

THE BISHOP JOTS IT DOWN

Francis Clement Kelley, Bishop of Oklahoma and Tulsa

Reviewed by G. Harold Hennessey '41

Once again we have had the pleasure of reading, and the privilege, this time, of reviewing a book by Bishop Kelley. The book is, as the author himself points out, "An autobiographical strain of memories," and as such is of peculiar interest to us because it brings us so close to home.

Very few men living can speak from the experience of such a varied and exciting life as Bishop Kelley, and when these experiences are "jotted down" they make very informative and pleasurable reading. Memories of his youthful days on Prince Edward Island in general, and at St. Dunstan's College in particular, are of much interest to us of the present day student body. (He speaks in glowing terms of the "Old College" and its faculty, the history of which makes us very proud of our Alma Mater.) His account of his experiences as a Chaplain to the United States Army during the Spanish American War are very vivid, and his passing glances at the mechanized war of today, and the resulting loss of life and liberty from such a war, are very opportune in our present state of anxiety and stress.

Of the establishment of his "Dream," the Extension Society, he has much to say. From its meager conception he leads us right through the history of its trials and difficulties in establishment, its work, its recognition by Rome, down to its present successful place in the scheme of religion. The great work done by the Extension Society, its world wide help in time of war and national calamity, and the means it provides for the extension of the faith are most interesting, and in themselves profitable reasons for read-

ing the book.

In reading of his many travels in connection with his work we meet such famous people as Cardinal Pacelli (Pope Pius XII), Eamon De Valera, Cardinal Mundelein, G. K. Chesterton, Hilaire Belloc, Cardinal Merry del Val, Woodrow Wilson, Cardinal Gibbons, Theodore Roosevelt and many other equally interesting and varied characters. In his pen pictures of these great men, Bishop Kelley has

made us know them intimately, and know why they are

great men.

Some of the problems that have confronted the Church, in the past, and some that still are confronting the Church are dealt with clearly and completely. We find expressed herein the viewpoint of the Catholic Church on such important problems of a few years ago as The Mexican Question, The Roman Question and its final solution with the signing of The Lateran Treaty and many other such important questions which have been troublesome from time to time. He almost takes us, "behind the scenes," to the conference table in Versailles, and in so doing gives us a glance at the many and varied conditions and circumstances which helped influence the make-up of that questionable document The Versailles Treaty. With all these questions, Bishop Kelley had a very close connection and he, as a result, has an authoritative pen in relating his experiences.

All in all the book is a colorful narrative of a colorful career. Its gay, chatty style and humorous reflections on prominent persons and affairs combine with that sober good judgement of important questions to make it most acceptable reading. "The Bishop Jots It Down" is a good book, and a good companion at any time. Take your re-

viewer's advice-read it.

KNOTS

Emile Vaillancourt

Reviewed by Thomas Holland '40

A book which has for its object the promotion of national unity in Canada should be well received by Canadians in these times of national stress. In this little volume M. Vaillancourt analyzes the "Knots" which must be untied before Canadians unity is to become a reality, and in doing so sketches the history of the relations of French-Canadians, first with their mother country, France, and later, with England. The predominating fact which he stresses in the first part of the book is that, contrary to the general opinion of English-speaking Canadians, French-Canadians are nore Canadian than French in their outlook. In proof of this fact he places before us an abundance of historical evidence the significance of which we have probably either forgotten or never fully realized. The author

frankly states the reasons why the French in Canada transferred their allegiance from France to England without much sorrow, and the problem of the French Canadians at the beginning of the Great War.

Not only does the author analyze the situation of the two great nationalities in Canada from an historical point of view but he offers a two-fold plan for the realization of unity in Canada. First, "respect of the Canadian constitution by both the Federal and Provincial Governments as far as minority rights are concerned." Secondly, the recognition of the fact that "Canadians have views of their own and that neither the Thames nor the Seine is an artery of our national life, but the St. Lawrence is."

The style of the author is clear and forceful, making the reader sit up and realize some facts not often found in history books. The book shoud be on the desks of all patriotic Canadians. It could be used to advantage by many of our politicians who, while advocating Canadian unity, have no plan to offer for its attainment.

THE CODE OF THE WOOSTERS

P. G. Wodehouse

Reviewed by Herbert L. Johnston

The power of laughter, philosophers inform us, is one of the distinguishing marks of man; P. G. Wodehouse, we need no one to inform us, is one of the most distinguished occasions of the exercise of that power. In The Code of the Woosters Mr. Wodehouse provides another episode in the careers of the amiable, if slightly moronic Bertie Wooster, and the paragon of gentlemen's gentlemen, Jeeves of the mighty mind. Those who have already experienced Very Good, Jeeves, Carry On, Jeeves, or others of the series will welcome this latest addition; those who have not could scarcely do better than be introduced, through this volume, to some of the merriest gloom-chasers in the range of English fiction.

The plot of a Wodehouse story invariably defies synopsis. It will be sufficient to say that Bertie's Uncle Tom has agreed to trade his incomparable chef, Anatole, to the retired magistrate, Sir Watkyn Bassett, for an eighteenth-century cow-creamer on which he has set his heart. Aided by his formidable Aunt Dahlia and the resourceful Jeeves,

Bertie, who cannot face the bleakness of a life deprived of Anatole's cooking, journeys to the Bassett household at Totleigh Towers to steal the cow-creamer. The fact that he had lately appeared before Sir Watkyn in connection with the illegal removal of a policeman's helmet further complicates the situation. After a series of harrowing adventures involving grave danger of dismemberment at the hands of the incipient dictator, Roderick Spode, Bertie Wooster is enabled to bring another undertaking to a triumphant conclusion as a result of some particularly brilliant tactical operations instituted by Jeeves.

All in all, The Code of the Woosters can be recommended as a worthy member of a group that includes Leave It to Psmith, Hot Water, and Meet Mr. Mulliner. Higher praise can scarcely be given.

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Little minds are tamed and subdued by misfortune; but great minds rise above it. -Washington Irving

I would rather have the affectionate regard of my fellow men than I would have heaps of mines of gold. -Dickens.

