

Monastery was being used by the Germans for military purposes. Even if this view were erroneous—and it is difficult not to be persuaded by the evidence here adduced—the destruction had to be ordered if morale was to be preserved.

A full reading of the historian's assessment of the main battle for Cassino will leave little room for disagreement. His finding that the New Zealand Corps lost its "best opportunity of gate-crashing Cassino" by failing to flood the town with infantry as soon as the initial bombing ceased, should not be taken alone. In all that has gone before, Professor Phillips has made it very clear that this "best opportunity" was a very poor best indeed, by no means certain of success. One lapse in the argument could perhaps be criticised; after noting the failure to order more infantry more quickly into the town, he remarks that the commanders in immediate control of the battle (at brigade and division) could obtain no information as to the outcome of the fighting in the town for several hours, owing to poor communications. These points should be connected, to show that by the time the situation was realised, the "opportunity" (such as it was) had passed.

But the "big picture" is accurate and fair, and all the many tactical difficulties are fully set out. Even in retrospect it is difficult to see any course that would have had a real likelihood of success without heavier casualties than were justified by an admittedly pressing strategic situation. General Freyberg, as usual, saw the battle in these wider terms. It was well for New Zealand that he did so, and for those who faced the enemy across the rubble of Cassino.

This book is a significant contribution to the history of our country at war; the second and complementary volume by the same author will undoubtedly be worth waiting for.

#### THE SUFFRAGETTES

VOTES FOR WOMEN, by Roger Fulford; Faber and Faber, English price 25/-.

THE ramifications of the suffrage movement make it a singularly difficult subject for the historian, but Mr Fulford has succeeded in writing a sober and at the same time entertaining book which is quite masterly in the selection of material. The real factors behind the whole struggle were never very clear. Sometimes it seems that Votes for Women is the main theme, sometimes it is the sex war blazing up as it never has before or since, and sometimes the emphasis shifts to equality of the sexes and the general emancipation of women. Party politics play

a far greater part than is generally recognised.

The newly fledged Liberal Government of 1906 was in favour of women's suffrage, but because this meant extending the franchise to people who, because of property qualifications would all vote Conservative, they rejected all such proposals in favour of a bill introducing universal suffrage (and so came in for the brunt of militant suffragette activities). It is difficult, too, to be sure where it all began. Mr Fulford takes us back to 1733 when the right of women to vote was first examined by lawyers—who, incidentally, found that there was no law against it. The greater part of the book deals with the period 1900 to 1918, and the split in the women's movement, and particularly with the militant faction (the Women's Social and Political Union) which was under the brilliant leadership of Mrs Pankhurst and her indomitable daughter Sylvia. The author somehow manages to keep a nice balance between the heroic and the comic side of the story. The lighter relief is supplied mainly by the men who opposed the "Cause." As F. E. Smith remarked at the time, "One of the peculiarities of this controversy is that it disorders the faculties of even the ablest men."

For us today the most tragic thing about the whole unhappy episode of militancy, with its violence, brutality and ribaldry on one side and its courage, sentimentality and idealism on the other, is the mistaken idea behind it. Suffragettes and their male and female supporters really believed that once women were represented in Parliament a new and glorious epoch would automatically follow, that women had something of inestimable value to contribute to society, and that it was only the lack of a voice in government that stopped them from abolishing war, and almost all wickedness. This is a book that is too good to miss. The story that raised such tempestuous fury and such staggering fatuity in the decade before the 1914-18 war can now be seen in perspective, and Mr Fulford has done it full justice with lucidity and objectivity—above all, with a light touch. But he is a serious writer and the funny bits seem to find their way into the pages almost against his will. Aware of this, he expresses the hope that the heroic courage of all those women who bravely suffered ridicule in the Victorian era and imprisonment in the years that followed, will in these pages never be far from the reader's mind.

—Margaret Garland

#### MIXED THEATRE

PLAYS OF THE YEAR, Volume 14, edited by J. C. Trewin; Elek Books, English price 18/-.

THE 14th volume of this series, edited, like the others, by J. C. Trewin, offers the same mixed grill as its predecessors: one good play, one rubbishy melodrama, one neat play of restricted area, and one historical pageant. The good play is *The Strong Are Lonely*, by Fritz Hochwaelder, translated from the German by Eva le Gallienne. It is set in Paraguay during the later 18th century, when the Jesuit order ruled the State according to the highest ethical and spiritual principles. The unimpeachable integrity of the Jesuits brings thousands of Indians, formerly at the mercy of slave traders, to Christianity, but it is a faith cherished because it lines their pockets and leaves them in peace, lulling them into a torpor as pleasant as it is unmindful of man's last end. A legate is sent from Rome, disguised, to examine the Jesuits, and, as a result of his findings, the Order is commanded

(continued on next page)

C.B. 6

Specially made  
FOR  
**TOUGH  
BEARDS**  
AND  
**TENDER SKIN**



**COLGATE**  
**BRUSHLESS** shaving cream

It's brushless—gives a better shave without a brush than you ever had with one.

**Snap**  
**are**  
**best**  
**on**



**Kodak**  
**FILM**

57-1

#### Porking Metres

##### HEAVY FANTASTIC TOE

*TODAY in the quest after  
pleasure,  
Though hardly for Darby and  
Joan,  
Some people are getting good  
measure  
By rocking and rolling their  
own.  
But still don't you think it is  
funny  
To find when you come to take  
stocks,  
So few that are rolling in money,  
So many, like me, on the rocks.*  
—R.G.P.

Of interest to all Organists and Choirmasters . . . . .

#### THE OXFORD EASY ANTHEM BOOK

FIFTY EASY ANTHEMS FOR CHURCH CHOIRS

Price, without Supplement - - 14/9 N.Z.

With Supplement - - - 17/6 N.Z.

THE OXFORD EASY ANTHEM BOOK is designed to fill the need for a volume of anthems which should be easy, or of only moderate difficulty. It is intended to be used wherever choirs sing in the English language.

THE OXFORD EASY ANTHEM BOOK is available in New Zealand now, and has already been adopted by a number of choirs.

. . . . . OF ALL BOOKSELLERS . . . . .

A prospectus, giving the full List of Contents is available from:—

**OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS**

BOX 135, WELLINGTON.