

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
COURSES IN WRITING
September 27, 1945 to May 25, 1946

Professional instruction in short story, magazine article, novel, news and feature, radio, poetry, and play-writing; also courses in editing, publishing, and public relations.

Instructors: Wade Arnold, Erik Barnouw, Joseph E. Boyle, Ernest Brennecke, Jr., Dorothy Brewster, Francis Brown, Ellen L. Buell, Angus Burrell, Donald L. Clark, John Farrar, Hatcher Hughes, Helen Hull, Vernon Loggins, Glen Mullin, Louis Paul, Frances T. Patterson, Mabel L. Robinson, Adolph Schneider, John Selby, Leonora Speyer, Rowe Wright, Nicholas Wreden.

For information, address the Director of University Extension, Columbia University, New York 27, N. Y.

"LANGUAGE IS POWER"

Ability to speak another language adds to your assets, opens opportunities, wins promotion, in war and peace.

SPEAK ANOTHER LANGUAGE quickly, easily, correctly by LINGUAPHONE

The world-famous Linguaphone EAR-EYE Conversational Method brings voices of native teachers INTO YOUR OWN HOME. No English is spoken. You learn the new language by LISTENING.

Home-Study Courses in 29 Languages:
SPANISH PORTUGUESE JAPANESE
ITALIAN RUSSIAN NORWEGIAN
and 23 other languages
Send for FREE book

LINGUAPHONE INSTITUTE
28 RCA Building, New York • Circle 7-0830

Can Ambitious People Really Fall in Love?

Read why they have trouble doing it—in *THE PSYCHOLOGY OF SEX RELATIONS* by Theodor Reik, just published by Farrar & Rinehart. \$3.00 at bookstores.

PROTECT-O-BOOK

Preserve Your Books With
NEW TRANSPARENT PLASTIC BOOK COVER

Suitable for home, library and school use. Durable, sanitary, protective, easily fitted to standard size books.

12 Covers Postpaid \$1.15

Lynn Bee, P. O. Box 105, Station Y
Dept. S New York 21, N. Y.

**VICTORY BONDS
CAN SPEED THE
PEACE**

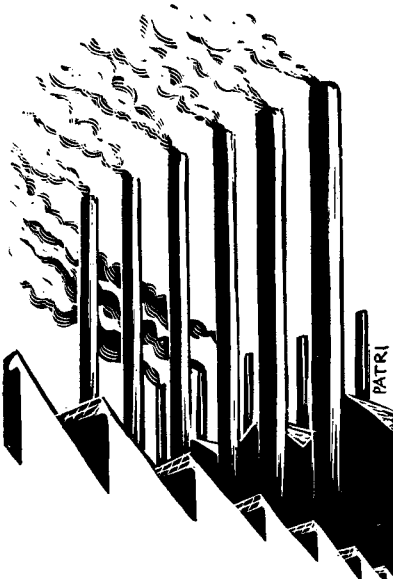
Industry and Power Politics

BIG BUSINESS IN A DEMOCRACY.
By James Truslow Adams. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1945. 276 pp. \$2.75.

Reviewed by ALFRED MCCLUNG LEE

WHETHER a citizen of Detroit likes it or not, he is very close today to the raw and brutal realities of social change in process. Here industrial management and labor leadership work, play, eat, and sleep like the staffs of armies on the march, constantly aware of each other and constantly on the offensive or defensive. Here the power politics of cliques in these gigantic social combinations move swiftly and deftly from race riots to city elections, to lockouts, strikes, and arbitrations, and to myriad other ways of crashing on to advantages.

As a citizen of Detroit, I have often speculated on what this whole network



of conflict and opportunism would look like from a point more remote in time and space. James Truslow Adams offers one such perspective upon one of Detroit's and of the nation's leading industrial institutions, the General Motors Corporation. He does so with the kindly and grandfatherly admonition, "I am going to step back a billion and a half years. Don't be frightened. I have a reason."

As Mr. Adams takes us by the hand and leads us to his vantage point, he explains how, for his sins, as he puts it, he has had "to read or glance at an enormous amount of tripe by reformers about the unfairness and injustices of man to man in 1945." Without what he calls "perspective or historical background," he admits that he would have been "in grave danger of being misled."

In this perspective of the eons, Mr.

Adams sees "man emerge as an individual from the pack." He thus believes that we shall have to preserve as best we can as much unbridled individualism as possible. The emergence of man "meant the birth not only of the inventor, the thinker, the artist and the *leader* in general, but the birth also of all sorts of *desires* which were infinitely varied and not merely stereotypes of the combined *emotions* of a hungry horde." Others, more mindful of the American tradition, would place more emphasis upon *men* and less upon *the man*.

Mr. Adams fails to see the role of the socialization of the individual down through history to the point where we are able to live in huge communities and countries with some degree of coöperative organization and without rugged individuals being too free to plunder the rest of us. On the contrary, he manages to twist his pack-to-individual sequence to fit it in with the statement that "individuals regardless of physical strength, age, or even mental ability, become more certain of getting *something* out of the general stock of goods," a situation of which he approves.

