

In *Missions and the American Mind*, Professor Latourette traces the effect of the missionary movement in shaping the American mind, a factor which has been too slightly appreciated. From the first settlement in America, every part of the country had its frontier period, and on every frontier the democratic churches exerted a profound influence. They built schools and colleges, disciplined their own members, exercised a Christian oversight over the community, and shaped the morals of the raw, materialistic Western folk. Missionary efforts in behalf of the immigrant contributed much to the fashioning of his mind and spirit. Although the work was partly financed from Europe, most of the leadership and funds were from the United States. The chief results of this missionary effort were twofold: a partial retention of the cultural tradition of the countries from which the immigrant came; and, secondly, the faith of many was strengthened through the missionary enterprise. The missions also shaped the attitude of Americans toward both Negroes and Indians and assisted in the adjustments necessary for all to live together in a good society. Beyond question America's foreign missionary enterprises have contributed materially to our better understanding of foreign peoples and lands, removed much of our isolationism, taught us to think in global terms, and advanced our interest in world peace and organization.

It is true that Christianity is often considered by some "to be a waning factor," but Professor Latourette insists that its widest application has been most clearly expressed in the twentieth century and that in the future it will have the power to right many wrongs of the past.

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The Ancient World. By Wallace Everett Caldwell. (New York, Rinehart & Company, Inc., 1949, pp. xvii, 589. Maps, illustrations, bibliography, index, and end maps. \$4.25.)

Professor Caldwell's revision of *The Ancient World* is a proof of the rapid progress made in the study of several areas of ancient history in the twelve years which have

elapsed since the first edition was published. His first chapter, "Preliterary History," has been drastically rewritten to incorporate recent revolutionary discoveries, while in the second, "The Early Orient," he has altered the chronology to conform to the recent hypotheses of Albright, Poebel, and others. Early Hebrew history (pp. 98-103) appears to have undergone some revision, while at the end a short section has been added to provide a framework for the treatment of the later Roman Empire. Lesser revisions in other parts of the book need not be mentioned individually. It has been brought up to date, but its basic character has not been greatly changed.

To cover so extensive a field in one short volume, space had to be conserved somewhere; and the author has chosen to do so by compressing his treatment of political history. His judgment in this matter is not always easy to follow. Thus he devotes nearly three pages to a resumé of Livy's charming but largely unhistorical account of the seven kings of Rome, but only four pages (344-348) to the Roman conquest of Italy, about which much more is known and the importance of which is so much greater than that of the legendary period. But somehow or other he saves space enough to treat institutions, art, literature, and everyday life briefly but adequately, and to quote ancient sources rather extensively.

There are not many errors of fact, and controversial opinions are not unpleasantly numerous or apparent. Yet one does find it difficult to accept the story of Abraham as fully as Professor Caldwell has done, although he has some rather respectable authority on his side. Likewise, this reviewer cannot agree that Aristeides, Cimon, and Aeschylus were members of the oligarchic party which stood for the overthrow of democracy in Athens and elsewhere. Rather, they seem to have been loyal but conservative democrats, supporters of the constitution of Cleisthenes, but opposed to the radical reforms which were being agitated in their time. In the matter of arrangement, one may question the advisability of lumping the whole of Hebrew history from the Babylonian Captivity to Titus' destruction of Jerusalem (539 B.C.-70 A.D.) in chapter XXIII, "Institutions of the Early Empire." But this is not to criticize the book as a whole. If the history of the ancient Mediterranean world, both political and cul-

tural, had to be treated in the narrow space of 530 pages, then Professor Caldwell has accomplished a notable feat, for which he is entitled to much credit.

Nineteen maps and thirty-eight single illustrations or plates are included in the book. The maps appear adequate. Of the illustrations, two deal with prehistory, sixteen with oriental, Minoan, or Mycenaean themes, twelve with the history and civilization of Greece, one with the Etruscans, and seven with Roman or early Christian history. Three tables of dates, a classified bibliography, and an index of twenty-six pages provide the necessary auxiliaries for readers of the work.

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