

(continued from previous page)

tions of South Sea Islanders arriving respectively one thousand, eight hundred and six hundred years ago fused and blended to produce the people and the culture we came to know as Maori. The author regards the South Island Moa hunters and the Maruiwi of the North as a single stock who arrived soon after, or with, Kupe from an undisclosed Polynesian homeland, to form the first wave. Like the immigrants of the Toi migration, two centuries later, their failure to introduce the kumara and other cultivated plants forced them to rely on fishing and fowling, and kept their population down. A section of these people migrated to the Chathams, where after centuries of isolation they became the Morioris. But the author does not use the recent and misleading term Moriori to refer to the earliest settlers in New Zealand; he calls them Tangata whenua, or pre-Fleet settlers. Did Melanesians arrive at this time? The author says no, and, in saying so, is the first Maori to tell his own people that an unsupported tradition cannot prevail over material evidence.

"Thus a skeleton in its original resting place surrounded by adzes, ornaments and a blown moa egg speaks with more truth concerning the past than the living graduates of an accredited house of learning . . . My criticism of some Maori sources of information may appear severe at times . . . but criticism coming from me cannot be said to be tinged with racial intolerance."

Continuing the story, the arrival of the Fleet of 1350 represented the last migration from Polynesia to New Zealand. Unlike their predecessors, the Fleet arrivals introduced food plants, and the great growth of the North Island population dates from then. The Fleet and pre-Fleet settlers blended, on the whole, amicably. During the next four or five centuries the older and later settlers blended, greatly modified their culture to meet the new environment of temperate New Zealand and became the Maoris.

The sections on material culture, social organisation and religion are of

CORRECTION

The price of "It Was So Late and Other Stories," by John Reece Cole, reviewed in last issue, is 12/6, not 10/6 as stated.

the quality guaranteed by their authorship. In each chapter the emphasis is on the continuing movement of the imported items of culture, through their thousand years' acclimatisation in New Zealand to the form in which Te Rangi Hiroa experienced them in childhood and early manhood. Whether it be the method of plaiting leaf strips, the niceties of social etiquette, or the pantheon of the gods, the author can show us the probable form of the basic elements in early Hawaiki and the infinitely varied modifications brought about by the colonists who moved out to such new land as New Zealand. The Maori reader should find inspiration and encouragement in this revelation of the richness, complexity and dignity of the culture developed by his ancestors in New Zealand; the Pakeha might well ask himself whether he has been able to develop a culture comparably unique and independent.

The book ends abruptly; there is no postscript, no call to the future. But in his *Vikings of the Sunrise* Te Rangi Hiroa closed with this variation of an old proverb, which might appropriately close this review: "The old net is laid aside. What new net goes a-fishing?"

STONE DEAD HATH NO FELLOW

SAMARA, by Norman Lewis; Cape. English price, 9/-.

THIS short, brilliant novel describes with ruthless actuality and a subdued, almost gay, irony the atrocious post-war treatment by the French of Algerian Arabs. The savagery and gusto of the description cannot altogether hide the intensity of the author's indignation at the methods of exploitation and government-by-massacre which it depicts. It contains some memorable characters (though the English "hero" is a bit dim) and some superb descriptions of action. Is it exaggerated for purposes of satire? One hopes so; indeed one hopes so.

—David Hall

RURAL ENGLAND

THE COUNTRYSIDE AND HOW TO ENJOY IT; Odhams Press, London.

THIS book reveals the different facets of the English countryside, heightened by clear photographs, and described by a number of authors, including A. G. Street and S. P. B. Mais, who introduces the work with a general description of the countryside. There are chapters dealing, not only with historic towns and villages, with castles and abbeys and old buildings, with churches and cathedrals and ancient landmarks, with curious customs and ceremonies—in other words, the human element of the countryside, and human associations—but also with the silent plant life and the varied animal life of the woods. Against this vivid background to the subject are hints on weather-anticipation and advice to the tramp.

—B.L.C.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

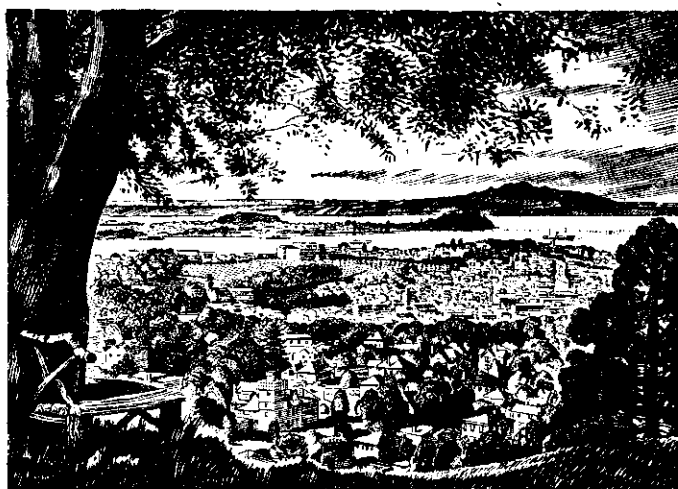
EMILY BRONTE'S strange, wild story of the Yorkshire moors, *Wuthering Heights*, which was recently included in a tentative list (prepared for Unesco) of 13 British classics, has now been reprinted as a pocket-sized volume in the Holborn Library (Harrop; English price, 6/-).



Alan Blakey photograph.

JOHN REID, who will review "The Kafka Problem," edited by Angel Flores, in the ZB Book Review session on January 8. The chairman for the evening will be Pat Lawlor, and other books for review are: "Focus," by Arthur Miller (reviewed by David Ballantyne); "The Harder They Fall," by Budd Schulberg (Wallie Ingram); and "Diver's Luck," by Clarence Benham (Bryan O'Brien).

Glimpses of New Zealand — No. 2. Auckland



The many picturesque islands which dot Hauraki Gulf at the entrance to Waitemata Harbour and a background of extinct volcanic craters form a magnificent setting for Auckland.

In 1840, Governor Hobson raised the flag at the then new settlement of Auckland which remained the seat of Government for New Zealand until 1864 when Wellington became the capital. Now, with a population nearing 300,000, Auckland is the Dominion's leading sea and air-port and a centre for timber, dairying and mining areas, whilst the city itself reveals considerable industrial development.

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