

sponsible for a great portion of the texts which are found in this volume and which were sung by our early ancestors. In many of the texts contained here, can be seen a people imbued with both the revivalist's burning vision of a wrathful God and of a miserably condemned humanity, as well as with the Puritan ideal of sacrifice in the physical present for the sake of pleasure in the spiritual future. But despite the anonymity of the composers and the outdated texts, the contemporary composer of sophisticated perception, in the person of Mr. Reuel Lahmer, is responsive to the artistic vitality of the material to the point of creating harmonic settings of taste and imagination out of a harmonic language of our own time. Not here, the leaden and uninspired traditional formula of six-four chords, dominant to tonic endings, and root progression by fifths alone, but a spontaneously created harmonic coloring and texture completely related to the tune itself.

Although the task of bringing this material into such accessible form as that of this volume is an extensive one, the whole job is still to be done to show the musical growth of a very young country from its earliest stages, in the same way that we know almost every great civilization of Western man, and it is hoped that Dr. Evanson, Dr. Swetnam, Mr. Lahmer, and many others will show as much of our earlier life in music as we know of it in military action, in political maneuver, in commerce, or simply in the tools and furnishings and means of shelter which were part of a vigorous, dangerous, and exciting life.

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CLIFFORD TAYLOR

Pittsburgh, A Bicentennial Tribute, 1758-1958, by ROSE DEMOREST.
Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, 1958, 35 pp., \$0.25.

It is particularly appropriate that Miss Rose Demorest should have written this tribute. As the Librarian in the Pennsylvania Room, Carnegie Library, she has long worked with the materials of our city's past. Over the years, she sacrificed her own interests to help the multitude of students who have come to her. Now, on the eve of her retirement from active library work, Miss Demorest has

offered us the "vivid story of drama, inspiration and achievement from the founding to the present, as men and women of vision changed a wilderness area into the city of Pittsburgh." After describing the contributions of the Indians, French, and English, the author has provided a chronological summary of the past two hundred years. Although uneven in its coverage (only twenty per cent of the work is devoted to the post-Civil War era) it is a most useful introduction for the student and the non-specialist reader. It would have been helpful had Miss Demorest included a brief bibliographic essay; perhaps she will undertake this project and share her extensive knowledge of sources with her successors and us.

University of Pittsburgh

ROBERT E. CARLSON

God Uses Ink, by JOHN A. HOSTETLER. Herald Press (Mennonite Publishing House), Scottdale, Pa., 1958, 264 pp., appendix, index, illustrations. \$2.75.

In consideration of the many religious groups in this country and elsewhere, it has been noted that the smaller sects have frequently exhibited a ministry out of all proportion to their numerical strength, God apparently "having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked." The Mennonites are such a group, relatively slight in numbers yet great in the influence and respect they enjoy in the eyes of their neighbors. Occasionally a disservice has been done them by fictioneers who have emphasized the quaint and the picturesque yet totally ignored the deep spiritual strength. Their program has always been an earnest one, and its effectiveness has in no small way been accomplished through the productivity of their publishing house, the Herald Press of Scottdale, Pennsylvania. *God Uses Ink*, by Dr. Hostetler, Book Editor of the Mennonite Publishing House, is the story of that House since its inception, a backward glance to its forbears, its evolution from several privately-owned printing houses to a large church-owned establishment, and an appraisal of its recent accomplishments.

While the book in a few instances becomes personalized to a degree that will appeal largely to its own constituency, there are