

influence on the reactionary policies of some of her allies; today, she often outdoes them. After World War I, America experienced the same swing to the right which she is undergoing today, a common result of the ascendancy of military standards during wartime; but whereas she was then in tune with a world in which Britain and France had experienced the same movement she is today dangerously opposed to their present swing to the left. It makes no difference whether the political development in the United States be considered as intrinsically desirable or the opposite, on the domestic plane; the fact remains that divergence from the dominant tendency abroad constitutes a menace on the international plane.

Lloyd George's confidential memorandum to the Big Four at the time of Versailles noted, on the question of the treatment of Germany:

A large army of occupation for an indefinite period is out of the question. Germany would not mind it. A very large number of people in that country would welcome it, as it would be the only hope of preserving the existing order of things.

That is the solution adopted today, although this shrewd observation is probably as true now as it was then.

"The Allied governments' fear of revolution was again their chief motive," Mr. Zilliacus reports, in the development of their erroneous policy towards Germany. These words are still valid. As a result of that fear, Sir Henry Wilson noted in his diary that "the war against the Boche is turning into a war against the Bolshie." He might repeat that observation today. The failure to consolidate the victory of democracy occurred chiefly because the winners "persisted in treating the Bolsheviks and the revolutionary unrest in the working class as though they were just as much their enemies as plutocracy and conservatism." Replace the last two nouns by "fascism" and that sentence is up to date too.

British labor, Mr. Zilliacus reminds us, obliged London to end its undeclared war against the infant Soviet government by refusing to load the munitions ships. It failed to make any such effective protest this time in the case of Greece, though it should be recorded that Mr. Zilliacus himself was not alone among Labor members of Parliament in protesting his own party government's policy. And, finally, to end a depressing parallel, in the first few years after World War I, "no state was rearming intensively, nor apprehended war."

That, lamentably, we are unable to say today.

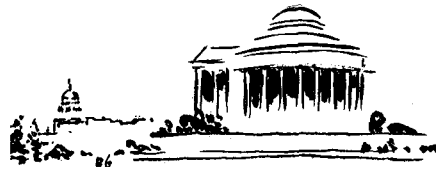
As McIntire Remembers Him

WHITE HOUSE PHYSICIAN. By Vice Admiral Ross T. McIntire. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1946. 244 pp. \$3.

Reviewed by JONATHAN DANIELS

ROSS MCINTIRE, who was Franklin Roosevelt's physician throughout his years in the Presidency, has written a medically documented and at the same time often moving book of recollections about him. But somehow, despite the doctor's candor and his medical reports, the book does not seem to me to dispel the continuing mystery about Roosevelt's health from late in 1943 until the April of 1945 when he died.

Knowing Ross McIntire, I am confident about every medical fact he presents. If he says, as he does, that there was nothing beyond weariness and loss of weight the matter with the President except a "moderate



arteriosclerosis" up to the time of his death, I do not question it. But as one of those who watched Roosevelt decline steadily and perceptibly to death from December 1943 to April 1945 I am confused.

I was one of those who wanted very much to believe that there was nothing the matter with Franklin Roosevelt. What Ross McIntire writes in this book is what he told me when, as press secretary to the President, I discussed the matter with him in connection with a story Roscoe Drummond, the well-known Washington correspondent, was planning to write about Roosevelt's health. That was just a couple of weeks before Roosevelt's death. But looking back as a complete layman, I know in retrospect that the man I saw go to Warm Springs was a man about to die—and that the approach of his death, imperceptible as it may have been to medical diagnosis, should have been visible to the naked eye.

Whatever may have been the matter—sheer weariness perhaps, and God knows there was reason enough for that—the steady decline of Roosevelt's health was heartbreakingly apparent to everybody around him from the influenza of December 1943 until he died. While he lived, of course, fears about him were always accom-

panied by hopes, too. His gaiety and his mental vigor often belied the signs of deterioration in the man. But—I doubt that the rumors in the country (malicious, irresponsible, and uninformed as most of them were) were any more widespread than the guarded fears among his friends. Certainly before he died those close around him understood that new procedures would be necessary in his Secretariat to guard and assist his waning physical powers.

Dr. McIntire, speaking as of Yalta, says that much of the talk about Roosevelt's declining health was occasioned by newspaper pictures. Toward the last, he thinks, the newspapers seemed to prefer pictures which were unflattering. "Many photographs taken at Yalta," he says, "were excellent, showing him alive and alert; but for the most part the papers printed flashlights that gave the President a ghastly pallor and accentuated the thinness of his face." That was true in some cases, notably of one picture generally circulated at the time of his speech accepting the 1944 nomination. But all the pictures taken at Yalta were made by the Army and none were released until they had been screened at the White House. The pictures which appeared after Yalta were not the worst but the best of the pictures taken.

Apart from the President's health, Dr. McIntire's book will be one of the many volumes of memoirs which added together will help historians shape the full Roosevelt story. Already it is apparent that not all those close to Roosevelt saw the same man. The story of Roosevelt's attitude toward Russia and Stalin and Churchill in this book is almost diametrically opposed to that related by Elliott Roosevelt in his recent controversial volume. There are other differences. Elliott reports that at Cairo in November 1943 McIntire, in discussing the flight from Cairo to Teheran, said that his father could not stand an altitude of over 7,500 feet. McIntire does not mention such fears in his book but reports the flight at great altitudes as one in which the President delighted.

There will be other books which will be more valuable in throwing light on the problems which Roosevelt faced. But this will certainly be one of the most essential books to all those who undertake to understand Roosevelt the man. As friend as well as physician, Dr. McIntire has told his story with both warmth and clarity. He has written from affection for history.

