

risent le monde de Lemelin. Falardeau remarque : « Le monde urbain canadien-français résume une expérience radicale dans notre évolution et ne signifie rien de moins qu'une société nouvelle à créer et des valeurs nouvelles à trouver ou à inventer » (p. 133).

Depuis les romans de Gabrielle Roy et de Roger Lemelin, la vie rurale est à peu près éliminée du roman canadien. La grande ville, plus souvent un quartier ou une paroisse, devient le centre du roman et, par son importance, écrase les individus. Ce changement brusque, ainsi que le conflit entre des générations et l'incompréhension entre père et fils, reflètent le drame profond de la classe moyenne qui a grandi trop vite et qui n'a pas eu le temps ou n'a pas su trouver les moyens de « se mettre en situation ».

Le contraste entre les univers romanesques de Charbonneau et de Lemelin est frappant. L'univers du premier existe et organise grâce au songe; celui de Lemelin appartient à l'ère de l'action. Cependant, malgré les différences évidentes ces deux univers ont une similitude certaine. Dans les deux cas, les personnages principaux sont des jeunes hommes. « Que le monde de ces jeunes hommes soit intérieur et rêvé, comme chez Charbonneau, ou qu'il soit extérieur et contesté, comme chez Lemelin, il y a chez les uns et les autres une malédiction initiale qui paralyse le désir d'action ou l'élan de contestation » (p. 223).

Depuis une vingtaine d'années l'œuvre littéraire est scrutée par des psychologues et des sociologues. Bien sûr, les historiens de la littérature acceptent difficilement de voir les schèmes traditionnels mis en question ou même rejetés. Malgré des problèmes méthodologiques, dus au fait que les relations entre l'œuvre littéraire et la société ne se sont pas encore saisies d'une façon nécessaire, scientifique et sans équivoque, les tentatives d'élaborer une sociologie littéraire doivent se poursuivre. Jean-Charles Falardeau est un des premiers à tenter l'exploration de la « mythologie de notre inconscient » à travers le roman. Il est à espérer qu'il nous livrera une synthèse de sa pensée. Les études dans son livre *Notre société et son roman* montrent le chemin parcouru depuis 1959 par ce chercheur infatigable.

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MANUEL ZAMORANO. — *Crimen y literatura; ensayo de una anthologia criminológico-literaria de Chile*. Santiago : Facultad de Filosofía y Educación, 1967. 468 pp.

In most Latin American universities, criminology has been studied entirely from juridical points of view. The modern tendency towards inter-

disciplinary approaches, however, has seen criminologists draw upon sociology, anthropology, psychology and history as well as upon the juridical sciences. The Chilean social pathologist Manuel Zamorano here turns to literature, with its narratives of personal experience and its perceptive imagination, to enlarge the criminologist's picture of the motives behind anti-social behaviour. His declared intention is "to utilize literary documents as a source for the development of research". Ultimately, his studies have the purpose, "in a more extensive phase of analysis, . . . of examining crime in the greatest landmarks of American and universal literature".

He has begun by limiting himself, in the volume under review, to Chilean authors. He prints selections from works by forty-one of them, drawn from the most varied literary genres. Each describes some act or tendency regarded as criminal. Each is preceded by an "analytical study", a commentary on its author and on the work from which it is drawn. These commentaries are directed, with varying emphasis and consistency, towards the age, social extraction, profession and ideology of each author; the physical and psychic features, and the socio-economic level, of the protagonist in each selection; the environment in which each work is set; and the criminological theory that it involves. A final section, which is translated into English, analyzes and tabulates the information given in the commentaries.

Within this format, Professor Zamorano attempts "to present the facts and their analysis in a strictly multi-disciplinary perspective". He is an enthusiastic exponent of Mertonian ideas about marginal behaviour, and has a wide understanding of the dilemmas involved in trying to reconcile the moralist's, the social scientist's and the legalist's approaches to crime. To be aware that questions of motive and responsibility are complex, however, is not the same as having a distinctive viewpoint to which different disciplines contribute without contradicting or ignoring one another. Professor Zamorano does not appear to have defined any such viewpoint, which perhaps is the reason for the rather miscellaneous character of his analysis. It shows a certain dispersion of concepts about a great variety of themes, whose connection with criminality is not always evident. The commentary preceding Joaquín Díaz Garcés' "El más bruto de los héroes", for example, includes a diversion on "the historical and chronicalist tradition of Chile — a country of historians —" and on the steps that those in charge of historical studies should follow (pp. 70-71). Farther on, an incident provokes a judgment, offered as "an anthropological note worthy of being registered", on "the tutelary emotive attitude and high human quality of the Chilean woman". The multi-disciplinary rubric may justify every such diversion, but one looks in vain for the perspective that is supposed to be the result.

Historians at least will be hard put to discern a connection between the organization and the conclusions of this book. The literary selections are

divided into five chronological periods, because, as Professor Zamorano says (p. 25), "... a knowledge of the dates of publication contributes to the understanding of the historical, cultural and sociological background of the corresponding periods". If by this he means that historians, whether of crime or of Chile, may find the usefulness of his book enhanced by its chronological organization, he may be right. If he means that the five periods are significant for his own analysis, he is declaring intentions that remain unfulfilled. There is no explanation for the choice of five periods, each of which works out to include about the same number of selections (either seven or nine). The commentaries preceding each selection do provide some information on which an explanation might be based; but that information is in no way related to his concluding analysis. The final tabulation assigns the criminal acts garnered from Chilean literature to one or other of seven categories, as if they had really been committed against a common background, or as if the dramatic unities of time and place could be assumed for them. The categories are adult masculine delinquency, adult feminine delinquency, juvenile delinquency, "beatnik" delinquency, social maladjustment or predelinquency, and "other". Dealing with a series of real or imagined criminals over a period of more than a century (1841-1962), Professor Zamorano pays only incidental attention to the changing circumstances in which they were produced. It may be that crime, at least in literature, is eternal; but in that case why organize it chronologically?

It is equally hard to see how the data drawn from forty-one literary imaginations is related to any scientific hypothesis about criminal psychology. Most of the authors represented would apparently agree with Professor Zamorano that "the majority of criminal acts are carried on at a level of perfectly alert and responsible consciousness". At least the selections he has taken from their works generally describe such acts. But his notes on the "psychic features" of each protagonist correspond only occasionally to any set of psychological categories, and only superficially to his own categories of delinquency. The notes are sometimes restricted to citing some paragraph of the work, or to describing the protagonist as "clever but cowardly" (p. 40, referring to Pancho Falcato). More curious yet is the note on "El Bandido" (p. 49): "psychic features, negro mulatto. Violent, commits his crimes moved by resentment and vindictive motivations; bold and brave leader." Having provided himself with such material, Professor Zamorano has wisely concluded (p. 25) that "the statistical treatment of the data interested us, for the present, merely for descriptive purposes". The methods of the social sciences being postponed, only their language remains.

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