

News

THE F.P. WILSON AWARD

The F.P. Wilson Award for the most outstanding work in New Zealand history to have been published in 1979-80 has been awarded, on the recommendation of the Victoria University of Wellington History Department, to W.D. McIntyre, Professor of History at the University of Canterbury, for his edition in two volumes of *The Journals of Henry Sewell 1853-57* (Whitcoulls, 1980).

Henry Sewell was New Zealand's first Premier, holding office for a few weeks in 1856 when responsible government was inaugurated in this country. He played an active role in New Zealand politics in the 1850s and 1860s, but his most substantial work was probably his contribution to the early development of the Canterbury settlement. Having served as deputy-chairman of the Canterbury Association's committee of management in London, he was sent out in 1853 to wind up the affairs of the Association at the New Zealand end, and this he did with considerable competence and skill, doing much in the process to ensure a smooth transition from a colony controlled from London to a province managed by a Council within the New Zealand Constitution.

The journals were written for friends and relatives in England but were not published, as Sewell felt that some of the references to individuals might give offence. For many years they have been held by the University of Canterbury and known to historians as a very valuable source of information on the early social and political history of New Zealand. Professor McIntyre's edition adds greatly to their value, not just because they have now been published, but also because of the outstanding quality of his editorial work. A long and very informative and well-researched introduction puts the journals in historical perspective and provides what is in effect a biography of Sewell. The footnotes clarify the obscure references and provide biographical notes on all persons referred to. The editing of documents and texts is an important form of historical scholarship. Professor McIntyre's work on the Sewell journals has been widely acknowledged to be one of the finest editions of an historical text to have been done in New Zealand.

The Lost Peace 1918-1939

International relations in Europe

Edited by Anthony Adamthwaite

Documents of Modern History

This selection of documents describes the attempts made to create a lasting peace after the First World War, and illustrates the frustration of those attempts and the subsequent collapse of the peace settlement.

\$17.25 paper 256 pages 2 maps

An Introduction to Historical Thought

B.A. Haddock

This book traces the emergence of history as a distinct discipline and intellectual pursuit with its own critical methods from the Renaissance, when history was indistinguishable from rhetoric and literature, to the present day.

\$33.25 boards \$16.50 paper 192 pages

N.Z. Agent: Book Repts Educational, Book Repts (NZ) Ltd., P.O. Box 36-105, Auckland 9.



Edward Arnold

41 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3DQ

PORTRAIT OF FRANCES HODGKINS

E.H. McCormick

'Our most distinguished cultural historian', to quote Vincent O'Sullivan in the *New Zealand Listener*, here presents a book which is both the most accessible account of the artist's life, and an episode in art and social history. The many pictures (six of them in colour) are integral to the work. **\$19.50**

**AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY PRESS
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS**