

What speech the dancer wishes to convey must come through movement, not placards. There are difficulties, and Martha Graham does not surmount them all; she is obviously wary of the obvious—and perhaps to a fault. However, for sheer artistry of movement, for brilliance of choreography, for the rush and force of energy there is little on the concert stage to equal "Masque," "Steps in the Street," "Tragic Holiday—In Memoriam" or *Prelude to Action*.

And Wallingford Riegger's music for the composition, its understanding of the text, its excellent foreshadowing of the choreography (listen to the drums in the first part of "Masque") help no little the integrity of the work. The *décor* provided by Isamu Noguchi is simple and well done, as was the conducting of the music ensemble by Louis Horst.

When this review appears, Martha Graham and her group (which performed excellently) will be off the boards. Popular request should demand further performance. *Chronicle* undoubtedly is the most important work of the current season. OWEN BURKE.

THE THEATER

TWO of the new plays deal with what have been described as the problems and preoccupations of women. We must, in our pedantic way, insist upon a refinement of that formulation and say that they deal with the problems and preoccupations of women of the bourgeois stratum. Henry Bernstein's *Promise* deals with a woman deviled in flesh and spirit by the advent of menopause, and Clare Boothe's *The Women* lampoons the marital and extra-marital gyrations of the younger married set.

Promise is the temperate yet penetrating story of feverish jealousy and spite felt by a mother for her elder daughter, and the domestic *Sturm und Drang* occasioned by her increasingly futile and therefore increasingly psychopathic efforts to crush the daughter into subservience and spinsterhood. But this story is taken out of its own bounds somewhat by the fact that the resolving agent is a young man (P. S.: He married the daughter) who carries through to victory against the mother for a very interesting reason: he has the psychological stamina and incentive to fight convention because his life is based not on money or position, but on work. It is hard to say how important this point was to the author, but that he is aware to a considerable extent of its implications is made clear in some lines of the weary foster-father toward the end of the play, where he attempts to comfort his broken wife with some such sentiment as this: "I like that boy. He's a great comfort to me. In the midst of all this upset of the modern world, I take strength from the fact that there are, hidden away from our sight, but nevertheless there, millions of young people like him, carrying on steadily at their work." But that there is no full development of the idea is clear from the fact that at the end of the play, the defeated mother is left

The Most Important Dance Event of the Year

... ONLY NEW YORK PRESENTATION ...

Doris Humphrey-Charles Weidman and their augmented groups

Two New Full-Length Ballets In Symphonic Proportion
"With My Red Fires"—"Quest"

Choreography by DORIS HUMPHREY and CHARLES WEIDMAN

"Unquestionably the peer of any similar group which has been seen in America. It has the rare combination of two first-rate stars, impeccable teamwork and one of the most gifted choreographers of the day."—JOHN MARTIN, the *Times*.

Tickets: 55c to \$2.50 at Box Office; I. L. D., 112 East 19th St.; Rand Book Store, 7 East 15th St.; Putnam Book Store, 2 West 45th St.; Workers Bookshop, 50 East 13th St.; Columbia University Bookshop, 2960 Broadway; New York University Bookshop, 18 Washington Place.

Hippodrome—Friday Eve., Jan. 15—8:45 p. m.

A personal message

In celebration of this Twenty-fifth Anniversary Celebration of NEW MASSES, we have arranged a JUBILEE SUBSCRIPTION for those who wish to make a special gesture on this historic occasion. For \$10 you may purchase a three-year subscription to NEW MASSES, and a personally autographed copy of Joseph Freeman's autobiography, "An American Testament".

Your attention to the extraordinary value this offer gives you. Nor to what an important memento of this anniversary Joseph Freeman's autographed book will be in years to come.

*The regular price of a three-year subscription alone, is \$13.50.

NEW MASSES, 31 East 27th St., N. Y. C.
Enclosed is \$10. Please enroll me as a JUBILEE Subscriber and enter my subscription to NEW MASSES for three years. In combination with this offer I shall expect to receive, at once, a copy of *An American Testament*, with a personal message inscribed by the author, Joseph Freeman.

Name.....
Address.....
City..... State.....
Please indicate: ☐ New subscription. ☐ Subscription extension
No agent's commission on this special offer.

