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Toward a Dimensional Realism, by Charles M. Perry. University of Oklahoma Press, 1939. \$2.50.

This is the state of man's philosophy: First he is born. Then he begins to grow and as he grows he accumulates enough experience to realize that he *is* and that there are other "is's"; many an "is" that he experiences only by report may become just as influential an "is" as another which is a physical fact. Fast on the heels of this *realisation* comes the feeling of necessity to think something about how the "is's", including one's own person, are related. The result of this necessity—that is, what one concludes about these "is's"—is called his philosophy.

The history of the growth process is normally a series of scramblings for hitching posts; a hitching post being some rule; some positive, quiet, solid thing; some "rock of ages" which is the solution—the resolution of all "is's."

The history of philosophy is the story of the elusiveness of such a hitching post. Before the development of scientific knowledge philosophy *went it alone*. Then each of the sciences tried to set up a hitching post on the basis of its newly found knowledge and each struggling onward found its hitching posts gave way in the sands of insecure theory. The farther they have got in their development the closer they have come together.

Philosophy floating along on this sea of activity has been inventing a kind of floating hitching post. A man's philosophy must be that of a sailor who is accustomed to adjust himself to the stormy uncertainties of a sea in a life which never stands still, which is never two instants alike, in a universe where every rock was once something entirely different and will dissolve eventually into something in which its past and present will be unrecognizable. In a sentence, life for the individual and the race alike becomes continually more complex and so does philosophy.

In his book *Toward a Dimensional Realism* Dr. Charles M. Perry has established hitching posts, which, however floating, are still firmly attached to each other at quite definite points, all supporting a conception of the universe considered in either its physical, spiritual or social aspects. He sets forth a theory of an infinite series of right angular coordinates as a hypothesis that will support philosophical verities and will account for philosophical discrepancies. Which is to say, that with the application of dimensionalism, sound principles yield and discrepancies vanish. The proving of dimensionalism in the first part of the book, where these applications are made, is good reading for the philosophically minded.

Having proved that dimensionalism is a logical viewpoint of philosophy, Dr. Perry proceeds to make his application. The ap-

plication is essentially practical, and good reading for the layman. Its thesis is, that democracy with its various implications of growth and development, its many places for many new ideas, its doctrine of plenty for all, is correct in an expanding and progressive scheme of philosophy, whereas dictatorship (which after all is nothing but the will of the patriarch extended to its utmost though circumscribed limits) is archaic, outmoded and has no place in a sound philosophy. A review of philosophies of the past and present in the light of the success of Einstein in the promulgation of the theory of relativity points to the conclusion that Dr. Perry "has something."

It is conceivable that dimensional realism is flexible enough and profound enough to satisfy any questions of philosophy that may be asked for hundreds of years. However, the author does not set up dimensional realism dogmatically but merely suggests that it is logically tight and may be used as a reference point looking toward the solution of our present day social questions.

—HAROLD HENDERSON LEAKE

What Is Democracy, by John Dewey, Boyd H. Bode, and T. V. Smith. Cooperative Books, Norman, 1939. Fifty cents.

This small, paper-bound book, second title in the first series of Cooperative Books, contains three timely discussions of various phases of democracy, and particularly what the future holds.

All three of the authors are well qualified to speak on this subject. John Dewey is widely known in the fields of education, philosophy and social affairs. Boyd H. Bode is professor of education at Ohio State University and author of a number of books. T. V. Smith, a native Texan, is professor of philosophy at the University of Chicago, former state senator and now representative-at-large from Illinois in Congress. His contribution to *What Is Democracy* is a reconstruction of an address widely delivered at American state universities.

Each author writes a separate division of the book. The three sub-titles are The Future of Liberalism or The Democratic Way of Change, by John Dewey; Ends and Means in Education or The Conflicts in our Cultural Heritage, by Boyd H. Bode; and The Promise of American Politics or The Principles of Private and Public Skills, by T. V. Smith.

The material is thought-provoking and the authors have some fresh viewpoints to present.

Sooner authors

The Encyclopedia Britannica Yearbook for 1938, published recently, contains three articles written by University faculty members. Dr. Roy Gittinger, '02, dean of administration, is author of a 2,000 word article on Oklahoma. Dr. L. W. Bealer, assistant professor of history, contributed 25,000

words in articles on South American countries. Dr. J. M. Hernandez, professor of Spanish, is author of an article on developments in Latin American literature.

... Mrs. Oscar Jacobson, of Norman, writing under her pen name, Jeanne D'Ucel, contributed an article on the University's oriental art collection to a recent number of *Holland's* magazine, Dallas, Texas. . . . Edward E. Keso, '35ex, instructor at Central State Teachers College, Edmond, is author of a new book dealing with the life and career of Robert L. Owen, former senator from Oklahoma.

... Elgin Groseclose, '20, of Washington, D. C., former O. U. faculty member, is author of a new novel about Mount Ararat to be published in the Autumn by Carrick & Evans. . . . The Duke University Press has published *The Life of Braxton Craven*, by Jerome Dowd, professor of sociology at O.

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U. The book is a biography of the first president of Trinity college, now Duke university.

... Roy P. Stewart, '31, of Stillwater, executive secretary of the Future Farmers of America organization in Oklahoma, will be represented in poetry anthologies to be published this summer by Henry Harrison, New York.

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Beautifying the Campus

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12)

practically under a large American elm, effecting hybridization of about 90 per cent. The resulting tree is about the best that can be obtained for Oklahoma, Mr. Jensen believes, for it has larger leaves than the Chinese variety, grows more rapidly than the Chinese, and will withstand adverse weather conditions. The hybrid elms west of the Geology Building are tall trees this season, though only four years old.

Jensen also chose his hedge plants and border plants carefully. He picked the pyracantha or fire thorn for hedges and the dwarf privet as ideal for borders of flower beds. The pyracantha is a broad-leaved evergreen shrub with sharp thorns, and in winter has clusters of brilliant orange berries. It belongs to the same family as the hawthorbs and apple trees. In a year the small plants will grow to be 4 feet high, and will take the place of fences.

Several miles of dwarf privet border have been planted around flower beds. Although the dwarf privet doesn't grow so fast as other varieties, it is the hardiest plant that can be chosen, Jensen found. It never has been winter-killed in this section of the country.

As for the flower beds themselves—each year should see them more colorful. This year the drouth and cool weather kept beds a month behind, but the campus showed a wealth of color at commencement time. The problem on the campus has been to select flowers that bloom beyond the spring and to plant many perennials to conserve the time of the gardeners.

Jensen has been planting a new perennial purple verbena which lasts all summer, as well as lantanas, petunias, Chinese hibiscus, red verbenas and lythrum.

The retaining wall around the sunken garden between the Library and the Ad building was needed greatly ever since the Library was completed and beautification of this space was undertaken. The wall is made of red brick, with a cap stone. Just inside it a new brick sidewalk, laid on concrete, was put in.

The sunken garden on the South Oval promises to become a show place. It is 7 feet deep and eventually will be a real rock garden. Red verbenas have been planted along its sloping sides, to form a carpet eventually, and Chinese hibiscus are growing in the beds at the base. The dwarf privet hedge will be solid by this time next year. The yellowish stone which makes the wall was brought up from Dougherty, in the Arbuckles, at small cost.

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