

BOOK REVIEW

Notebook of An Agitator

From the Wobblies to the Fight against the Korean War and McCarthyism

BY JAMES P. CANNON

James P. Cannon (1890-1974) was an American socialist involved with various communist parties over the course of his life, in addition to having been an organizer with the radical union, the Industrial Workers of the World (the Wobblies). Having been expelled from the Communist Party for supporting Leon Trotsky, he later became a founding member and national chairman of the Socialist Workers Party of the United States. This volume collects a selection of Cannon's journalistic writings from over the course of three decades, chronologically ranging from a 1926 *Daily Worker* article in support of the campaign to save anarchists Sacco and Vanzetti from the execution on frame-up charges of robbery and murder to a 1956 tribute to a departed comrade. The writings address a broad range of topics, prominent among them being unions, strikes, Stalinism, the Korean War, crime and punishment, the Catholic Church, and McCarthyism.