

Bibliographical Notes

Dora Dueck, *Under the Still Standing Sun* (Winnipeg/Hillsboro: Kindred Press, 1989), Paperback, 293 pp. This is a fictionalized story of Mennonites who fled the Soviet Union and in 1930 came to the Paraguayan Chaco to establish a new life. Through Anna Sawatzky's varied experiences, including her love, marriage, and pioneering difficulties, which are realistically portrayed, the reader gains valuable insights into the history and life of the Paraguayan Mennonites.

Leonard Neufeldt, *Raspberrying*. Poems (Windsor: Black Moss Press, 1991), Paperback, 56 pp. On the back cover Jim Barnes writes of these poems: "[The collection] is a microcosm so minutely defined that you have to admit God may just have written a handbook for berry pickers. Yarrow, B.C., is both mythical and real.... Neufeld's language rolls with the thunder of metaphor and living. With this new book, Neufeld claims his rightful place in the canon of Canadian Literature."

James A. Michener, *The Novel* (Mandarin Paperbacks, 1991). The best-selling author has not done his Pennsylvania Dutch friends a favor by setting his "Novel" in Amish-Mennonite territory. Its copyright page declares that "The Novel is a work of fiction," but it would be nearer the truth to have called it a work of Michener's fantasy, which operates in terms of best-selling, agents, and millions, and not writing or, perish the thought, the writing of a Mennonite novel. Whatever the achievements of his other "monumental" place books may be, this cliché-ridden "novel" is a real clunker, which of course has not prevented it from becoming another inevitable best-seller.

J. Craig Haas, *Readings from Mennonite Writings —New and Old* (Inter-course, PA: Good Books, 1992), Paperback, 436 pp., \$14.95 US. John D. Roth of Goshen College writes in the Foreword to this book: "[This is a] remarkable collection... Drawn from an enormous range of sources—including selections

from women and men, North American and international—the daily readings offered here address traditional Mennonite concerns in ways which speak to the heart and the soul as well as the mind and the will.” The book includes a useful introduction to “Mennonite Spirituality” by the compiler.

Walter Klaassen, ed., *Anabaptism Revisited. Essays on Anabaptist/Mennonite Studies in honor of C.J. Dyck* (Scottsdale/Waterloo: Herald Press, 1992), Paperback, 210 pp. This Festschrift in honour of C.J. Dyck, long-time professor of history at Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminaries, includes several impressive articles. The authors are: Werner O. Packull, C. Arnold Snyder, Stephen B. Boyd, Edmund Pries, Walter Klaassen, Sjouke Voolstra, John Friesen, H. Wayne Pipkin, Rodney J. Sawatsky, Paul Toews, Paul Peachey. The volume includes biographical vignettes of C.J. Dyck by Robert Kreider and a bibliography of Dyck’s works by Henry Poettker.

Richard B. Gardner, *Matthew. Believers Church Bible Commentary* (Herald Press, 1991). This series, published by several Mennonite and Brethren conferences, seeks to present “a readable series of commentaries... for all who seek to understand the original message of the Scripture and its meaning for today.” The commentary is based on a comparative reading of four contemporary Bible translations, and seeks to place the texts historically as well as in current applications for church life. The author teaches New Testament studies at Bethany Theological Seminary, Oak Brook, Illinois. The volumes on Jeremiah and Genesis had appeared earlier.

Steven M. Nolt, *A History of the Amish* (Intercourse, PA: Good Books, 1992), Paperback, 318 pp., \$9.95 US. This is a well written popular history of the Amish in America. The volume includes many drawings and photographs, notes to each chapter, and a useful bibliography and index.

Philip LeMasters, *Discipleship for all Believers. Christian Ethics and the Kingdom of God* (Scottsdale/Kitchener: Herald Press, 1992), Paperback, 172 pp., \$15.95 Can. In the Foreword to the book Donald B. Kraybill writes: “LeMasters shows how practical discipleship in the shadow of the resurrection leads not to irrelevance but to significant discourse with the major moral issues of our times. Such ethical reflection is not confined to a few elite Christians cloistered in a monastery. Serious discipleship, exuding the joy of the resurrection, is the vocation of all believers.”

Elfrieda Toews Nafziger, *A Man of His Word. A Biography of John A. Toews* (Winnipeg: Centre for Mennonite Brethren Studies, 1992), Paperback, 183 pp. This biography deals with a well-known Mennonite Brethren leader, teacher, minister, and scholar. The book recounts the important stages of Toews’ life and work, and includes numerous black and white photographs. Many former students

of J.A., as he was affectionately called, will find this biography interesting and worthwhile. The book was written by J.A.'s daughter.

Donald B. Kraybill, *Passing on the Faith. The Story of a Mennonite School* (Intercourse, PA: Good Books, 1991), Paperback, 316 pp. This is a well written story of Lancaster Mennonite High School. The author traces with skill and sensitivity the development of this school and its supporting community, showing how they changed from their more conservative days in 1942, when the school was established, to greater involvement in the wider community toward the end of the twentieth century. Photography editor Joanne Hess Siegrist was responsible for the excellent color and black and white photographs included in this volume.