Good only until
January 18

**GOOD FOOD
GOOD SERVICE
RESTFUL ATMOSPHERE**

in the cash and carry
fruits—dairy products
foods. Enjoy natural
intended.

LUNCHEON: 40c DINNER: 60c

Also a la Carte

FARM FOOD

VEGETARIAN RESTAURANTS

37 West 32nd Street 104 West 40th Street

* 142 West 49th Street

* After theatre snacks. Open Sundays.

Variety Concert & Entertainment

Saturday—JAN. 9—8:15 p. m.

Chamber Music, A. M. A. Quartet
Haydn Bach Chaikovsky Beethoven
Vocal operatic gems skits piano duo satirical drama

WILL GEER
from "Let Freedom Ring" and "200 Were Chosen"

BLANCHE COLLINS
her own impersonations of well-known characters

CAROL CLARK
from "Porgy and Bess"

MILTON WITKENSTEIN, flute soloist

STEINWAY STUDIOS

113 West 57th St. Suite 503

Tickets at Workers Bookshop

50 East 13th Street, N. Y. C.

Refreshments Subscription: 50c

PROCEEDS TO THE NATIONAL YOUTH MOVEMENT

Multigraphing—Letters reproduced exactly like typewriting; any quantity. Also mimeographing, printing and mailing. Quality work at low prices.

MAILERS ADVERTISING SERVICE

121 West 42nd Street, N. Y. C. BRyant 9-5053

Lakewood Modern School

115 Cary Street Lakewood, N. J.

A progressive school for children of kindergarten and elementary age.

ARTS AND CRAFTS

RESIDENTIAL WRITE JAS. H. DICK
(Summer camp at Carmel, N. Y.)

WINTER VACATION AT

HOTEL ROYALE

Proletarian Comrades

708 Princeton Ave. Telephone:
Lakewood, N. J. Lakewood 1146

Favorable rates to New Masses Readers

Inquiries solicited.

SONIA GELBAUM ANNA BROUDE

Enjoy a true comradesly atmosphere at

RAVEN LODGE

416 Third Street Tel.: Lakewood 922
Lakewood, N. J. City Information Sk. 4-1596

Special rates to NEW MASSES Readers

CELIA BOOBAR BERNARD DREZNICK

Closed for the month of January.
Will reopen for Lincoln's Birthday

BLUE MOUNTAIN LODGE

PEEKSKILL N. Y.

Look us up when (and if) you get down to Miami this winter.

ZEVIN VILLA 447 16th ST.

MIAMI BEACH • FLORIDA

CAMP NITGEDAIGET

BEACON, N. Y.

**ALL SPORTS EXCELLENT FOOD
HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS**

\$16 per week

Camp leave daily from 2700 Bronx Park East
For all information call EStabrook 8-1400

sobbing, stricken with the thought that with the end of her sexual span, her life is virtually ended. There is no hint that for her, too, work could be her stabilizer in tropic or arctic seas.

Gilbert Miller's production is careful in every respect, not the least of which is the cast he has assembled. Cedric Hardwicke, whom you may have seen in the movie *Nine Days a Queen*, is magnificently effective as the weary, understanding bourgeois papa, and Irene Browne (she was bosom friend in the movie *Cavalcade*) ties you in knots as the tortured and torturing mother. Jean Forbes-Robertson (Sir Johnston's daughter) and Louise Platt are good, but what really lights up the play is the performance of Frank Lawton (in the movies he was David Copperfield and the younger son in *Cavalcade*), who wrings from his lines everything that a maximum of keenness, naturalness, and flexibility can find in them.

The Women is a very funny play about the man-juggling that goes on among the young married bourgeois who have nothing else to occupy their time—just such a lot as might well, fifteen years later, find themselves in the same pickle as the mother in *Promise*. There is a lot of wisdom of a sort in this story of a woman (Margalo Gillmore) who loses and regains her husband—the sort of wisdom that springs naturally from a realistic observation of facts, pleasant and unpleasant, rather than from a comprehensive grasp of all the implications of those facts. One young lady who saw it remarked that "there is a lot of propaganda in this sort of picture of a decaying class." That is true, and its main significance is that a class that doesn't work degenerates. The picture of the partial decay that Clare Boothe has given us in *The Women* (and there are only women in the cast, if you want to include Charita Bauer, a fine child actress) strikes home not only as a true portrait of a social group, but as one with all the airs and graces of delicious satire. Jo Mielziner has done a crisp and satisfying series of settings, and the cast includes such talented folk as Ilka Chase, Phyllis Povah, Betty Lawford, and Mary Cecil. Producer Max Gordon and Director Robert Sinclair are hereby congratulated.

The nightmarish waking life that a high-power publicity man lives is eloquently suggested by *All Editions*, the comedy by Charles Washburn and Clyde North which at this writing is still chasing actors madly about the stage at the Longacre Theater. Mr. Washburn, being a press agent and story-teller extraordinary, has probably been hearing for lo, these many years that he "ought to write a play about it." Maybe he didn't have to be urged, because he has turned his hand to playwriting before. *All Editions* has definite moments as a play and as entertainment; its value in these respects, however, is vastly outweighed by its stature as a document of some of the wildly screwy aspects of our day. The cult of the press agent is a special product of our civilization. ALEXANDER TAYLOR.

CLASSIFIED ADS 40c a line

6 words in a line

3 lines minimum

APARTMENT TO SHARE

SHARE BEAUTIFUL new downtown four-room apartment, furnished. Couple or 2 girls. \$20 monthly total each person. WA 9-2153.

FURNISHED ROOM

SEPARATE ROOM, sunny. Private apartment. Suitable for one. Sharing bath with one only. \$24 monthly. Call Between 6-7 p. m. AL 4-7121.

STUDIO ROOM near Abingdon Square, north light, fine place, steam heat; \$30 including light, gas, phone; call CHelsea 3-9310.

FURNISHED ROOMS—BROOKLYN

MANHATTAN BEACH HOTEL

156 West End Avenue—Sheepshead 3-3000.

37 Minutes from Times Square.

Live at this modern fireproof hotel

away from noise.

SINGLES \$5 WEEKLY UP

LECTURE

"WHAT IS HAPPENING IN CHINA?" by Harry Gannes, Foreign Editor Daily Worker; Dr. J. H. Lin, Friends of the Chinese People; R. A. Howell, editor "China Today." Friday, Jan. 8th, 8 P. M. Irving Plaza, E. 15th St. & Irving Pl. Tickets, 25c at all bookshops.

ORANGES FOR SALE

SWEET JUICY, sun-ripened on trees. Delivered express prepaid. \$3.50 bushel basket. Grapefruit, \$3.50; Mixed fruits, \$3.50. A. H. Burket, Sebring, Florida.

PLAY TABLE TENNIS

PLAY TABLE TENNIS (Ping-Pong) at the Broadway Table Tennis Courts, 1721 Broadway, bet. 54th-55th Sts., N. Y. C. One flight up. Expert instruction; open from noon until 1 A. M. Tel. CO. 5-9088.

RUSSIAN TAUGHT

MODERN RUSSIAN TAUGHT
New Rules and Usages. Tourist conversational course. MISS ISA WILGA, 457 West 57th Street, New York City, Columbus 5-8450.

RESORTS

CHESTERS' ZUNBARG. A Delightful Hideaway in the Mountains. Closed for the month of January. Will re-open for Lincoln's and Washington's Birthday week-ends. Lots to do. Make early reservations. Woodbourne, N. Y. Fallsburg 2 F 22.

FOLLOWERS OF THE TRAIL CAMP, Buchanan, N. Y. Steam-heated house. Winter Sports. Low rates. By train, N. Y. Central to Peekskill, fare 75c. By auto, U. S. 9, stop at Buchanan. Phone Peekskill 2879.

MIAMI, FLORIDA, for your winter vacation. Room and board, \$15.00 per week. Excellent food. 660 S. W. 2nd Street.

BOOKSHOPS

ORDER YOUR BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS from the ASSOCIATED NATIONAL BOOK SHOPS

New York: 50 East 13th Street.

140 Second Avenue.*

141 East 29th Street.

115 West 135th Street.

218 East 84th Street.

Bronx: 1001 Prospect Avenue.

2067 Jerome Avenue.

Brooklyn: 389 Sutter Avenue.*

61 Willoughby Street.

4531 16th Avenue.

98 Fourth Ave. (near Atlantic Ave.)

Brighton 6th Street (on the boardwalk).*

220 Utica Avenue.

Sunnyside: 44-17 Queens Boulevard.

Far Rockaway: 2006 Mott Avenue, cor. Central Avenue.

Baltimore: 501A N. Eutaw Street.

Berkeley: 2475 Bancroft Way.

Boston: 8 Beach Street.

Buffalo: 61 W. Chippewa.

Cambridge: 6½ Holyoke Street.

Chicago: 2135 W. Division Street.

1326 East 57th Street.

200 West Van Buren Street.

Cleveland: 1522 Prospect Avenue.

Detroit: 3537 Woodward Avenue.

Grand Rapids: 336 Bond Street.

Los Angeles: 224 South Spring St., 230 South Spring St.

2411½ Brooklyn Avenue.

321 West Second Street.

St. Louis: 3520 Franklin Avenue.

St. Paul: 570 Wabash Avenue.

Madison, Wisc.: Commercial Pk. Building, Room 417.

Milwaukee: 419 West State Street.

Minneapolis: 812 La Salle Avenue.

Newark: 33 Halsey Street.

New Haven: 17 Broad Street.

Philadelphia: 104 S. 9th Street, 118 W. Allegheny Avenue.

4023 Girard Avenue, 2404 Ridge Avenue.

Pittsburgh: 607 Bigelow Boulevard.

Racine, Wisc.: 205 State Street.

Reading, Pa.: 224 N. 9th Street.

Salt Lake City: 134 Regent Street.

San Francisco: 1609 O'Farrell Street, 121 Haight Street.

170 Golden Gate Avenue.

Seattle: 713½ Pine Street.

4217 University Way.

Washington, D. C.: 1125 14th Street, N. W.

Order from Your Nearest Book Shop.

Mail Orders from

WORKERS LIBRARY PUBLISHERS

P. O. Box 148, Station D. New York City.

* Open Sunday.

IT WORKS

and How!

If you had five cents for every time you've tried to answer questions like these, this book would pay for itself many times over.

- ❑ What is the difference between communism and socialism?
- ❑ What standard of living could America achieve under a socialist system of production?
- ❑ What would socialist planning be like in highly industrialized countries like England and America?
- ❑ Can capitalism plan?
- ❑ What incentive does socialism have to replace the profit incentive?
- ❑ Why is there a wage-spread of one to twelve or one to fifteen to Soviet Russia?
- ❑ Why did revolution succeed first in Russia?
- ❑ Is violence inevitable in a Socialist revolution?
- ❑ Does the organization of the workers provoke fascism?

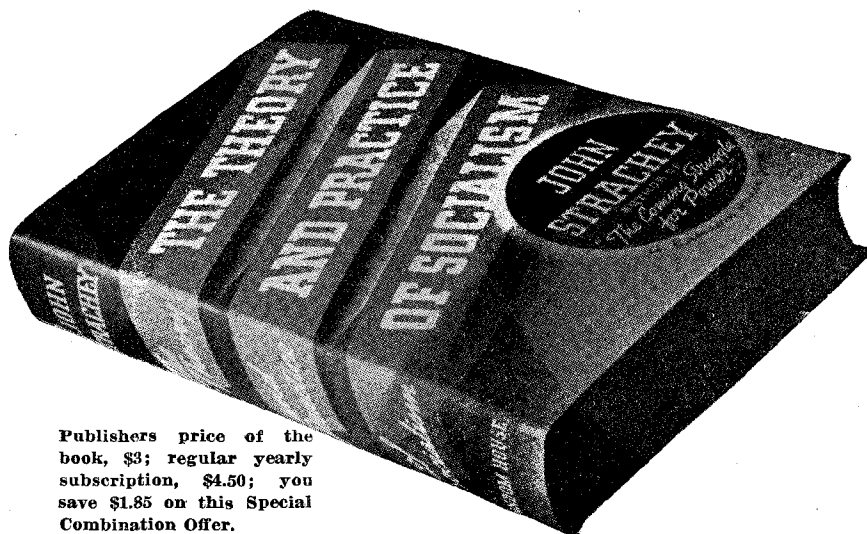
These and other similar questions are answered in detail in "The Theory and Practice of Socialism."