A lot of the thinking Mr. Adams regards as muddled stems, he claims, from the "new Ellis Island School" of writers. This is a slight variation on the old ethnocentric plea of other Nativists, a practice into which one would not expect a reputable historian to fall. Such writers, he claims, do not understand that practically all Americans are "middle class" and so regard themselves, "though here and there a rich heiress whose papa has left her millions may resent the term."

Mr. Adams does not approve of prefaces. He devotes Chapter I to explaining this idiosyncrasy and Chapters II to VII to the purposes usually allotted to a preface, chiefly a rationalization of his general viewpoint and of his reasons for writing another book. And then after seven chapters and 142 pages of sermonizing concerning the value of leadership, of seeing history his way, of trouncing those busybodies, the reformers, he brings forth onto his stage his "horrible—or beautiful—example" of whether or not there is a "Curse of Bigness": General Motors.

The half of the book that deals chiefly with GM is fascinating, because it is almost a picture of GM in a vacuum. I could not find the name of the United Automobile Workers' Union anywhere. As he wept over the "widows, orphans, and estates, who are the stockholders," Mr. Adams did mention "the notorious Wagner Act"

of 1935-37, with the "wave of lawlessness" it made to sweep the country. "Great cities, like Flint and Detroit, were intimidated by armed mobs and hoodlums, largely from other States." He gives the impression that only unions would hire thugs. Since he makes no claims of getting the unionists' side of his story, one is forced to assume that he did not care to hear it, much less to weigh it objectively together with what he learned from the public relations department of GM.

One suspects that his extreme anti-unionist, anti-liberal, anti-reformist biases embarrass Mr. Adams a great deal. At least he takes a great deal of space to attack such disturbers of what Mr. Adams takes to be the eternal and right nature of affairs, and he is even moved to this disclaimer:

General Motors knew nothing of my book or project until I asked them for such information as I needed. They have been most helpful in supplying me with reports and facts of all sorts but, for those suspicious souls who always smell a cash profit in connection with publicity of any kind, I may say that there is none.

Even though Mr. Adams devotes a great deal of space to the apotheosis of the profit motive and all its wonders, I have no reason to doubt his repetitious claim to literary purity. As a matter of fact, I would have been greatly amazed to have learned that such were not the case. As an admirer of the technical skill of Paul Garrett and his associates in public

relations on the GM staff, I would not expect them to underwrite such an obviously one-sided, emotional, and prejudiced piece of special pleading for their corporation. Trained public relations specialists would have insisted that Mr. Adams interview the opposition or at least study their literature, that he tone down his emotionalism and at least make his copy look objective, and that he realize GM is led—like the UAW-CIO and our various governmental units—by men.

Women the Best Emotional Educators

Read the predictions of Theodor Reik in *THE PSYCHOLOGY OF SEX RELATIONS*, just published by Farrar & Rinehart. You'll like it. \$3.00 at bookstores.

BUY VICTORY BONDS

The full text of the
official report

Atomic Energy

FOR MILITARY PURPOSES

FRASER YOUNG'S LITERARY CRYPT: No. 118

A cryptogram is writing in cipher. Every letter is part of a code that remains constant throughout the puzzle. Answer to No. 118 will be found in the next issue.

MFJGLPI HITTIGG UW VIKHB,
DOJ GAI WLKJG GU PORR FJ
YFOQIKJ, HIPOFJI L HLV GAIS
GKISHRI OG GAI DUKV UW GAI
RUKV.—ZIUKZI WUC. WUFTVIK
UW JUPLIGB UW WKLITVJ.
("YFOQIKJ"). MUFKTOR.

Answer to Literary Crypt No. 117
NOBODY CAN DESCRIBE A
FOOL TO LIFE, WITHOUT MUCH
PATIENT SELF-INSPECTION.
—FRANK M. COLBY.
—ESSAYS.

● This is the famous "SMYTH REPORT" as issued by Dr. Smyth at the direction of Maj. Gen. L. R. Groves, in charge of the Atomic Bomb project.

It is a general account of the development of atomic energy under the auspices of the United States government.

"One of the most fascinating and almost certainly one of the most important books published in our time. All the newspaper articles put together do not carry the impact of this sober, 'semi-technical' narrative exposition of the most revolutionary single development that any men now living are ever likely to know. Deserves the profound and prayerful consideration of every citizen of the United States."—*N. Y. Herald Tribune*

By HENRY DEWOLF SMYTH

Chairman, Dept. of Physics, Princeton University. Consultant to the "Manhattan District" (The cryptic title given to the Atomic Bomb project by the U. S. Corps of Engineers)



At your
bookstore

**PRINCETON
UNIVERSITY PRESS**

250 pages, containing all information released to date, 12 photos, 8 drawings. Paper bound, \$1.25. Cloth bound, \$2.00

1ST PRINTING OF 30,000 COPIES SOLD OUT! 2ND PRINTING ON PRESS