

*Van Oorloë en Vrede — Onder die Suidersterre 1795 - 1910* by A.J. Boëseken. Tafelberg, Cape Town, 1983. Illus., Index, 145 pp. Price: R20,00.

**Van Oorloë en Vrede 1795-1910** is the sequel of the first part of the **Onder die Suidersterre** series, **Tussen die Ooste en die Weste 1652 - 1795** with which Dr Anna Boëseken has started. Like its predecessor **Van Oorloë en Vrede** is a thorough piece of work by a trained historian. For most teachers Dr Boëseken is a well-known author. Her work on the early Cape history is without doubt outstanding. This is especially the case with **Die Nuusbode** which provide most pupils with a comprehensible newspaper approach to history.

It is a fortunate occasion that **Van Oorloë en Vrede** has been published and then particularly in this format. The language is clear and without pretence — English-language pupils need not have any problems in understanding the well-written text. The illustrative material was carefully chosen; it is really noteworthy to know that there is still so much pictorial material of the period 1795-1910 available — especially that which dates back to the years of the old Cape. The mapwork too is outstanding. This aspect of the publication alone is proof of the sound research work. This enhances the value of the book considerably.

Like its predecessor the publication under consideration is refreshing in its presentation — not like traditional works on this period. But then one must bear in mind that the target group is by no means the academic historian.

The index is compiled thoroughly and contains all the particulars of the text. This too is one of the merits of the book and can be of enormous value to the young historian.

The only point of criticism is the fact that **Van Oorloë en Vrede** approaches the history from a 'white' point of view. Aspects dealing with White-Black encounters, however, are approached with the necessary sensitivity. Presumably, the approach towards the twentieth century, of which we sincerely hope a third part in the series will appear, will take careful note of the multi-racial conditions in the Republic of South Africa.

**Van Oorloë en Vrede** deserves a wide readers' public; the young historian will, however, benefit the most!

J M L Horn (GOK)