



With insurance, as on the cricket field, "extra cover" provides that vital protection where it is most needed in any sudden emergency. By providing extra cover for the same premium, from the very first day you're assured, a D.L.O. policy allows for the present and safeguards the future of your family. This "extra cover" is made possible by virtually giving you a large proportion of your bonuses in advance. This sum is added to the policy at the start, without increasing the premium.

Only D.L.O. offers immediate extra cover at no extra cost.

Extra Cover means DOMINION LIFE OFFICE

The Dominion Life Assurance Office of New Zealand Limited.
Branches and Agencies throughout New Zealand.

Head Office: N.Z. Insurance Building, Featherston Street, Wellington.
DIRECTORS: D. R. Hoggard (Chairman), F. H. Harris, P. Maclean,
J. Maling, H. B. Williams.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

THE PLAYS OF J. B. PRIESTLEY, VOLUME II, 16/9 posted. This volume of plays by Britain's great playwright contains "Laburnum Grove," "Bees on the Boat Deck," "When We Are Married," "Good Night Children," "The Golden Fleece," "How Are They at Home," and "Ever Since Paradise."

27 WAGONS FULL OF COTTON, AND OTHER PLAYS, Tennessee Williams, 10/6 posted. In "A Streetcar Named Desire" and "The Glass Menagerie" Mr. Williams established himself as a playwright of deep perception and poetic imagination. This collection of eleven short plays shows the same qualities.

GAUGUIN. With introduction and notes by Herbert Read, 10/9 posted. Another Faber Gallery book, containing 16 superb colour plates of this most fascinating of the impressionists.

SHAW, C. E. M. Joad, 16/6 posted. G.B.S. has provoked numerous biographies. This one, by a figure of no little stature himself, aims less at being a factual study than at picturing the influence of Shaw the philosopher, and political thinker—the man who overthrew the shibboleths of an era.

WELLINGTON CO-OPERATIVE BOOK SOCIETY LIMITED.

MODERN BOOKS

48A MANNERS STREET,
WELLINGTON, C.I., N.Z.

BOOKS

(continued from previous page)

is a sense in which Mr. Eliot can without impropriety be named with Dante": he has shared in his own time the same Divine Vision, and he, too, "has found a 'dolce stil nuovo.'"

All very well, the common reader may be inclined to protest—I am prepared to take my Dante with a commentary, because I know he's worth it. But should we have to work quite so hard with a contemporary poet, and a poet in our own language? To which Mr. Eliot might no doubt reply with André Gide (from his own very different conviction) "Comment ne parlerais-je pas difficilement? J'ai des choses nouvelles à dire." And if in the end some of the things do not appear so very new, there is a new beauty—most apparent in the sober splendour of the *Quartets*—in his manner of saying them.

THE DARK PLACES

SHADOWS IN THE SUN, by Taylor and Gadsen; Harrap. English price, 15/-.

THE shadows in the sun are tropical diseases. Some of them are fearsome beyond belief; all of them are widespread beyond our imagining. Consider that half the people in the world have, or will have, malaria; that in some localities all the people have or will have yaws, and three-quarters of them hookworm as well.

The book tells of the struggle against these diseases and against typhus, Yellow Jack and sleeping sickness. We all know that disease is a matter of parasites. The parasite lives as best it may. We struggle to break the chain of infection. Where there is an intermediate host, as in malaria, typhus or sleeping sickness, we concentrate there.

The story of certain vaccines is also well told. For example, on May 13, 1931, the terror fell away from Yellow Jack. It lifts the spirit, in these days of foreboding, to read of such a victory. For this book is a victorious book. The pity is that so many victories yet remain to be won.

The laziness of tropical peoples is really the result of debilitating diseases coupled with a woefully deficient diet and "tropical slum" living. Unfortunately, the disease-induced lethargy prevents their doing anything about it. Hence our responsibility. The weapons are forged; it is for us to use them. We must attack the parasites directly, but, more important, we must change conditions and so change people. Fundamental research must continue, both social and biological. We don't know enough about tropical slums or about parasites' metabolism. Since this book was published, research has revealed something of the action of modern drugs on the energy systems of parasites. But we still don't know how to block the life processes, the building of proteins for growth and reproduction, for example. When we know this we shall be able, at will, to control parasite infestation—always provided the funds are available to alter the conditions in which parasites flourish.

These are the themes of *Shadows in the Sun*. Excellent illustrations add much to our understanding, but they (and the

diagrams) should be as close as possible to the matters illustrated. A picture, a diagram, or a complete chapter removed from its context is either wasted or a source of irritation. Special care has been devoted to the "charts" which are really diagrams. The best of them are well adapted to the task set them. Others are deplorably obscure, and the legend takes as much interpreting as the "chart" itself.

The authors bring to their task a sufficient competence and the results of a most painstaking search of the original material. The exposition is persuasive, and the practised hand makes light of the difficulties of popularisation.

—J.D.McD.

ROUSING ECHOES

FIENKA, by V. Krymov; Allen and Unwin. Price, 12/6.

THE nostalgic writings of Russians-in-exile seem never to dry up. This is an echo of the 19th Century, a pastiche of the "genuine," classical, pre-revolutionary Russian novel. Turgenev did not live in vain. *Fienka* is an excellent book, if one can overcome one's uneasiness at its being published in 1949.

The main characters in the novel belong to the sect of the Old Believers whom the Tsars persecuted. In spite of having been an Old Believer and suffering the additional disadvantages of being a bastard and growing up barefoot, Fienka makes good, marries the wealthiest man in sight and, in the second share-out of husbands, a prince and high official. Nearly every one of the throng of well-drawn characters Krymov creates is a terrific "character," loaded with eccentricities. This fascinating attraction for extraordinary human detail gives the book its quality. The attempt to suggest dialect by making some of the speeches, when translated into English, diverge from the ordinary rules of orthography or grammar is not entirely happy. Dialect can best be represented by sticking to a particular dialect, whether Cockney or lowland Scots, not by drawing on a number of dialects at once.

—David Hall

GABRIEL READ'S COUNTRY

TUAPEKA: THE LAND AND ITS PEOPLE, by W. R. Mayhew; Otago Centennial Historical Publications.

THE special interest in this Otago Centennial volume is that Tuapeka was the scene of Gabriel Read's discovery of gold, which was the main-spring of the Central Otago rushes in the 'sixties. Mr. Mayhew gives a full account of this event, so important for Otago and New Zealand. Read was not the first to find gold, but he established the existence of the field. It was out of this gold that Otago was able to realise its dreams of education, and take the lead among the provinces. Mr. Mayhew, however, tells the story of Tuapeka from the beginning. The sheep-farmer came before the digger, and against the wishes of the hierarchy, which considered that the Otago settlement should be circumscribed and tied closely to the capital; also that it should be confined to Scots. Mr. Mayhew relates that Captain Cargill told an Englishman he had no business in Otago, and should go to Canterbury. That province started with the same ideal of exclusiveness, but sheep-men from Australia broke in, just as, in much larger numbers, miners flocked to Central Otago.

The story of Tuapeka is sheep-farming, then gold-getting, then general