"The Theory and Practice of Socialism"

By John Strachey

With one year's subscription to
NEW MASSES

\$5.65



Publishers price of the book, \$3; regular yearly subscription, \$4.50; you save \$1.85 on this Special Combination Offer.

YOU remember Lincoln Steffens' comment on his return from the Soviet Union. "I've seen the future, and it works." This new book by John Strachey tells *how* it works, and how it will come about and how it will work in England and the United States. In his powerful, non-technical, readable style, with which NEW MASSES readers are familiar, Strachey traces the historical background and philosophical principles of the whole body of Marxist thought, and brings it right up to date. It is a "handbook of Marxism done by one person," says Max Lerner, reviewing it for the Book Union, whose November selection it was.

"The Theory and Practice of Socialism" is a book which should be read not only by workers, but by those groups whose economic position is still relatively unclarified—teachers, doctors, scientists, government employees—who find in increasing numbers that they cannot live lives which yield them an adequate degree of either mental or physical satisfaction in the existing world, and who sooner or later must feel that their province, too, is being invaded by the symptoms of social decay.

There is a system of society which makes possible a full and fruitful life. It exists successfully in one-sixth of the world. It can be brought to exist in America. But knowledge of the science of social change is essential to those who wish to abolish capitalism and establish socialism. This book gives you a good start on that knowledge. NEW MASSES keeps you posted from week to week. This special combination offer enables you to get both, for only \$5.65, a saving of \$1.85 on the regular price.

NEW MASSES, 31 East 27th St., New York, N. Y.

Please send me a copy of "The Theory and Practice of Socialism," by John Strachey and NEW MASSES for one year. I enclose \$5.65 in full payment, in accordance with your Special Combination Offer.

Name

Street

City and State

Occupation

ARE NOSE DROPS SAFE?

During 1937 and the coming years many thousands of children will die of pneumonia. Hundreds—perhaps thousands—of these deaths will have been caused by nose drops.

These statements are from a report on nose drops in the December issue of *Consumers Union Reports*, monthly publication of Consumers Union of United States. Naming widely-exploited brands by name, this article warns of the danger of giving children certain types of nose drops for colds. It presents medical evidence to show how many children are being killed by these medicines which manufacturers are advertising as safe cold remedies.

Did You Lose \$300 Last Year?

A Nation-wide Consumer Organization Shows
You How to Save Money on
Your Purchases

MOST American families lose amounts ranging from \$50 to \$300 or more every year because of their lack of real knowledge about the everyday products they buy. For example: Hundreds of thousands of families use a widely-advertised brand of laundry soap which sells at 30 cents a pound—yet their clothes can be cleaned equally well with another well-known brand selling for only 18 cents a pound.

Or—to take another example—many car owners lose from \$40 to as much as \$100 in each 25,000 driving miles because they have equipped their cars with certain brands of tires instead of others. To illustrate—Brand A tires, costing \$10 per tire, averaged only 13,550 miles in actual road tests whereas Brand B, costing only \$8.50, averaged 27,051 miles.

There is only one way to avoid this kind of loss—by relying on the advice of unbiased technical experts. Consumers Union of United States, a nation-wide, non-profit organization of almost 25,000 consumers, is set up to provide you with this advice.

What is Consumers Union?

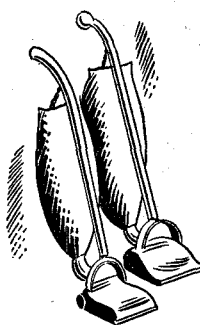
CONSUMERS UNION is a strictly non-profit, membership corporation formed under the laws of New York State to give consumers accurate, trustworthy information—based on laboratory and actual use tests conducted by expert staff technicians and impartial consultants—on the comparative value of competing brands of widely-advertised products.

Each month the findings of these experts are recorded in *Consumers Union Reports*—a magazine that has been called “the most valuable periodical in America.” Products are rated in these *Reports* by brand name as “Best Buys,” “Also Acceptable,” and “Not Acceptable.” The labor conditions under which many products are made are also described. These *Reports*—telling which brands of shoes tested wear longest, which makes of refrigerators are most economical, and which brands of other commodities are the best values

—can save your family from \$50 to \$300 a year. The *Reports* also tell which food, medical and cosmetic products are safe and which can be dangerous to use.

