

tions and two distinct national characters. Angered by a 1774 statement of the first Continental Congress that decried Roman Catholicism for its "impiety, bigotry . . . and murder," the Bishop of Quebec refused to meet with emissaries Benjamin Franklin and John Carroll and effectively barred French-Canadian aid to the Americans in the Revolutionary War. Canada's religious duality of French Catholicism and British Protestantism (many Canadian Protestants were Tories who fled the American Revolution) contributed to a conservative tradition without counterpart in the United States.

**THE DIARIES OF A
CABINET MINISTER
Vol. II: Lord President
of the Council and Leader
of the House of Commons,
1966-68**

by Richard Crossman
Holt, 1977, 851 pp., \$18.95
L of C 76-30680
ISBN 0-03-020616-2

The diary of upper-class, left-wing Labour Party leader Richard Crossman shows all too clearly how his colleagues in the government failed to deal with many of Britain's problems in the late 1960s. Official records remain closed, but Crossman chronicles Cabinet deliberations and sharply criticizes his party's leaders—especially Prime Minister Harold Wilson—for their ineptitude, irrelevance, and pettiness. He argues that Wilson's divided Cabinet erred in continuing the Tory policies of pushing "hopelessly ineffective" sanctions against Rhodesia, refusing to devalue the pound, and seeking entry into the Common Market. The determination to "keep Britain great" has been, he complains "the basic reason for all our economic troubles and our difficulties at home."

**THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY IN
POWER, 1949-1976**

by Jacques Guillermaz
Westview, 1977, 614 pp.
\$24.75 cloth, \$12.50 paper
L of C 76-7593
ISBN 0-89158-041-7
ISBN 0-89158-348-3 pbk

This is the second volume (revised) of a history of the Chinese Communist Party by a prominent French statesman, soldier, and professor (l'Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales in Paris), who has been closely involved with Chinese affairs for nearly 40 years. The first volume (Random, 1972) covers the years 1929-49. The two together are the "magnum opus" among histories of the C.C.P. Detailed, objective, factual, precise, well-documented, and balanced, Guillermaz's analysis fulfills his purpose: "to trace . . . the Party's behavior toward itself" and the way it has "developed the regime," basing

its choices on experience, on the state of affairs at home and abroad, and on "a compelling ideology dominated by the giant-like personality of Mao Tse-tung." The revision was done before Mao's death, but Guillermaz predicts that "with the old Party gone" and "with it the China of the early Communists," the "masts of the new China are already disappearing over the horizon. Another China is near . . . lit by the torch of revolution [but taking] its place among the realities [of the world] around it."

Contemporary Affairs

**STORM OVER THE
MULTINATIONALS:
The Real Issues**
by Raymond Vernon
Harvard, 1977
260 pp. \$12.50
L of C 76-30790
ISBN 0-674-8375-0

Raymond Vernon, director of Harvard's Center for International Affairs, writes that his new book "entails a risk on everybody's part": his, in aspiring to "an unattainable measure of objectivity"; the reader's, "in exposing himself to a presentation that could conceivably entrap." The risks are worth taking. Vernon's dispassionate view of immediate and possible future issues raised by the spread of multinational corporations is based on the heavy research done over the last 15 years at the Harvard Business School. The real problems, he argues, are that multinational enterprises have created tension and anxiety in all Third World "host" countries, whether rich (like Libya) or poor (like Mexico); that national security problems inherent in their corporate structures could become severe; that the multinational enterprise and the sovereign state, although not rival systems, can interact in ways that threaten both (the most obvious case in point being governments' use of companies as cover for intelligence agents operating overseas). Vernon reminds us that in times past nations have managed to "head off a threatening escalation in beggar-thy-neighbor" policies (e.g., tariff wars and competitive devaluations). Time for finding an acceptable code for multinational corporations has not yet run out, he says. In his view, the world needs such enterprises; the question is how can they be made to work better.