

all the adventures described in the first person singular actually happened to him is not important; his romance with the beautiful Polish countess, for instance, has a few too many coincidences and international twists to be credible. However, the story is vital and revealing, and if its Hollywood touches help get it to a few thousand extra readers, perhaps it's all to the good.

BETTY MILLARD.

## Jim Crow at the Front

THE NEGRO IN THE ARMED FORCES, by Seymour J. Schoenfeld. Associated Publishers, Washington. \$1.10.

THIS is a significant little volume. It makes a clear-cut demand for the "complete integration of the Negro in the armed forces," and it comes from the pen of a Lieutenant-Commander in the Navy of the United States, with a supporting and forthright introduction by a Colonel in the Marine Corps—Evans Fordyce Carlson—and an enthusiastic blurb by an American cabinet member—Henry A. Wallace.

The author summarizes succinctly and correctly the findings of the best historical, anthropological, and sociological researches on the Negro. He adds confirmatory and most interesting data from his own personal experiences derived from twenty-two months' service aboard a combat-loaded transport ("Jim Crow," he writes, "never rides a landing craft to an enemy beach"), and so, inevitably, comes to his unequivocal demand for absolute equality in the rights, duties and privileges of the Negro soldier, sailor and marine.

Very considerable advances were made along these lines in the course of the war against fascism (some of which are enumerated here), most notably the use of mixed units in the front lines in the days of the Bulge and the smashing offensive that followed. These came because of necessity and agitation. The advances must be held and expanded. The necessity remains and will remain. Let us not neglect the agitation. Lieutenant-Commander Schoenfeld has provided additional ammunition.

HERBERT APTHEKER.

## The Nazis in Poland

CALL US TO WITNESS: a Polish Chronicle, by Hania and Gaither Warfield. Ziff-Davis. \$3.

AN AMERICAN Methodist preacher and his Polish-born wife describe their experiences in Poland, Soviet Russia and Germany, in the crucial pe-

NM October 9, 1945

# THE Russian Story

★ "In this telescoping into 184 pages of 1,000 years of Russia's turmoil and growth, Mikhailov has no political axe to grind. His book, simply and directly written, is rather a historic and geographic travelogue, reading with the speed of a novel, letting the facts speak for themselves."

N. Y. Times Book Review  
At your bookstore, \$2.75

THE COMING OF AGE  
OF A GREAT PEOPLE

By NICHOLAS MIKHAILOV  
Author of Land of the Soviets

SHERIDAN HOUSE  
257 4th Ave., N. Y. 10

30 COURSES  
in English and Yiddish

13 ASTOR PLACE • NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

Open Daily: 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Prominent Staff of Instructors and Lecturers, including:

I. B. BAILIN  
RABBI ABRAHAM BICK  
DR. HERBERT I. BLOOM  
ELI COHEN  
PROF. FREDERIC EWEN  
HENRY GOODMAN  
SOL GORDON  
M. KATZ  
DR. RAPHAEL MAHLER  
JESSE MINTUS  
DR. HERBERT M. MORAIS  
PAUL NOVICK  
RABBI HERMAN POLLACK  
MENASHA UNGER

## SCHOOL OF JEWISH STUDIES

An Educational Institution Devoted to a Modern Progressive Approach to the History and Problems of the Jewish People.

HISTORY • LITERATURE • SOCIAL and ECONOMIC SUBJECTS • CULTURAL SUBJECTS • LANGUAGES: Yiddish, Hebrew, English.

SPECIAL FEES TO VETERANS  
ENROLL NOW . . . CALL OR WRITE

GRamercy 7-8434

Classes Open  
October 22nd  
12-Week Semester

# SUPPORT THE NATIONAL WAR FUND

riod from the invasion of Poland (September 1939) to June 1942, when the United States and Russia signed their lend-lease agreement. Protected by their official status, the Warfields could observe the horrors against Jews and Christian Poles.

This volume has a special value as the testimony not of victims but of privileged observers. It confirms all detailed records of German *Schrecklichkeit* to be found in the various Black Books. Appealing naively to the Nazis' "humanity," the Warfields received such answers as "Our Fuehrer has promised us to wipe out this vermin and prosperity and peace will then reign forever in the world," or "we Germans do not need friends." Unfortunately the authors suffer from the anti-Soviet prejudice frequent in clerics. That blind spot is all the more puzzling in the light of Mrs. Warfield's explanation to a friend: "Don't you see that when nations value comfort more than freedom, prosperity more than human rights, peace more than justice, they have lost the right to exist? Don't you see that we must be ready to sacrifice and suffer? Our great enemy is not war, pain, and death but aloof indifference." It was not the Soviets who were indifferent when the fascist conquest of Manchuria, Ethiopia, Spain challenged the democracies; and in the final struggle, no nation sacrificed or suffered so much.

