

INDIAN SUMMER, by Douglas Leechman. The Ryerson Press, Toronto, Canada. Illustrated. Pp. 182. \$2.75.

This aptly-titled little book is a collection of anecdotes and legends told by the Indians to the author over a period of years when he made various visits among them in his capacity as anthropologist and archaeologist for the Canadian Government. The locale is chiefly in the interior of British Columbia and the North-West, also along the Pacific Coast as far south as Seattle.

The book is divided into two parts, the first dealing with certain individuals of outstanding character—last of the old tribes—who remember and tell of the times before the coming of the white man to their remote habitations. The second part of the book consists of tales and legends which are part of the heritage of the Indian people in this part of the country; these are vividly but simply told and are perfect illustrations of the primitive and credulous lives of peoples of a bygone day.

As we have said, the book is aptly titled. The very words "Indian Summer" carry a feeling of nostalgia for the past and a haunting scintilla of beauty. As the author explains, he does not mean that the Indian race is dying out numerically, far from it, but the wilderness has gone, and with it the ancient life of aboriginal tribes. This book would make a delightful gift for anyone interested in Canadiana; or would provide pleasant and profitable entertainment for fireside reading.

O.E.W.

SCOTLAND YARD, by Richard Harrison. Ambassador Books Ltd., Toronto, Canada. Illustrated. Pp. VIII and 269. \$3.50.

Few authors would be more capable of telling the inside story of Scotland Yard than Richard Harrison. For many years he has been associated with popular and scientific study of criminology and is recognized as a leading authority on police organization. All the facilities of Scotland Yard were placed at Mr. Harrison's disposal, thus enabling him to write a book based on fact rather than fiction.

The "Yard"—three stone buildings situated at the corner of Whitehall and Embankment, facing the Thames River—ap-

pear's outwardly dismal and languid, but inside there is the constant activity of a highly-efficient and modern instrument of Justice. Its purpose is not only to apprehend offenders of the law, but to work consistently towards the prevention of crime.

Organized 120 years ago it grew rapidly, its staff of officers and men increasing to the present day complement of 1400 men. Recruits are trained at Peel House to maintain, or augment as the case may be, the personnel of this world-famous police force.

Not all cases are handled directly from the Yard. Some 178 police stations are distributed throughout the Metropolitan area, each staffed by uniformed and plainclothes members. These depots are closely linked by means of radio, teletype and telephone.

The author very interestingly describes the many types of crime committed in the district, the painstaking care exercised by the Yard in gathering evidence, and finally how in traditionally British manner the investigators present evidence in "Old Bailey".

Through a Public Information Office the citizens of London are kept informed of means by which crime may be controlled and subsequently decreased. Special emphasis in this regard is placed on the use of telephone 999.

This number is given top priority in the Metropolitan area, and, when dialed, short circuits the private exchange of Scotland Yard. Calls on 999 are received in the information room and relayed immediately to the patrol car in the area involved. The author cites one particular incident where three men attempting a "break-in" were apprehended by officers of the Yard in a matter of four minutes after an alert citizen dialed 999 upon seeing suspicious looking individuals lurking in front of a radio shop.

Mr. Harrison, having been granted access to the records concerning actual cases, has made expert use of the privilege and compiled a smoothly-flowing narrative on the many and varied phases of police work. Although certain passages are phrased in words of a rather technical nature, the book on the whole is comprehensive, highly informative and certainly well worth reading.

A.C.P.