that is alarming to say the least.

case, the contributors sincerely believe that the documentary hypothesis is so weefully deficient in a number of crucial areas, that the only logical step is to totally reject it. Since this borders upon "heresy" in certain circles, the contributors requests an emotional reaction be suspended in favor of a careful sifting of the facts.

Although these essays can undoubtedly be classfied "negative," there is a very real implication of a "positive" nature which It is implied throughout that the best working pervades them. hypothesis is unified authorship, specifically in reference to A full-blown argument is certainly not given. the Pentateuch. only fair to mention it, so that the reader can study the messays more effectively. ' In opting for this ruling conception, the contributors intends to show a healthy respect for tradition, They believe the trend in general literary studies is a powerful motivating factor in the direction of unified authorship, while a careful study of the particular literary phenomena of the Pentateuch points to a single creative writer. /Since Moses is claimed by the writings themselves to have written or spoken large parts of the Pentateuch, he is the mo likely candidate to be the author of the Pentateuch. this very "plausible" hypothesis must be handled cautiously; when the account of Moses' death is given in Deuteronomy 34.5-8, it would appear that more than strict Mosaic authorship of/the/Fentatevel/ is required to explain all the phenomena of PBentateuch., In any even if the reader may heartedly disagree with this working hypothesis, ease, it is thought here that many of the supposed incongruities

of the Pentateuch can often be given a more adequate explanation from