ALBERT WIENER.

## More Koestler

TWILIGHT BAR, by Arthur Koestler. Mac-Millan. \$2.00.

KOESTLER says in his preface that he began this cynically pessimistic and "escapist" play in 1933, in Moscow, where he had just arrived as an enrolled Communist to write a book about the Five-Year Plan. This autobiographic note makes clear that his later actions were no "disillusionment" but the continuation of an ingrained cynicism. He had "the guilty feeling" then, he writes, "of a schoolboy drawing obscene pictures on the blackboard." Readers will agree that he still has cause for that guilty feeling. The play as presented here, in a new version twelve years after the lost original, is an attempt at a Shavian ironic fantasy that falls flatter than any imitation of the great G.B.S. I have ever seen. Its theme is the plight of our planet when a better world that has become irritated with our vast, reeking misery gives the earth a three-day ultimatum to be-

come happier. The play proves to be dull, trivial and tasteless; the apologetic preface is entirely in order.

ISIDOR SCHNEIDER.

## Brief Reviews

THE MORAL CONQUEST OF GERMANY, by Emil Ludwig. Doubleday Doran. \$2.

THIS book is an inorganic mixture containing (1) a rehash in topical paragraphs of Ludwig's books on Goethe, the Germans, etc.; (2) ludicrous generalizations about the "German character" as suffering from an original predisposition towards evil and requiring therefore subjection to "moral conquest"; and (3) some sensible comments on a practical program for Germany.

The latter part is obviously inconsistent with the rest. Here Ludwig writes of German cosmopolitans, such as Goethe, Beethoven and others, and condemns the "petty bourgeois" Social Democracy which killed "two genuine heroes of the German Revolution, Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg." His program for German reorganization is more than "moral." It calls for total disarmament, supervision of its government, separation of Prussia from the rest of Germany and destruction of its industrial machine; it urges that "open preference" be given to workers, and that leaders be sought among the liberated inmates of concentration camps. By 1960, he thinks, Germany would thereby be ready for "a world of international security. . . . Fifteen million German young people will do away with the way of the oldsters, as Russian youth has done in the course of the past twenty years." It is unfortunate that Ludwig mars his realistic program by a blind anthropology and exaggerated generalizations.

ARTIE GREENGROIN, PFC., by Pvt. Harry Brown. Knopf. \$2.50.

ARTIE GREENGROIN is familiar to readers of *Yank* as a kind of garrulous and supremely confident Sad Sack. The resemblance ends with the fact that both characters are always getting it in the neck. The more Sad Sack tries to be a good soldier, the more he is punished by a perverse Army fate, whereas Artie is more sinning than sinned against and usually deserves what he gets. Moreover, when Artie is not in the guardhouse, he often gets to be Pfc., an exalted rank denied to Sgt. George Baker's eternal private. Pvt.

Harry Brown's humor is repetitious, but his Greengroin vignettes will amuse servicemen and civilians alike.

THE ANNIHILATION OF MAN, by Leslie Paul. Harcourt Brace. \$2.50.

DESPITE its pretentious title and subtitles, this book by a British soldier is primarily a review of historical events and movements in our war period. It swerves unsteadily between a condemnation of fascism for being anti-Christian, and the admission that wars are due to industrial factors. Likewise, it criticizes Marxism as a "theology," and the Soviet Revolution as "national," while conceding the possibility of "a peaceful unaggressive future for the totalitarianism of Russia." The main thesis (based on the undigested theory in Drucker's *End of the Economic Man*) is that our problems are moral, and that the hope for resolving the Western crisis lies in a non-materialistic religion.

## Worth Noting

THE world of culture suffered losses last week in the death of the great Hungarian modernist composer, Bela Bartok, to whom the new democratic Hungary paid tribute by electing him deputy to its parliament; and the Austrian Jewish poet, Dr. Richard Beer-Hofmann, who received an award, early this year, from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

SYLVIA SHIRLEY, a young New York housewife who had been both a factory and an office worker before her marriage, and Sgt. Harry Alter, who had been a steel worker in Youngstown before his induction, were among the prizewinners in a short story contest held by the *Daily World*, San Francisco labor paper. Judges included Albert Maltz, Ring Lardner, Jr., A. I. Besserides, Prof. James R. Caldwell of the University of California, C. S. Forester and Wilma Shore. There's another prize the winners could be shooting for: the current NEW MASSES story contest with \$100 for the first prize.

THE violinist Max Polikoff, who is one of the performers at our John Reed Memorial meeting, is appearing in a recital at Town Hall (New York) on October 21. One of the works to be played at the recital will be Prokofiev's new violin concerto.