

Wadepuhl, Walter

## Ex-prof writes book

The following book review was prepared by Dr. Rudolf G. Schade, retired professor of history.

Many students who were at Elmhurst College between 1946 and 1966 will remember Dr. Walter Wadepuhl, professor of German, chairman of the department and chairman of the Division of Modern Languages. He is now spending his years of retirement in Florida. I know he has not been forgotten, for as I meet many alumni the question often asked is, "How is Dr. Wadepuhl?"

Dr. Wadepuhl has published another book. He tells me this is his last.

True or not, this publication, "Heinrich Heine, Sein Leben und seine Werke," is unquestionably the foremost contribution he has made to the literary world. In 451 pages he deals with one of the most controversial figures in German literature.

It is amazing to see and to analyze the resources used for this work. While some of the resources were known to exist, no one has had the patience and the literary sensitivity to bring everything into a comprehensive picture of Heine's life and work.

Heine was born in 1797 and lived in his native Germany until 1831, he then moved to France where he stayed until 1856, the year of his death. It is very interesting, and has the touch of fascination for the reader, to discover how far Heine was influenced by the political and social climate in Germany and later in France. All this is made meaningful by the personal relationships Heine had established with Napoleon III of France. Likewise, Heine's judgment of the other celebrated figures like Goethe, is very revealing and informative.

It is a complex analysis of Heine's life and work. Anyone who has the linguistic skill would gain a real insight into a vital period of continental intellectual history. Thus, all who want to know more about Heine must read it. It is written in German — the language is beautiful and the prose is handled in a masterly fashion. It is published by Bohlau-Verlag, Cologne and Vienna, one of the most respectable publishers in Germany and Austria.

We can say with admiration, Well done thou faithful servant of the academic world! Elmhurst College is proud of your contribution. Your name is engraved in the annals of your beloved college.