

does not really explain why the Labour government left the dual system intact, which is an important starting point for his analysis of the next period.

It is in the post-Second World War period that Hay's study comes into its own. This section provides the most significant contribution to the history of health care in New Zealand. Hay attempts to analyze the reasons behind growing privatization of medicine in New Zealand in this period — the respective roles played by the governments (in particular National governments), the medical profession, and medical insurance (in particular the Southern Cross Medical Care Society) — building on G.M. Fougere's important studies. Medical insurance, which now covers over one million people, including employer and union-organized schemes, he sees as a major factor contributing to the run-down of public services. He also considers the role played by the Accident Compensation Act of 1972 in this process (an Act which was based on the report of the Royal Commission published in 1967, and not 1976, as Hay tells us (p.175'). Hay concludes that the dual system of health provision is producing more 'medical indigents', and that access to medical care is being determined more and more by ability to pay (or to belong to an insurance scheme) than by need.

Despite its deficiencies, this book is a welcome contribution to a field of history which is only just beginning to develop in New Zealand.

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The History of Policing in New Zealand, Volume II: The Colonial Frontier Tamed: New Zealand Policing in Transition, 1867-1886 By Richard S. Hill. Historical Branch, Department of Internal Affairs, Wellington, 1989. 386 pp. NZ price: \$39.95.

AS WITH VOLUME I of this major study of policing in New Zealand, Hill is here reporting back after an arduous journey through the sources. He has made himself at home in the very extensive archival material and the official printed sources, and also combed a wide range of newspapers. He has been extremely thorough and hardworking on his journey, but again, as with Volume I, he has had some difficulty in putting together a clear, coherent and engrossing account of his travels.

This is not surprising, for besides the problem of summarizing from an overwhelming mass of detail, he has had to cope with an inherently tangled and complicated story. As the dust jacket succinctly puts it, the volume 'examines the various forms which policing took in a period when both Maori and pakeha society moved from relative turbulence to relative quiescence: provincial forces, the Armed Constabulary in its fighting and demilitarised phases, and the Police Branch and Reserve/Field Force Division of the New Zealand Constabulary Force'. There have been, then, both the civil policing and the military stories to weave into the account, together with their often complicated interactions. There have been the changing characters of Maori and Pakeha society, and their interaction both in peace and in war. Perhaps most complicating of all has been the way the provincial system shattered the Pakeha story into divergent splinters, some of them dragging the story down to parish pump level. And the relationship of these provincial splinters to the shifting agenda of the central government adds complication to complication, as their confused politics interact. Chapter 7, 'The Auckland Policing Experiment', with its blow-by-blow account (almost 50 pages) of the tortuous politics and tangled administration of the first experiment in bringing provincial policing under central control, is an example of dogged perseverance in the researcher that makes almost superhuman demands on the tenacity of the reader.

One cannot but admire Hill's stamina in wrestling his recalcitrant materials into

something of a coherent flowing story. Yet one wonders if there were not other approaches and techniques which would have better served both the inquiring historian, the police professional, and the common reader. Could not some aspects have been more succinctly and lucidly treated with the aid of charts, maps and diagrams? Might not some of the intricate detail have been better relegated to appendices perhaps in table or note form, so that the main text was more concerned with the main thrust of development? By these or other means the story might have been pruned to make way for more interpretative investigations and discussions. As it is, Hill continues the interpretative line established in his first volume. He relates New Zealand developments to imported British and Australian ideas and models. This he undergirds with a broadly Marxist view of society. All this is useful as far as it goes, but the text seems time and again to cry out for more.

When, for example, a personal conflict is given extended treatment (e.g. the Shearman/Pender case) the underlying social and political factions supporting the contestants seem to demand some analysis, but it fails to appear. Similarly the episodes of petty political interference with the police need somewhere to lead to a developed discussion of contemporary public opinion relating to the independence of public servants, and indeed, of specialists and professionals in general. The social origins and social standing of the police are given repeated comment in the text, but nowhere are they thoroughly probed. What kind of jobs did those who left the police go to? What class of woman did they marry? What place did they fill in social, sporting, cultural and religious life? When the 'multi-purpose' nature of policing in the primitive stage of settlement is under discussion (e.g. pp. 338-9, 347), it might well have been related to that more general 'multi-purpose' role covered by the word 'settler'. Were their parallel appearance and subsequent decline to be related to the same causes? Also some significant topics seem to call for extended case studies. Thus, road-building was for a time a major activity of the Armed Constabulary. A case study of this work in one significant district, examining how it was managed, its quality, its strategic and economic significance, and its effect upon the morale and efficiency of the AC in its other roles, would surely be illuminating. Valuable, too, would be a probing of the 'social life' of a Field Force station over a period of several years, with an examination of its effects on the local community. Excursions and discussions along these lines, relating policing more firmly to the broader context of colonial life, and replacing some of the present overload of political and administrative detail, would have given a more lively and readable book.

We should nevertheless be grateful for what we have been given. Local and regional historians now have a new mine of information on an important aspect of colonial life, covering the whole colony. Political and social historians will find new light on many topics, as well as new, provocative unanswered questions. And a little more of the 'thinness' of our historical corpus is removed. Too little of our history has been worked over from more than one point of view and by more than one professional historian. Thus it is good to have Hill's account of the Parihaka affair to put beside several earlier ones, and to see the West Coast Fenian riots from his perspective as well as from those of Philip Ross May and R.P. Davis.

The book is attractively produced. A comprehensive index adds considerably to its usefulness. Unfortunately, as explained in the Preface, 'constraints of time and space' have meant that 'the comprehensive footnoting of the original draft had to be replaced by a Note of Sources'. However a fully sourced text is to be made available to the National Archives and the Alexander Turnbull Library. The preface also promises that the third volume of the series will contain the bibliography for the whole.

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