

London Blitz when Prunier fortunes were at their all-time low. Her daughter designed the attractive jacket; her son runs the flourishing Traktir.

HAUTE COUTURE: Was it pure coincidence that shortly after the invention of the H-bomb, Paris dress designer Christian Dior launched his famous H-line? According to Célia Bertin, who has written a book about the world of *haute couture* called "*Paris a la Mode*" (translated by Marjorie Deans; Harper, \$4), it was not. "A secret bond," writes Mlle. Bertin, "undoubtedly exists between the *couturier's* ideas and the mood of the moment." Mlle. Bertin, like many of her compatriots, takes her *haute couture* very seriously and her book explores virtually all the facets of the industry from the workrooms where the designer's creations are sewn ("not more than 2 per cent or 3 per cent of the total work is usually carried out by machine") to subsidiary

trades like the designing of shoes or of flower and feather trimmings which are carried out by separate artisans. Finally, there is a section on the designers themselves which includes a brief run-down on such past and present pace-setters as Schiaparelli, Chanel, the late Jacques Fath, Dior, Hubert de Givenchy, and Balenciaga. Unfortunately, the presentation of these personalities is routine and one is apt to feel in "Paris a la Mode" that the main difference between Balenciaga and say, de Givenchy, is that the former was born in Spain and has "a film-star temperament" while the latter was born in France and is well over six feet tall. The rest of the industry—from seamstress to shoe-maker—is better characterized and if one cannot get quite as explosive as Mlle. Bertin about its importance, one can at least appreciate the genuine artistic effort that goes into the creation of an *haute couture* ensemble.

—E. P. MONROE.

The World

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and translated by Leon Kossar and Ralph M. Zoltan. The author's own pen drawings reveal the mood of those tragic days.

—EMIL LENGYEL.

HOW AUSTRIA REMAINED FREE: Postwar Austria's triumphant fight for freedom is a subject that deserves highly perceptive treatment, and that is just what it receives in "*The Austrian Odyssey*," by Gordon Shepherd (St. Martin's Press, \$6.50). Mr. Shepherd, an English journalist now resident in Vienna, was a history major at Cambridge and an Intelligence officer in postwar Austria. He not only saw the whole show but was in a position to evaluate it from both an historical and human viewpoint. His heartening report, complete with photographs, bibliography, map, and index, is perhaps the best work on Austria that has appeared since the war.

Although the author pays considerable attention to Austria's great past as the heart of an empire and to the First Republic that existed between 1918 and 1938, the most interesting part of his book deals with the double miracle of Austria's economic recovery and battle for independence. At the end of World War II the Russians had the cards stacked against the Austrians. The little Danubian country, laid waste, invaded, looted, and occupied, appeared to have no chance. But the Austrians "gave the world a remarkable proof of their moral toughness." Conservatives and Leftists cooperated unselfishly in the national interest. While next-door Czechoslovakia was surrendering to Communism, Austria was standing its ground. In the end, "the Russians evacuated Austria having failed to produce a single dupe prominent enough to influence the general public."

A geographical and cultural salient of the free world, Austria juts deep into Communist territory. Situated on the uneasy frontiers of Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary, the Austrian Republic is one of Europe's key states.

This delightful volume will both serve the tourist well and prove a valuable guide for the stay-at-home who wants to follow the march of events in Danubia.

—H. C. W.

LITERARY I.Q. ANSWERS

Answers: Column Two should read: 6, 7, 13, 10, 9, 14, 15, 11, 4, 1, 8, 5, 2, 12, 3. Column Three should read: 5, 11, 2, 7, 1, 14, 12, 3, 13, 4, 8, 6, 15, 9, 10.