Knowing Man in His Entirety

THE HUMAN FRONTIER. By Roger J. Williams. New York: Harcourt, Brace & Co. 1946. 314 pp. \$3.

Reviewed by HARRISON BROWN

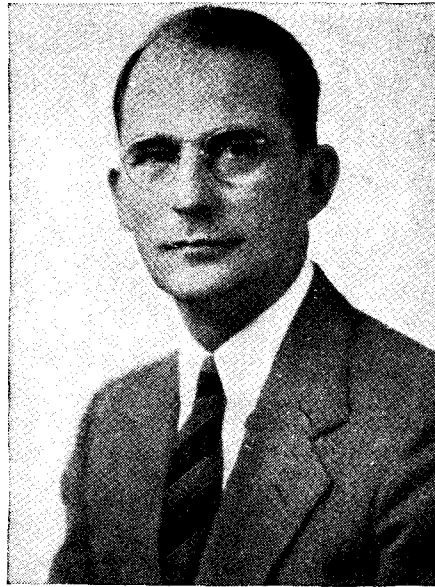
IT IS a sad commentary on both science and civilization that a vigorous plea urging the creation of a science of human beings should be necessary. At this late date in our civilization, when our very survival depends upon our solving tremendous problems of social organization, it is sobering to learn that there exists no concerted effort on the part of science to study the individual man, who necessarily is the fundamental component of any social organization.

Dr. Roger J. Williams, who discovered and synthesized one of the B vitamins, has written an eloquent plea, urging that this glaring and dangerous gap in the foundations of our society be remedied with dispatch. He points out that thus far man has been studied in pieces and not in his entirety, and that from these small separate pieces of information a biological robot, "man-in-the-abstract," has evolved. Man-in-the-abstract, who also travels under the names of Mr. Average Man and Statistical Man, is, of course, non-existent. Yet, our society is usually dealt with as though it were composed entirely of average men, and nothing else. Dr. Williams stresses that the result "... might be compared to furnishing an entire army with average-sized shoes."

Attempts to deal with people in society as if they were all alike are marked for nearly certain failure. Social structures are planned and built for people who are all alike, and those structures are then occupied by people who are all different from one another. Dr. Williams emphasizes the necessity of our learning more about these differences:

... the roots of many conflicts and problems lie in the *differences* in appearance, *differences* in opinions, *differences* in attitudes, and *differences* in behavior on the part of members of the human family. Scientific study ... must understand these differences, seek out their origins, and finally develop the means whereby we can adjust ourselves to them.

At the present time it is nobody's obligation, and nobody's business to know man in his entirety. In science, as in other professions, we are living in an age of specialization. The anatomist studies body structure, a physiologist might study digestion or the physiology of muscles (probably not both), a biochemist might study pro-



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tein structure, a psychologist might study a certain phase of mental activity. But few research workers make it their business to engage in scientific study of individual men in their entirety. In view of this, Dr. Williams proposes that a new applied science, for which he suggests the name "humanics," be established. As visualized, the study would be of a practical nature, and the ultimate goal would be social welfare.

The new field of study would be of broad scope. Studies would be made on the relationships between many physiological and psychological traits, and the resultant character traits and social behavior of individual men. Efforts would be made to study causes and effects of individual likenesses and differences in widely separated functions, traits, and capacities. Many characteristics would be studied, such as metabolism, drug action, allergies, peripheral vision, color blindness, hearing, tonal memory, taste, smell, temperature sensitivity, intestinal motility, heart action, sleep requirements, thyroid and pituitary gland behavior, sex hormones, memory, emotions, facility with numbers, creativeness, orderliness, devotion, and acquisitiveness.

Approximately one-half of Dr. Williams's discussion consists of an analysis of the types of studies that should be made, and a very readable survey of the relationships that are already known or suspected. Although the author directs his discussion primarily toward scientists and scientifically informed laymen, persons without

that will interest them, assuming of course that they have a desire to know why and what they are, and why they behave as they do.

The second half of the book is concerned primarily with the applications of humanics to social problems. The potential magnitude of the effects that might be produced, if an intelligent attack is made, is large indeed. Problems of marriage, education, religion, criminology, medicine, government, and international relations could be reduced in seriousness materially, if we but possessed a broader knowledge of the physiological and psychological reasons for our behavior as individuals.

One of the most intriguing sections of Dr. Williams's book is his discussion of the application of humanics to the difficult job of choosing and evaluating our leaders. Concerning this he says:

I take the position that it would be desirable to know a great deal about the mental abilities and the psychological traits of anyone whom we put in a position of leadership. ... Faked amnesia or faked blindness can be detected by electroencephalographic study. If the resources of science are called upon, it is not at all unreasonable to think that faked public interest and faked honesty of purpose could also be detected by suitable means.

Although this suggested application is tempting in the extreme, and could in itself lead us into a Golden Age, this reviewer would suggest that the possibility not be mentioned when the first Institute of Humanics requests government support for its research.

Valuable Edition

WALDEN. By Henry David Thoreau. With an Introduction, Interpretive comments and 142 photographs by Edwin Way Teale. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co. 1946. 369 pp. \$5.

Reviewed by HENRY SEIDEL CANBY

A SHORT time ago an admirable book of photographs of Walden Pond and vicinity was edited by Henry Bugbee Kane. Now comes the book "Walden" itself, with a good introduction by the nature writer Edwin Way Teale, and a different set of photographs. The Kane pictures were, on the whole, more beautiful as photographs; the Teale photographs are more interesting in their range. The books together would be a valuable addition to any library, or a fortunate present for a Thoreauvian. Here is one of the greatest of American books, well introduced, and superbly illustrated.