

Bibliographical Notes

Cornelius J. Dyck, *An Introduction to Mennonite History*. Third Edition (Scottsdale/Waterloo: Herald Press, 1993). Paperback, 452 pp. This is an expanded and updated edition of the popular text originally published in 1967 and subsequently revised in 1981. The new edition includes additional material to bring the story up to date, maps and pictures. In the Preface Dyck acknowledges the several authors who "originally drafted" chapters of the book he edited and contributed to. It thus comes as a surprise that in this latest edition Dyck is listed not as "editor" but as "author." The format of the book is most attractive and this new edition will continue to be popular among students and teachers of Mennonite history.

John M. Badertscher, Gordon Harland and Roland E. Miller, *Religious Studies in Manitoba and Saskatchewan: A State-of-the-Art Review* (Waterloo: Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 1993). Paperback, 166 pp. \$19.95. This is the fourth volume in a series of state-of-the-art reviews of religious studies programmes in Canadian universities. The book deals with religious studies, including teaching and scholarship, in the universities and colleges of the provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. The Mennonite colleges, Bible institutes and programmes are included in this review as well.

John A. Hostetler, *Amish Society*. Fourth Edition (Baltimore and London: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1993) Paperback, 436 pp. According to the author in the Preface: "This new book was made necessary by changes in Amish society, by new discoveries from research, and by changes in my own point of view." Contrary to the view in the past that this little splinter of the Anabaptist family would soon be assimilated by the dominant North American society, the Amish population, according to the author, "has tripled since 1950 and the assimilation rate has not changed significantly." This scholarly and well written book remains the best text on Amish society.

Merle Good, *Today Pop Goes Home. A Play* (Intercourse, PA: 1933). Paperback, 93 pp. \$6.95 U.S. According to the blurb on the back cover, this is a "serious drama about the difficult theme of aging. Do our parents respect us? Do our children respect us? Can the extended family be a home—or is a retirement institution better for everyone?" In reading the play it is far from clear whether these questions are answered successfully and convincingly. However, the play has found acceptance and numerous productions in community theatres and in educational settings. Merle Good is the author of a successful first novel, *Happy as the Grass Was Green*, which later became the basis for the film *Hazel's People*.

Hartmut Froeschle, *The German Canadians. A Concise History*. Special Issue of *German-Canadian Yearbook/Deutschkanadisches Jahrbuch*, Vol. 12 (Toronto: Historical Society of Mecklenburg Upper Canada, 1992). Hardcover, 180 pp. & 34 pp. of colour and black-and-white photographs; \$19.00. This book is a revised and enlarged version of the author's *Die Deutschen in Kanada. Eine Volksgruppe im Wandel*, which appeared in Austria in 1987. Here it appears in both German and English, translated by Georg K. Weißenborn. The text has been updated and the following chapters added: German-Canadian Literature; The German-Canadian Consciousness and German-Canadian Studies; Integration and Assimilation; a chronological table outlining German immigration and settlement; and a bibliography of more recent publications. While acknowledging that Canadian Mennonites form a distinct ethnic-religious group, the author includes them, correctly no doubt, with Canadians of German descent. Indeed he shows that some Canadian Mennonites have been more successful at preserving their German language and culture than other German Canadians. This concise history book could become a useful text for German-Canadian studies.

Peter Riedemann, *Love is Like a Fire. The Confession of an Anabaptist Prisoner*. Trans. and ed. by the Hutterian Brethren (Farmington, PA: The Plough Publishing House, 1993). Paperback, 74 pp., \$6.00 U.S. postpaid. This work of the well-known leader of the Hutterites is not to be confused with his longer and more mature Confession of Faith of 1540. *Love is Like a Fire* was written by Riedemann while in prison in Austria between 1529 and 1532 when the author was 23 or 24 years old. A recent convert to Anabaptism, Riedemann wrote with fervour and clarity. The book deals, among other things, with love of God, faith and baptism, the mass and the Lord's Supper, human love and marriage. This is the first English translation of the work.

Carrie Bender, *A Fruitful Vine* (Scottsdale/Waterloo: Herald Press, 1993). 191 pp. Written under the pseudonym Carrie Bender, a small first volume of an ongoing tale as related to a personal diary tells the story of the fortyish Amish

woman, Miriam. While some readers will find the goodness of this heroine too high in cholesterol, including her endless quotations of the Bible and other worthy sources, there is something simple and disarming in this tale that kept this rather sceptical reader on track and no doubt even ready to take on volumes two and three.

John M. Drescher, *When Your Child is 6 to 12* (Intercourse, PA: Good Books, 1993). Paperback, 96 pp., \$8.95 U.S. This is a gem of a booklet for parents of pre-teen children. Drescher's advice, drawn from many years of experience and knowledge, is sensitive, practical and informative. The booklet deals with such things as instilling values, teaching the facts of sex, a child's emotional growth, need for rules, the power of example, encouragement and praise etc.

Di Brandt, *Wild Mother Dancing* (Winnipeg: University of Manitoba Press, 1993). \$17.50. In a new release from the University of Manitoba Press the poet Di Brandt presents the findings of her doctoral dissertation on the theme of the "missing mother" in literatures old and new, classical and Mennonite. This very readable text offers a rich background to her poems and especially one of her dominant themes, documented from the interview collection by Katherine Martens: "Everyone has their own story to tell."

(VGD, HL)