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Other Recent Books 876

Some recent books not previously mentioned include a selection of Clinton Scollard's poems, "The Singing Heart" (Macmillan), edited with a memoir by Jessie B. Rittenhouse, who was Mrs. Scollard; "A Bardic Pilgrimage," a second selection of the poetry of James H. Cousins (Roerich Museum Press); Carolyn Rothstein's "Now I'll Tell" (Vanguard), the "low-down" on Arnold Rothstein by his widow, with an introduction by Donald Henderson Clarke, and Florence L. Goodenough's "Developmental Psychology," an addition to the Century Psychology Series, designed primarily for use as a textbook.

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Extract from
Irish Press
Dublin

30 OCT 1934

8-16
"THE
SEEKER"

THIS volume contains the second collection of Dr. J. H. Cousins' poetry: the first, *A Wandering Harp*, has been already reviewed in THE IRISH PRESS. The author is well known to Dublin lovers of poetry for his *Bell Branch*, which marked his place as one of the pioneers of the Irish literary revival. Since his Dublin days (he was one of the founders of the gallant little *Irish Citizen*, organ of the rebel women's group in Ireland, from 1912) he has wandered far—to India, Japan, America, Italy.

The present volume mirrors these various phases—Ireland, the Orient, the New World and the Old, have in turn yielded themes for poetic treatment, and each novel and changing scene have left their mark on the mind and thought-forms of the author, sensitive to each new impression.

The poems dedicated to the Beloved Captive are a graceful tribute to Margaret Cousins, wife of the author, who was condemned to a year's imprisonment in Madras in 1933 for seditious utterances in the cause of Indian independence. Whether the background is Galway or the Blasket Islands—J. H. Cousins is one of the first of his time to discover these islands, making them the theme of his lyrics—or fair Kashmir, or Capri's lovely isle, there is a unity and harmony of treatment throughout this bardic pilgrimage, a spiritual flavour, a worship of mystic beauty, a sense of man's pilgrim soul—all this is summed up in the opening poem, *The Quest*, where the poet, searching the Universe for truth, says:

"I sought Her in loud caverns
underground,
On heights where lightning flashed
and fell.
I scaled High Heaven; I stormed
the gates of Hell.
Till through the tumults of my
Quest I caught
A whisper: 'Here within thy heart,
I dwell; for I am Thou. Behold,
thou art
The seeker—and the sought!'"

H. S. S.

BARDIC PILGRIMAGE. By James H. Cousins. (Roerich Museum Press, New York. Price 3 dols.).