

education that will make women aware of the real difficulties of the problem and in an organization that will make her solutions effective.

Needless to say, coming from Miss MacMurchy's pen, the book is well written, and the careful analysis of an actual situation will commend it to thoughtful readers. She has written a timely book on the part that the Canadian woman should play, rather than actually plays in nation-building.

#### ANTHOLOGIES.

1. *The Book of Sorrow: Andrew Macphail. Oxford: Humphrey Milford, \$2.00.*
2. *Canadian Poets: J. W. Garvin. Toronto: McClellan, Goodchild, \$2.00.*

1. All lovers of poetry have their secret anthologies, in which (to keep the beautiful Greek image) they store the flowers whose beauty they hope will not fade for them. The publication of an anthology rouses curiosity and criticism, for we can compare it with our own, and enjoy the differences unless indeed they exasperate us too much for pleasure.

Anthologies are of many kinds: collections of the presumably best, by a kind of majority vote; collections of samples; the expression of a series of moods or a line of thought; the revelation of an individual taste. They are sometimes built into a scheme, as is the Poet Laureate's *Spirit of Man*. Dr. Macphail's is a notable example in this kind. Each has a gravity which goes far to disarm criticism. This is especially true of the *Book of Sorrow*, for it reveals the long consolations of a devout lover, who has collected and fitted together with affectionate patience many things lovely and not a few rare. Inevitable differences of taste we can cover by a mental reservation to the opening words of the Preface. "This Book of Verse contains all that has been said, all, indeed that can be said upon the theme of Sorrow." We will follow Charles Lamb's example and "deny it at a venture." This is no doubt what Dr. Macphail expects and is fully prepared to meet. But what really matters at the moment is not the satisfaction of the sophisticated taste of critics. The book is published as a contribution to the comfort of a bereaved generation, to whom it offers the varied ministrations of the most sensitive and most sympathetic of the arts.

2. Mr. Garvin's is a collection of samples of the poetry of Canada during the last fifty years. He has chosen 360 pages of the verse of fifty authors—enough to give a very good idea of the variety and quality of Canadian poetry. This, it is true, is only half the field covered by Mr. Wilfrid Campbell in the Oxford Book of Canadian Verse. But Mr. Garvin does not attempt the same historical completeness; he aims to illustrate more fully the poetic movement of the present. It is indeed in the work of living poets, especially the less well known, that the specific value of this anthology lies, while there is enough of established reputation to enable comparison.