

ards as that of the past, indicates a current improvement as healthful and a future as hopeful in proportion as it was dismal fifty years ago: the country paper, bolstered by a power press and a linotype machine, continues as a more efficient prophet of further improvement.

That part of the work devoted to the mechanics of editing, printing, and financing a country weekly is as applicable to North, East, and West as to the South—tramp printers, type lice, “patent insides,” slow-paying subscribers, belligerent subjects of news items and persons with a passion for publicity were evils common to all localities. There is also a general chapter of enlightening information upon the power which the patent medicine industry wielded in the newspaper field before the Pure Food and Drugs Act broke its grip; that chapter, by typical Clark touch, is titled “Go Tell Aunt Lydia!”

The Southern Country Editor is an important document; one which should set off special study upon a good many phases of Southern social and economic problems through what has been the rather lightly-regarded medium of the county weekly newspaper files.

Crawfordsville, Indiana

Richard E. Banta

The Agrarian Revolt in Western Canada, A Survey Showing American Parallels. By Paul F. Sharp. (Minneapolis, University of Minnesota Press, 1948, pp. ix, 204. Bibliography and index. \$3.00.)

The scope of this volume is indicated in its subtitle *A Survey showing American Parallels*. Mr. Sharp claims that the story of the North American West has not been told as a whole, and quotes Professor A. L. Burt to show that it “has often been approached with a national bias which ignores the parallel development of regions divided by a political boundary.” This study successfully attempts to trace the parallel agrarian movements in the American and Canadian Wests and to indicate the close connection between them. It fills a long felt want.

When the so-called “passing of the frontier” took place in the United States in the last decade of the nineteenth century, the stream of settlement turned north to Canada.

Until the best lands in Minnesota, the Dakotas, and eastern Montana had been taken up, there was no real inducement for Americans to come to the Canadian prairies. After 1896 the great immigration to the open spaces of the Canadian West began. From the British Isles, the continent of Europe, eastern Canada and the American Middle West, the homeseekers came in ever increasing numbers until the outbreak of the First World War in 1914. In 1905 two new provinces, Saskatchewan and Alberta, were carved out of the North West Territories. By 1914 it was estimated that one million Americans had come to the Canadian prairies.

These American settlers were very popular in Canada. They brought capital with them and they understood prairie conditions. As a rule they were successful, but they found that they no longer enjoyed the protection of the American tariff and that they "had moved from a national economy to an international economy which relied upon imported capital for its development and upon a world market for the sale of its only commodity." Many of them had taken part in agrarian movements in the United States and were as distrustful as ever of eastern capitalists. They were soon complaining of the domination, not of Wall Street, but of St. James Street, Montreal.

With meticulous care Mr. Sharp points out that the agrarian revolt in Western Canada was not merely a northward extension of the American movements but that it arose in Canada because of the similarity of the agrarian problems existing in the two countries. It is true that many of the leaders were Americans by birth, but others were Canadians or immigrants from the British Isles. The charge was commonly made that the leaders were "American agitators," but such was not the case.

Mr. Sharp traces, step by step, the progress of the farmers' movements in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. He stresses the importance of the *Grain Growers Guide*, founded in 1908, and of the Grain Growers Grain Company, the United Farmers of Alberta, the United Farmers of Manitoba, and the co-operative movements. Although the Non-partisan League spread from the United States to Canada during the First World War, its success was merely temporary. The great agrarian revolt of the 1920's with its farmers' parties and its wheat pools sprang from the soil

of the Canadian prairies. The outstanding leaders were Canadian rather than former Americans. The Progressive party which threatened for a time to disturb the balance of the "old-line" national political parties in the end coalesced with the Liberals under W. L. MacKenzie King, but its place was taken in the 1930's by the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, the C.C.F., a former labor-socialist combination which is still a potent force in Canadian politics.

Taken all in all, Mr. Sharp has done his work competently and thoroughly. The volume is well documented, its style is straight-forward and interesting, the bibliography and the index are both adequate. It is a good study, by an American scholar, of the agrarian movement on the Canadian prairies. Let us hope that it is only the first of many publications from his pen.

The University of British Columbia

Walter N. Sage

The Maryland Germans, A History. By Dieter Cunz. (Princeton, New Jersey, Princeton University Press, 1948, pp. xi, 476. Illustrations, map, appendix, bibliography, and index. \$5.00.)

Professor Cunz has divided the history of the Maryland Germans into three parts, part one covering the colonial period, 1640-1790; part two, the middle ages of immigration, 1790-1865; and part three, the last generations, 1865-1940. This appears to be a good division and each section has been ably dealt with by the author.

To the scholar interested in German immigration, this study should be of considerable appeal since "In no other Middle Atlantic state save Pennsylvania did the Germans play a more important part than in Maryland."

German names appeared in the documents of the Calvert Colony as early as 1640. The first group of German immigrants for America, however, did not arrive until October 6, 1683, when the "Concord" sailed into the port of Philadelphia. Under the leadership of Franz Daniel Pastorius this group had been attracted to America by William Penn. The number of German immigrants at first was insignificant, but between 1730 and 1740 "the first wave of German