

—a lasting hostility toward orthodox Christianity. In time this allied itself with Marxism." He is here writing, not of Russia, but Germany.

Throughout these expositions of the various theories, however, the emphasis remains on opinion. The application of these beliefs to everyday practices is barely touched upon. Indeed, to blame the universities for Hitlerism would require a stretch of imagination. It is in his epilogue, after these discourses, that Lilge insists that the universities had ample warning of the approaching crisis and should have prepared for militant resistance. It is

difficult to see how they could have withstood the might and ruthlessness of the Hitler mob, and it is not for us to judge whether German professors should have remained in Germany combating Nazism by word of mouth. Lilge admits that it was aggravated economic conditions, manipulated by conscienceless demagogues, that caused the destruction of Germany. The failure of the schools was part and parcel of the complete moral relapse. It might be that some investigator would find much to cavil at in our own colleges. The one definite conclusion again is that human nature is much the same the world over.

BRIEFER COMMENT

WORLD AFFAIRS

While *The Question of German Guilt*, by Karl Jaspers (Dial, \$2.00), is a series of lectures bearing on the title, there are remarks in it which may throw light on understanding German mentality in the early days of the recent war. The author delivered these lectures at Heidelberg University after Hitler's fall. Jaspers suggests that young men went into the army because at that time the army opposed Hitlerism, even if ineffectively. Again, he says of the treaty in 1935 between England and Germany: "The British abandon the German people for the sake of peace with Hitler." It is more than a question of guilt, it adds its mite to much needed understanding.

Fritz Sternberg discusses the very real present world crisis in *How to Stop the Russians Without War* (John Day, \$2.00), and offers some suggestions. He evidently does not favor a return to the old German management of industry. The prescription seems largely industrial and economic aid, supported by diplomatic pressures and a united and independent Europe. The latter means supporting democratic socialist forces, not only as a means of restoring Europe to normalcy, but as creating an adequate barrier to Russian expansion. Sternberg believes "the social and economic basis for liberal free enterprise no longer exists." There is the key to his program.

George E. Jones was India correspondent for *The New York Times* in 1946-1947. Based on observations and his despatches to his paper is his *Tumult in India* (Dodd, Mead, \$3.00).

This not only reviews the two sides of the controversy, Indian and British, but goes into the political set up of the country, the British background, and the more or less chaotic conditions following announcement of British withdrawal. Jones also gives quite a bit of information on native customs and economic conditions.

Fallen Sun, a Report on Japan, by Noel F. Busch (Appleton-Century, \$2.50), is a record and interpretation of our occupation of Japan since V-J Day. In addition to his praise of MacArthur's work, Busch tells about the Japanese people and their attempts to find themselves. He describes the commercial world, the zaibatsu, and for the popular side the geisha. There is also recognition of the Russians as a factor in Japan.

BIOGRAPHICAL

Here is the unusual. *Stranger in the Earth*, by Thomas Sugrue (Holt, \$4.00), is called "the story of a search." It is the autobiographical outpouring of a brilliant mind, concerned with the spiritual and intellectual values of life, but only if of value to the human being. The author, an Irish-American Catholic, discusses religious and material problems with "the professor,"—the clock in the diathermic room where Sugrue was trying to sweat out a crippling fever. There is warmth and beauty, but not a bit of self-indulging pathos. It is outstanding and fine, not to be missed by seekers after intelligent ideas.

The Journal of Eugene Delacroix, trans-

lated from the French by Walter Pach, (Crown, \$5.00), is the intimate life of the great painter. On the one hand are his personal experiences, with business and with love affairs; interwoven are the thoughts and efforts connected with his chosen métier and suggestions by way of diary notes for self-improvement. One hundred illustrations, some in colors, add to the value of the book.

FICTION

The Time Is Noon, by Hiram Haydn (Crown, \$3.50), is a panorama of youth only a generation ago, with a background shifting from Florida to New York, Boston, and elsewhere. There is the familiar fast set, with something going on in every chapter. Too, there is the young Russian-Jewish intellectual, the strong character in the book, with his sociology; there are the ever questing females of the species. If there is a fault it is that there is too much story, but most of it is real stuff about real people.

The Temptations of Mourad, by Lucienne Favre, translated by Willard Trask (Morrow, \$3.00), is a confessional type of novel, about the life of Mourad, a Moslem shepherd boy, student, and seeker after happiness in love. The Algerian background gives color, and the narrative, of course, is full of "temptations."

A romance of England in the times of "Bloody" Mary Tudor, *The Strong Room*, by Jere H. Wheelwright (Scribner's, \$3.00), has duelling, a prisoner in the London Tower, the plague and, of course, true love. It is fiction of the escape type, but somehow agreeable if you have a liking for the romances of knighthood.

Brooklyn in fiction again. *The Great Blizzard*, by Albert E. Idell (Holt, \$3.00), refers to that famous year of 1888. The characters are the Rogers family, previously chronicled by Idell. Here are average people living average lives of the period, climaxed by the big snow, and its effects on the people. Light entertainment of yesterday.

Robert Payne by now should be accepted as an authoritative writer on the Orient. *The Yellow Robe* (Dodd, Mead, \$3.00), is a fictional biography of Prince Siddhartha, better known to the world by his later title of Buddha. The youth of the Prince was both philosophic and riotous, in the fashion of the day.

There is tenderness and passion, and in the latter portion a spiritual atmosphere essential to such a title.

The Queen's Physician, by Edgar Maas, (Scribner's, \$3.00), is the story of Christian VII of Denmark and Norway in the late eighteenth century, or more correctly, of Johan Struensee, a commoner who became the royal doctor. Maas makes you forget it is fiction. Here and there the story falters over a little too much historical fact.

Gilbert W. Gabriel offers a pleasant novel of the world of the late 1780's. *I Thee Wed* (Macmillan, \$3.00), starts in Paris and moves to colonial America. There is the France of Marie Antoinette and the Revolution; later the dangerous background of our wilderness.

Reluctant Rebel, by Frederic F. Van de Water (Duell, Sloan & Pearce, \$3.50), is an adventure story of early America. Ethan Allen and his Green Mountain boys fighting the Yorkers for the Grants, the taking of Ti, mixed in with love interest, fill the bill for a pleasant novel of colonial times.

MISCELLANEOUS

Unpleasant and brutal is the story of the Pendergast machine and its workings in Kansas City. Maurice M. Milligan, the former United States Attorney for that Missouri district, was the man who broke the gang and saw Pendergast jailed. *The Inside Story of the Pendergast Machine by the Man Who Smashed It* (Scribner's, \$3.50), is Milligan's story. President Truman comes in for some shellacking as a protegee of the Boss, and he and the author are political enemies. As a result the book is full of firecrackers.

In this election year one must expect direct assaults on candidates and parties. *Henry Wallace, The Man and the Myth*, by Dwight MacDonald (Vanguard, \$2.50), will be a delight to the anti-Wallace citizens, even if a tender subject for Wallace admirers. This book is an elaboration of magazine articles; at times it is cynical and sometimes bitter, but all through it is denunciatory of Wallace, his principles, and his actions. One brief example, referring to Wallace's good will mission to China: ("Wallace is the ideal envoy for such empty pilgrimages.") "Never has one man learned so little from so much travel."