

THE EASTERN BUDDHIST

to be quite reliable, and readable as well. And though there are many individual statements in the book with which one might be in disagreement, on balance they detract little from the work as a whole, which may be said to accomplish quite well the limited aim the author obviously had in mind: to give the general reader a basic introduction to the main figures of Japanese *Zen*.

N. A. WADDELL

WHAT IS ZEN? By Daisetz T. Suzuki. The Buddhist Society: London, 1971, 102 pp.

There have been few writers of late whose posthumous works continue to be published at such short intervals as the late Dr. D. T. Suzuki. The following books have been published under his name since his demise:

- 1) *Daisetz tsurezure gusa* (Gleanings from Daisetz), Tokyo: Yomiuri-shimbun-sha, 1966
- 2) *Ningen ikani iku beki ka* (How Ought We to Live?), Tokyo: Shakai-shisō-sha, 1967
- 3) *Myōkōnin Asabara Saichū-shū* (Collection of Verses by Saichū), Tokyo: Shunjū-sha, 1967
- 4) *On Indian Mahayana Buddhism*, ed. by Edward Conze: Harper Torchbooks, 1968
- 5) *The Field of Zen*, London: The Buddhist Society, 1969
- 6) *Shin Buddhism*, Harper and Row, 1970
- 7) *Sengai, The Zen Master*, ed. by Eva van Hoboken, London: Faber and Faber, 1971

Yet again, we have the latest addition to the above list only recently: *What is Zen?* published during the year of 1971 by The Buddhist Society, London. This is made up of two unpublished articles and the first edition of the *The Essence of Buddhism*. The title of the first of the two articles, "What is Zen?" was adopted for the title of the whole book. It was written for the benefit of a small American Buddhist society. The answer to this question of great importance may be best summarized by the author's own words, "To know Zen is to know that to know is not to know, and that not to know is to know," or "Zen

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is you and you are Zen. The questioner is the answerer." The second article, "Self and the Unattainable," is, according to Mr. Lunsford Yandell who contributed these two articles to this book, an essay composed by Dr. Suzuki during intervals from his other works, and sent to Mr. Yandell in answer to his specific questions. He writes that these two manuscripts have been in his possession since 1962. "Self and the Unattainable" is a long article, an outpouring of the author's profound Zen experience, and every sentence is fraught with his keen Zen awareness. Incidentally, this should not be confused with an article entitled "Self the Unattainable" that appeared in *The Eastern Buddhist*, Vol. III, No. 2. *The Essence of Buddhism*, published in its original form in this book, vividly conveys to the reader the lively breath with which Dr. Suzuki, aged 76, revealed the core of Buddhism to the Japanese Emperor.

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