David Ewert, *Proclaiming Salvation. Preaching the Church Year* (Scottsdale/Waterloo: Herald Press, 1992), Paperback, 160 pp., \$10.95 Can. The author, Mennonite Brethren teacher, preacher and writer, states in the Preface: "The Sermons in this collection are all expository. A biblical text is analyzed, outlined, and then expounded and applied to the life of the twentieth-century believers.... I invite the reader to walk with me through the Christian year and to reflect with me on the great verities of the gospel."

Isaac I. Block, *Assault on God's Image: Domestic Abuse* (Winnipeg: Windflower Communications, 1991). This "thesis/project report" is an important document because it testifies to the presence of domestic violence in the "non-violent" Mennonite community. Of its three parts the second, the report of the survey carried out by Block, detailing physical, emotional, and sexual abuse and other forms of domestic violence, speaks for itself. Less eloquent is the first section which seeks to find a theological framework using rather inadequate sources and points of reference, while the third, practical, part makes a useful "proposal for pastoral intervention."

Dietrich Dyck sen., *Mein Weg durch dieses Leben* (Deutsche Templergesellschaft, Stuttgart, 1992). Dietrich Dyck, born in Rudnerweide in 1854, experienced the religious unrest of the 1860s as a young man and joined the early Temple movement in Gnadenfeld and Tempelhof. As a teacher with a questioning mind Dyck moved through the adventurous phases of his life in Palestine and Russia with a critical spirit, and in this late memoir, written in his last years, spent in Beresniki, Dyck comments on the momentous shifts in thought and belief which affected generations of Mennonites and German colonists in mid-nineteenth century Russia. Here there is new material on how and why Mennonites were attracted to the Templer movement.

Diane Driedger and Susan Gray, eds., *Imprinting our Image. An International Anthology by Women with Disabilities* (Gynergy Press, 1992). A unique collection of essays by women from seventeen countries who write as experts because they

write "from inside" the experience of disability. A growing number of Mennonite women is becoming active in addressing problems from a somewhat different, because feminist, perspective. One is reminded of the critique by Dorothy Friesen, *Critical Choices*, which deals with perceptions leading to disastrous economic policies. Here the perceptions regarding disability are shown to be much more of a problem than the disabilities themselves, which, in the words of one of the authors, "is no more of a tragedy than having green eyes."

Rachel and Kenneth Pellman, *A Treasury of Mennonite Quilts* (Good Books, Intercourse, PA, 1992). Rachel and Kenneth Pellman have produced a number of excellent books on Amish and Mennonite culture, and this latest addition is more than a beautiful coffee table book—although it fulfils that cultural function rather well also. A wide variety of patterns from the 19th and 20th centuries are demonstrated and explained by means of over 100 color plates and knowledgeable description.

Victor Peters, *Die Hutterischen Brüder 1528-1992. Die geschichtliche und soziale Entwicklung einer erfolgreichen Gütergemeinschaft* (Marburg: N. G. Elwert Verlag, 1992), Paperback, 223 pp., DM 30.00. The author is well known through his *All Things Common: The Hutterian Way of Life* (1965). His new book, based on the author's 1959 doctoral dissertation (Göttingen), will be of special interest to German readers in Europe and South America. Originally written in English, the dissertation has been revised, brought up to date, and ably translated by Jack Thiessen. Sympathetic yet objective and probing, the history includes pertinent original documents, and deals sensitively with modern developments among Hutterites (the Society of Brothers, the Japanese Mennonites, and the legal dispute about a hog feeder patent in Manitoba). The book includes 61 black and white photographs but there is no index.

W.R. Chadwick, *The Battle for Berlin, Ontario: An Historical Drama* (Waterloo: Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 1992). Paperback, 176 pp., \$19.95. This is a fascinating story of how in 1916 Berlin, Ontario, changed its name to Kitchener. Beginning with the early settlement of the peace-loving Mennonites in the area, the book shows how the battlelines were drawn between those Berliners who wished to retain the traditional name of their city and those zealous patriots—mostly soldiers—who advocated a change of name. The patriots got their way, but, as the author suggests, they lost their honour.

Joy Kogawa, *Itsuka. A Novel* (Toronto: Penguin Books, 1992). Hardcover, 289 pp., \$24.95. Japanese-Canadian novelist Joy Kogawa became first known through her best-selling *Obasan*, a novel based on her and her people's experiences in World War II. In her second novel, *Itsuka* (someday), Naomi, the protagonist,

matures on the Canadian prairies and eventually moves to Toronto where she joins the Japanese-Canadians' struggle for redress and justice. In south-western Alberta Naomi comes to know the Hutterites and Mennonites—"the Mennonite Brethren group from whom we feel the greatest kindness." ("Plump Mrs. Regehr is making buns [zwieback] as she often does—munchy fist-size lumps with an extra little lump like a bun hat on top...You take for Mama yo?"')

The Correspondence of Erasmus: Letters 1356 to 1534 (1523-1524) (Collected Works of Erasmus, Vol. 10), trans. by R.A.B. Mynors, annotated by James M. Estes (Toronto/Buffalo/London: University of Toronto Press, 1992). Cloth, 515 pp., \$100.00. This highly readable and interesting volume of letters throws significant light on the relationship between Erasmus and Luther and their understanding of the Reformation. Several letters and notes also deal with such radical reformers as Thomas Müntzer, Andreas Karlstadt and the young radicals around Huldrych Zwingli. This is a valuable source for Reformation scholars.

(VGD, HL)