They are available at the low fee of \$3 a year (\$1 a year for the abridged edition covering only the less expensive types of products). This fee also includes a yearly *BUYING GUIDE* which is now in preparation.

The contents of the current issue of *Consumers Union Reports* are given at the right. You can begin your membership with this issue or with any past issue (see coupon at right). Simply fill out and mail the application blank—checking the month with which you wish to begin. For an additional 50c the *Reports* will be sent to you in a black cloth, gold-stamped, swivel-lock binder.

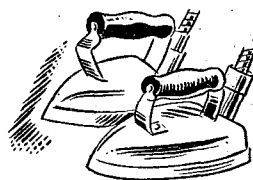
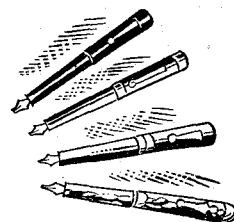


VACUUM CLEANERS

Do you want to know which vacuum cleaners will do the best job of cleaning? How rebuilt models compare with new ones in all-round value? How the different makes compare in construction and electrical insulation? Tested by unbiased engineers for cleaning ability, electric shock hazard, general engineering construction and other factors, 15 of the newest models of vacuum cleaners (including Hoover, Electrolux, General Electric and Eureka) are rated in the same issue of the *Reports* as “Best Buys,” “Also Acceptable,” or “Not Acceptable.”

FOUNTAIN PENS

Sacless pens, plunger pens, steel pointed pens, stylographic pens, and now pens to be loaded with ink tablets supposed to produce enough ink for a year's writing. Which brands are best? How much should be paid for a good pen? Only 3 out of over 20 makes tested by Consumers Union and reported on in this issue warrant top ratings as good, dependable fountain pens. Eleven are listed as “Not Acceptable.” Included in the ratings are such makes as Waterman, Shaeffer, CD, Camel and Parker.



ELECTRIC IRONS

On the basis of tests for heat distribution, temperature control, shock hazard, etc., 14 models of automatic electric irons are also rated in this issue. Some of the brands reported on are Magic Maid, Universal, Westinghouse, and G. E. Hotpoint.

TOMATO JUICE, BLANKETS

Other reports in this issue give money-saving information on leading brands of blankets, tomato juice, and other products, with ratings as “Best Buys,” “Also Acceptable,” and “Not Acceptable.” The coupon below will bring you this issue at once.

To: CONSUMERS UNION of U. S., Inc., 55 Vandam Street, New York, N. Y.

I wish my membership to begin with the issue checked below:

- ☐ MAY—Toilet Soaps, Grade A versus Grade B Milk, Breakfast Cereals
- ☐ JUNE—Automobiles, Gasolines, Moth Preventives, Vegetable Seeds
- ☐ JULY—Refrigerators, Used Cars, Motor Oils, Bathing Suits
- ☐ AUGUST—Oil Burners and Stokers, Black List of Drugs and Cosmetics, White Bread, Meat, Hosiery
- ☐ SEPTEMBER—Tires, Whiskies, Women's Coats, Shoes
- ☐ OCTOBER—Men's Shirts, Gins, Brandies and Cordials, Electric Razors, Dentifrices, Anti-freeze Solutions
- ☐ NOVEMBER—1937 Autos, Radios, Toasters, Wines, Children's Shoes, Winter Oils
- ☐ DECEMBER—Vacuum Cleaners, Fountain Pens, Electric Irons, Blankets, Nose Drops

I hereby apply for membership in Consumers Union. I enclose:

- ☐ \$3 for one year's membership, \$2.50 of which is for a year's subscription to the complete edition of *Consumers Union Reports*. Subscriptions without membership are \$3.50.
- ☐ \$1 for one year's membership, 50c of which is for a year's subscription to the limited edition of *Consumers Union Reports*. (Note—Reports on higher-priced products are not in this edition.)

I also enclose \$..... as a contribution toward a permanent consumers laboratory.

I agree to keep confidential all material sent to me which is so designated. Please begin my membership with the issue.

Signature.....

Address.....

City and State.....

Occupation..... M J