

tion to our understanding of Boyesen's life and work. Boyesen's efforts to introduce American readers to the new Norwegian literature and to promote literary realism in American literature are well documented in this collection of five previously published essays, two of which appear in English for the first time. Seyersted discusses Boyesen's relations with Bjornson, Kielland and Turgenev, providing valuable insights into Boyesen's motivations. Two essays examine Boyesen's growing disappointment with America and his views on American women. This dissatisfaction came, in part, from Boyesen's reaction to social and political developments; but it also grew out of his "old confusion of identity" as an immigrant. His views on the "new woman" were more complex: although optimistic in his belief that "woman is bound to develop the potentialities of her nature," he was less laudatory in many of his observations. In fact, Seyersted calls him an early American misogynist. This study makes use of several sources unavailable to previous scholars. The volume includes eight essays by Boyesen, a bibliography and an excellent foreword by Marc Ratner.

Carol Pozefsky of CBS News files this report on **THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF JOURNALISM**. Edited by Robert Schmuehl. Notre Dame, Indiana: University of Notre Dame Press, 1984, \$13.95. In 1982, a dozen or so superstar newsmen got together at Notre Dame for a conference on "The Responsibilities of Journalism." This book is a collection of their lectures. Journalists will be reminded of Max Lerner's account of the reasons they got into the business: "... to achieve meaning, which can be done only through the frames of experience and questioning we bring to our observation. . . . your business as thinkers is to see the relation between your parties' fact and the whole frame of the universe." Non-journalists will share some of the ethical and other struggles newsmen face: wrestling with the selection process, self-restraint and the positioning of a story. How nifty an afternoon could be spent chatting with the likes of Ed Newman, Jeff Greenfield and Elie Abel. This book is the next best thing.

From Cambridge University Press comes a new series, under the general editorship of Emily Elliott, on the American novel. Each volume is called *New Essays On . . .*, followed by the novel title. We have the first three in hand; they are **NEW ESSAYS ON "THE ADVENTURES OF HUCKLEBERRY FINN"**. Edited by Louis J. Budd. . . . **ON "THE GREAT GATSBY"**. Edited by Matthew J. Bruccoli. . . . **ON "THE SCARLET LETTER"**. Edited by Michael J. Colacurcio. \$19.95 cloth, \$6.95 paper (each). The dust jacket blurb says that they are for use in undergraduate classes, but I have difficulty imagining situations in the classes in which I teach on American literature which would make these books appropriate or very useful. Though they are supposed to provide a general briefing, they often focus on issues which strike me as not the very first ones would want to bring into a classroom or a term paper context—which is not to say that the essays are not good. Several

indeed, are exceptionally fine, even some which are far more concerned with developing the author's bright new insight into a novel than in giving undergraduates an introduction to the different kinds of studies which have been done, or into currently "received" opinions of the novel. Indeed, the very titles of the essays say to the reader "scholarly article," not "briefing for students." That's not a bad hidden agenda, of course.

Edward Wagenknecht is a writer on literature who seems to produce a book a week, but he has both conscience and taste, and his popular volumes often reflect good scholarship and good judgment. The Northfield Jamesian Carol Holly informs us that **THE TALES OF HENRY JAMES**. By Edward Wagenknecht. New York: Frederick Ungar, 1984, \$16.50, is a leisurely, even casual summary of James' tales, directed at the beginning reader of James—the undergraduate perhaps—who seeks an easy introduction to the prevailing themes of the short fiction. A companion piece to *The Novels of Henry James* (Ungar, 1983), *The Tales of Henry James* surveys in chronological order not only the fifty-five tales included by James in his New York edition but also the five tales which were published as *The Finer Grain* in 1910. Wagenknecht's ample notes guide the reader to much of the pertinent criticism on the tales, and the two appendices to lists of tales not discussed in the text and collections of tales published by James during his lifetime.

John Braeman has this to say about two collections of documentary sources, **CHAINS OF FEAR: American Race Relations Since Reconstruction**. By Michael J. Cassity. Grass Roots Perspectives on American History, No. 3. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1984, \$35.00. **LEGACY OF FEAR: American Race Relations to 1900**. By Michael J. Cassity. Grass Roots Perspectives in American History, No. 4. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1985, \$35.00. Cassity has written brief introductions of approximately twenty pages plus prefatory notes to the documents. There is a substantial amount of overlap between the last part of the second volume and the beginning part of the first even in the materials reprinted. Cassity's thesis—stripped of its turgid jargon—is that black oppression was the product of the rise of "the market economy" (*Legacy*, xvi). Slavery was first instituted in the New World to overcome the barrier to productive labor resulting from the pre-market mentality of the early English settlers.

After emancipation, the "repressive nature of the market" imposed upon the now legally free blacks a new "system of restraints" (*Legacy*, xxiv, xxvii). And the resentments generated by the same marketplace pressures upon whites was diverted against blacks "to perpetuate the power of the few by preventing a real brotherhood of man from becoming an effective political and social force" (*Legacy*, xxxi; *Chains*, xix).

One of the recent major topics of research in American cultural studies has been the place of professions and professionals. Good summaries