

tainly impair the ordered stability of the kind of world we desire to see organized in the years to come."

If we had a provisional executive council of the United Nations to coordinate political and military advances, we almost surely would have been spared the disruptive experiences of recent months as national decisions have been made unilaterally and attitudes have hardened. Every day we wait, the task becomes more difficult. As in Wilson's time, America's bargaining power was highest when our aid was needed the most. Wilson completely lost that advantage by waiting until after hostilities. We have taken many steps beyond those Wilson took at a comparable time. But, like Willkie and Shotwell, Welles stresses the urgent need for steps toward effective and universal organization *now*. The organization to maintain peace must grow out of the combination which wins the war. We

dare not delay. The time for the great decision is here. Now is the time. As the Prophet Ezekiel threw himself on the dying boy to try to bring him back to life, Sumner Welles pleads with us out of the depths of earnest conviction forged in a keen mind by years of diplomatic service. His appeal is not evangelical or sentimental. It is the irrefutable appeal of facts piled meaningfully upon facts. The American people must decide *today* if they will gain from this war the only thing they can gain: immunity from a third war. Only sound international organization can yield a sense of national security in a world shrunk by air power and at the mercy of every devilish invention of science. If we make the wrong decision or if we wait until tomorrow, when it will be too late, it will be through no fault of Sumner Welles.

BERYL HAROLD LEVY

A Check List of Forthcoming Books

CHINA LOOKS FORWARD, by Sun Fo. (With an introduction by Lin Yutang) John Day. Concerned with China and her future the author raises the questions: What do the Chinese expect, what do they want, what do they insist upon. He discusses China's economic and industrial development, her relations with the United States and the problem of what to do about a beaten Japan, about Manchuria, Korea and other regions of East Asia.

INVASION DIARY, by Richard Tregaskis. Random House. The author of *Guadalcanal Diary*, who has recently returned from the Italian Front, gives an account of his experiences. He writes of the conditions under which the American soldier is carrying the war into Europe, of the difference between German and Japanese soldiers and of the physical and psychological reactions of our wounded.

GERMANY AND EUROPE: A SPIRITUAL DISSENSION, by Benedetto Croce. (Translated and with an introduction by Vincent Sheean) Random House. In the four essays which compose this book Benedetto Croce offers a philosophical study of the problem of Germany. The introduction by Vincent Sheean presents a brief sketch of the Italian philosopher's life; reviews Croce's opposition to fascism and his place in philosophy.

TREATY PORTS, by Hallett Abend. Doubleday Doran. An account of the opening of the

Far East to Western trade, its development since then and its possible future. Stories of the life and growth of the treaty ports are included in this study, beginning with those first established in 1942 by the treaty of Nanking—Canton, Amoy, Ningpo, Shanghai and Foochow.

THE FUTURE OF EUROPE, by Johannes Steel. Henry Holt. The author sets forth his statement of the facts which will influence Europe's fate. He gives information on the economic, political and ethnological factors of the countries which he believes will help determine the future of Europe.

PACIFIC VICTORY 1945, by Joseph Driscoll. Lippincott. A war correspondent's report on our activities in the Pacific in which he reviews what has been done (from Hawaii to the Admiralty Islands) and outlines possible developments in the immediate future. The book relates experiences of the men in the United States Navy, gives information on the life of the natives of the islands and tells of the effect the war is having throughout the archipelagoes.

STATE OF THE NATION, by John Dos Passos. Houghton Mifflin. An appraisal of America and Americans. John Dos Passos asks: What are our countrymen doing, how are they doing it and what do absenteeism, unions, labor-management committees, rehabilitation, farm security mean to them.

New Wealth of Nations

DEMOCRACY REBORN, by Henry A. Wallace. Edited by Russell Lord. Reynal & Hitchcock. 280 pages. \$3.00

AS I write these lines, the author of this book is the center of a bitter battle at the Democratic Convention. By the time you read them the Convention will have determined Henry Wallace's political destiny, and the chances are strong that his political career will be at an end. This book was not edited to explain why, but it does nevertheless. For the man who wrote these fifty-odd speeches and essays, over a period of eleven years, is a man of ideas—and such men are dangerous in politics. He is a man of integrity, who takes his Bible seriously and applies religious values to statesmanship—and such men leave you uncomfortable in politics. He is a growthy man, whose perspectives have moved from correlating hog prices on an Iowa farm to analyzing the conditions of "free world victory"—and such men burst the bounds of politics.

Whatever happens to Henry Wallace politically, however, he has already cleared for himself his significant place in American life, which is an intellectual place and above all a moral one. The chief quality about both his ideas and his ethics is their wholeness. He has re-integrated political and economic values into something that can once more be called *political economy*. He has applied the principles of plant genetics to the superstitions of racism, and the result is a view of the provenance of human qualities which has (to use one of his own phrases) "the strength and quietness of grass." He has arrived all by himself by the hard way—by having to think it through for himself—at the simple truth that the same corrosive institutions which cause soil erosion are also behind human erosion. He has seen, finally and above all, the organic relation between foreign and domestic policy, between the international fascists whom we fight without fear and the native fascists whom we fear without fighting.

In short, what Russell Lord has done in this

brilliantly edited book of selections from Wallace's papers is to put together the elements of a new *Wealth of Nations*.

One of its merits is its selectiveness. Only a few speeches and essays, and only the outstanding ones, are included from each year's intellectual output. Another is the editor's restraint in providing us with notes that are illuminating without being obtrusive. Still another is the chronological arrangement that enables the reader to understand and measure the growth of Wallace's thinking.

And the thing that stands out here is the fact of growth itself. There is little in the early years that goes beyond the horizons of agricultural economics. The first step, from 1933 to 1936, is the recognition that what has happened to agriculture sheds light on the nature and plight of our whole economy. The second step, starting in 1938, is a growing awareness of the impact of fascism on human values. Through these early years there is a patient, fumbling note. The very phrases that recur most often—"America Must Choose", "The Hard Choice", "Our Second Chance"—show that he was still finding himself at the crossroads of his own thinking. He discovered Latin America in 1939. He did his first hard thinking about the foundations of the peace in 1941. His famous speech at the Free World dinner, *The Price of Free World Victory*, came in 1942, as did also the impact of the Russian experience on his thinking. It was in 1943 and 1944 that his thinking took on not only maturity, but with it also decisiveness. The accents of hesitancy disappeared, and Wallace emerged in all the stature of democracy's angry man, lashing at fascism with whips and scorpions, reaching a prophetic strength that has been given to few figures in our political life.

His book is worth reading and pondering. It will live because it is a living book, hewn out of the blood and body of a man, and because the problems and the dangers and the tasks with which it deals are the enduring problems and dangers and tasks of our time, on every continent.

MAX LERNER

