

understand Jean other than in male terms, and according to male-centred criteria. This does Jean Batten no service, and detracts from a fine piece of detective work in reconstituting her life history.

SUSAN GROGAN

Victoria University of Wellington

Where the Heart Is: A History of Barnardo's in New Zealand 1866-1991. By Mary Collie-Holmes. Barnardo's New Zealand, Wellington, 1991. 127pp. NZ price: \$19.50.

WITH *Where the Heart Is* Mary Collie-Holmes has provided a comprehensive account of the evolution of Barnardo's in New Zealand. She charts the organization's development from its initial beginnings as a channel for New Zealand benevolence to British orphans, and other disadvantaged children, to its eventual emergence, in the late 1960s, as an active purveyor of child welfare services in New Zealand. This evolution was slow and dependent on a reluctance to recognize that New Zealand children also required aid despite the entrenched view that New Zealand was a land of plenty and thus in no need of Barnardo's services. In tracing this development Collie-Holmes provides an exhaustive narration of the organization's changing aspirations, structures, supporters and personnel. The narrative is enlivened by photographs of past and present Barnardo's workers and supporters, and by some rather whimsical illustrations at the beginning of each chapter.

Yet there is little attempt to locate the history of Barnardo's within the context of developing statutory or voluntary child welfare services in New Zealand, and indeed governmental and other charitable organizations are mentioned only when they impinged on the activities of Barnardo's itself. Nonetheless, *Where the Heart Is* contains an interesting account of an English organization, which gradually became an autonomous and resolutely New Zealand enterprise whose philosophies and services were increasingly predicated on local needs and conditions.

SHAYLEEN THOMPSON

Australian National University

The Intervening Years: a New Zealand account of the years between the last two visits of Halley's comet. By Neil Begg. John McIndoe, Dunedin, 1992. 216pp. NZ price: \$39.95.

NEIL BEGG'S roots lie in the comfortable certainties and sense of duty of Presbyterian Otago. His great-grandfather dedicated Dunedin's First Church in 1873; at his private school in the 1920s small boys pelted each other with gumnuts in the name of Continuance or Prohibition. The well-developed social conscience of the family was typically expressed through the profession of medicine. As well as Neil Begg himself, his brother Charles, his father and two uncles were doctors.

Part of this book is about medicine, but by no means all. There are several main