

BOOKS

(continued from previous page)

money and instructions for British and French agents of the Resistance. Landing from a submarine in January, 1942, he spent four weeks in Unoccupied France before crossing the Pyrenees on foot in a strenuous 50-mile night journey. He returned once more by submarine and was twice dropped by parachute before being captured in April, 1943. This is the story of his first mission. He tells it unmodestly in the third person. He is too much concerned with the minutiae of his trip—returning salutes, ordering drinks, washing, shaving, eating, sleeping—but much of it was spent killing time in cafés trying not to attract attention. —W.A.G.

EASY READING

THE HAND AND FLOWER, by Jerrard Tickell; Hodder and Stoughton. English price, 10 6. **TOM TALLION**, by E. H. W. Meyerstein; Victor Gollancz. English price, 12 6. **A LONG WAY TO GO**, by Marigold Armitage; Faber and Faber. English price, 12 6. **TOM TIDDLER'S GROUND**, by Mary Dunstan; William Heinemann. English price, 12 6.

THE HAND AND FLOWER is easy reading. Those who enjoyed *Appointment with Venus* will find here the same freshness of character and landscape which made the earlier novel so popular. The Hand and Flower is a London pub whose darts club goes on a day's trip to Boulogne. The adventures of Charley Collins, brewery man, Shorty, the spiv who joins the Foreign

Legion, and Jim Carver, the ex-sergeant who meets, loses and finds again the little peasant girl encountered years before, make up a several-stranded story, sometimes very funny, sometimes touching. There is amusing satire on the Englishman on foreign soil, clinging stoutly to his virtue while enjoying himself in a round of mild naughtiness turned on for his benefit.

Tom Tallion is a clever satirical novel. Touching the early life of the hero, an artistic prodigy, is a strange succession of characters whose common factor is that they are all untimely and inconsequentially dead. The urbane treatment gives this novel an unusual flavour—like Defoe re-written by Evelyn Waugh.

It's **A Long Way To Go** to Tipperary, and this witty story shows with considerable insight that the distance from the smart world of London is not merely in miles but in states of mind. A successful playwright brings his intended bride and his manager to visit his decaying family seat. Horses are the family mania and temporarily the visitors succumb to the bewitching corruption of the place where a fox-hunt is as passionate as a love affair.

In a bleak Highland glen an old woman rears her great-grandson, inculcating in him her own hatred of the English. When the boy's English relatives discover him, his mind becomes a **Tom Tiddler's Ground**. A penetrating, unsentimental study of a dour and terrible conflict.

—M.J.B.

"REVIEW": New Session from 4YC

BOOKS, music, the theatre, art and architecture are among the topics to be discussed in *Review*, a new programme which Patricia Guest is to conduct from 4YC. It will be heard at 8 p.m. on Wednesdays. Verse readings and reviews of concerts and productions by both visiting and local artists will also be included in the programmes. The first edition of *Review*, to be broadcast on March 18, will begin with a talk by Roy Parsons about Joyce Cary and Michael Joseph—the first of a series called *Books and People*. Charles Brasch will read his new poem which takes the form of a letter to Colin Newbury, written from Thurlby Domain, near Queenstown, and the programme will end with a review by Professor J. A. Passmore of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre Company's production of *Othello*. Professor Passmore has the chair of philosophy at the University of Otago.

The second *Review* will include another talk by Roy Parsons and a review by Jean Ballard of the Stratford-upon-Avon players production of *As You Like It*. Miss Ballard is lecturer in English at Dunedin Teachers' Training College and is well known for her own productions with students. Colin Newbury will wind up the *Review* with an introductory talk to a series of programmes on 17th Century verse and music. In later editions of *Review* Mrs. Guest will introduce the verse and Mary



PATRICIA GUEST

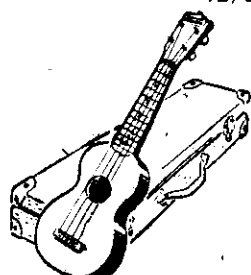
Martin, who lectures in music at Otago University, will introduce the music.

Among those to be heard later in *Review* are David Hall, M. K. Joseph, Dorothy White, R. M. Burdon and Basil Dowling.

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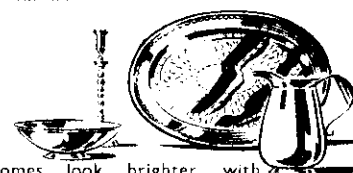
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