

study of the economic sources of action. These are alluded to, rather than analysed, and it may be significant that the words population, rice and fish do not figure in Dr. Jones's index. Yet the balance between these things may prove as important in the future as the deeply ingrained habits of Japanese and American politics.

## SPRING IN VIENNA

*THE REBIRTH OF AUSTRIA*, by Richard Hicocks; Oxford University Press, English price 18/-.

(ON April 23, 1945, before the European part of World War II had ended, and even before an Austrian provisional government had been formed there was a meeting in Vienna to revive music and the theatre. There was still no street lighting, no public transport, and the "streets were strewn with rubble, dead bodies and the putrefying carcasses of horses. Yet actors and musicians, old and young, who lived in and near Vienna, came together at once to start rehearsals." The Burgtheatre opened on April 30, and on May 1 the State Opera gave Mozart's *Marriage of Figaro*, though neither had its own building to perform in.

There is something characteristically Viennese—and perhaps Austrian—about this. There were uncertain political arrangements, material destruction, near starvation and severe shortages of essential goods, but—music and the theatre were important. (I was in Vienna about a year later and went to both opera and ballet. Rusty guns and tanks were still lying derelict in the parks, but that didn't matter. Vienna seemed to be Vienna again.)

This part of the post-war Austrian story will appeal to most readers, but the remainder of the book will be interesting primarily to the historian, the student of international affairs and perhaps to the economist. It is a straightforward account by a former British Council representative of the re-emergence of the Austrian Republic after it had been released from the Nazis. It covers the story of quadripartite control, UNRRA and other relief, currency, prices and wages and a little politics. The story of how UNRRA saved Austria from starvation and collapse was well worth telling, if only because truly international aid has receded from that high peak.

If there is any criticism of the book it relates to the failure to link the story of Austria to its internal and external political background.

—W.B.S.

## THE FAR NORTH

*NUNAMIUT*, by Helge Ingstad; English price 21/-; *A WOMAN IN THE POLAR NIGHT*, by Christiane Ritter; English price 12/6; *THE DANGEROUS RIVER*, by R. M. Patterson; English price 15/-; All published by George Allen and Unwin Ltd.

A NORWEGIAN among the inland Eskimos of Alaska, a German woman on the coast of Spitzbergen, an Englishman in the North-West Territories of Canada, have proved themselves travel writers of some distinction. Their adventures have been satisfying ones from which they have emerged with modesty and a sense of perspective. They have all counted the loss of material comforts of civilisation as of minor importance. Their gain has been exciting new experiences in which they have found themselves.

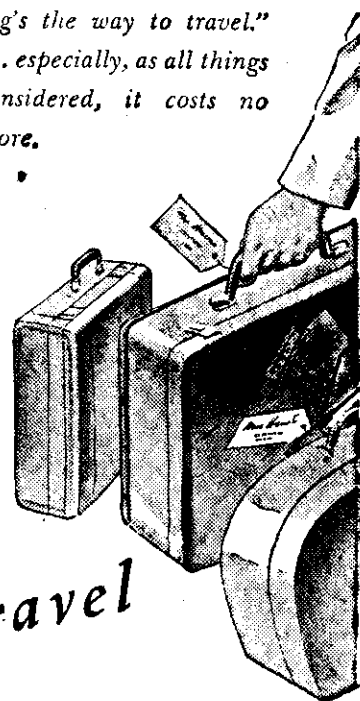
Helge Ingstad is an admirable man, objective in his judgments. His long visit to the Nunamiut tribe of Eskimos is described with sympathy and keen insight. He is always human but never sentimental. The full social life of the


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