

*SHORT STORIES* by Manoj Das. Tri-  
veni Publishers, Gokhale Hall, 9  
Armenian Street, Madras-1. Price:  
Rs. 4.50.

FOR one who reads the stories of Ma-  
noy Das for the first time (I am afraid,  
his stories have been mostly confined to  
the readers of *The Hindu*) each story  
of this collection will come as a shock  
of surprise and joy. Here is a writer  
truly Indian in his vision and wisdom  
and truly universal in his appeal. With  
a genuine combination of wit and com-  
passion on one hand and an insight and  
the capacity to *reveal* on the other hand,  
the author brings each character to a  
throbbing life—whether it is of an in-  
nocent child or of an intriguing politi-  
cian—and makes each situation uner-  
ringly natural and yet significant. If his  
range is vast, his style is original; there  
is an aristocracy in his English—a trait  
which evolves only out of a deep in-  
volvement with the spirit of the lan-  
guage, which is rare. Briefly, this col-  
lection is a must not only for the stu-  
dents and readers of Indo-Anglian Lite-  
rature, but for the readers and lovers of  
contemporary Indian fiction as a whole.

—Dev Das.

*A DAY-BOOK OF THOUGHTS  
FROM MAHATMA GANDHI* by  
Narasimha Char, with a foreword by  
Rajendra Prasad. Published by Mac-  
millan and Co., Bombay, 1969, pp.  
204, Price: Rs. 12.00.

THIS collection of thoughts of Mahat-  
ma Gandhi was first issued in 1951 and

*Bhavan's Journal*  
*January 25, 1970*