend Shelley—not perhaps the aptest description of him, unless it is considered as the remark of one genius about another. This latest edition of Shelley's poems (one of a series called Macdonald's *Illustrated Classics*) is as elegant as any gentleman could wish. It is bound in what looks like red leather, and should make a good school prize or present, even if it is not quite up to the pre-war standard in these things. The principal omissions, which should not greatly trouble the general student, are *The Revolt of Islam*, *Rosalind and Helen*, and *Queen Mab*. Bishop's introduction is as interesting and sensible as it is up-to-date, while the type is clear, the lines are numbered, and there are several reproductions of National Gallery portraits of Keats, Byron, Godwin, and other fellow-romanticists.

—P.J.W.