The Criminal Record

The Saturday Review's Guide to Detective Fact and Fiction

Title and Author	Crime, Place, and Sleuth	Summing Up	Verdict
FIRE, BURN! <i>John Dickson Carr</i> (Harper: \$3.50)	Reconstruction of 1829 London murder by present-day Yarder who goes back in time.	Excellent fidelity to customs, dress, speech of era, with fascinating "Notes for the Curious" appended.	Top period piece.
THE BUSHMAN WHO CAME BACK <i>Arthur W. Upfield</i> (Crime Club: \$2.95)	Insp. Napoleon Bonaparte, Australian ace, looks into outback killing and child's disappearance after mother's murder.	Nice tracking, excellent scenery; killer somewhat wispy as willi-willies blow; pace and characterization professional.	Usual good job.
THE TORTURED PATH <i>Kendell Foster Crossen</i> (Dutton: \$2.95)	Maj. Kim Locke of CIA invites capture by Chinese Reds with view to rescuing brain-washed colonel.	Contains semi-documentary account of prisoner treatment; hero wonder-boy type; villains as expected.	Bang-bang in spots.
CASEBOOK OF THE CURIOUS AND TRUE <i>Francis X. Busch</i> (Bobbs: \$4)	Eight fact jobs, involving much court work; period 1800s to present; Chicago-land plus one Kentucky.	Clarence Darrow makes several appearances; girl's unexplained 1901 death is high point.	Good variety.
WHAT ROUGH BEAST? <i>John Trench</i> (Macmillan: \$2.95)	Learned Amateur Martin Cotterell called to English cathedral town when unknowns badger cleric; fatality precedes unmasking.	Local cops real old meanies; delinquents crowd pages; high Anglican yarn is occasionally wispy but thoroughly pleasant.	Usual high-IQ job.
END OF CHAPTER <i>Nicholas Blake</i> (Harper: \$2.95)	Nigel Strangeways, suave London eye, takes on publisher client to forestall libel suit, but gory murder intrudes.	Upper-bracket job, told with author's customary wit, grace, and aplomb; Yard ace is also on ball; handling deft.	Bell-ringer.
AN AIR THAT KILLS <i>Margaret Millar</i> (Random: \$3.50)	Toronto tycoon vanishes as paternity exposure looms; police activity only incidental (but good).	Background and characterization admirable, as expected; suspense excellent; final scene played in California.	Tops.
MURDER MADE ABSOLUTE <i>Michael Underwood</i> (Washburn: \$2.75)	English barrister conks out in courtroom; Manton of Scotland Yard queries suspects, who include unpleasant judge.	Pleasantly written, and with abundant humor; sourpuss jurist especially well drawn; moves right along.	Bright and crisp.

—SERGEANT CUFF.

Schools of Tomorrow

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dles entirely on her own and can also give more attention to the individual needs of her pupils.

How can the teacher shortage be combated, it may be asked, if classroom teachers are still used in addition to the television teachers? And how can this setup deal with the shortage of adequate building facilities? Both can be done through the more efficient use of teachers and classrooms that television makes possible.

Under the traditional plan of school organization, it has always been felt that there should be at least one teacher for every thirty pupils. Through the use of television, Hagerstown school authorities believe that this old-established ratio can be increased without adversely affecting either the learning process or the probably over-rated teacher-pupil relationship. At South Hagerstown High I saw eighty-two eleventh-graders, comfortably seated and uncrowded, watching a history lesson on four television sets spotted around a large classroom which was under the supervision of one teacher. Each student could see and hear easily, and before and after the telecast there was the

usual discussion, recitation, review, and other activities similar to that carried on with smaller classroom groups. Very probably such a large class would not be possible under conventional methods of teaching and especially in schools with an overcrowded curriculum, with the classroom teacher completely responsible for planning and teaching each course as well as for carrying on all other duties.

As experimentation is still going on with various class sizes at Hagerstown, it is as yet too early to estimate how many teachers can be saved through the use of larger class groups. Thus far there has been a saving of several teachers in each of the two high schools now participating in the project. Although this saving may seem small it is considerable when projected on a nationwide basis: Even a single position eliminated in each of our public schools, according to some estimates, could result in a total of 25,000 fewer teachers needed throughout the country.

Also closely related to the question of the efficient use of teachers, as well as that of class size, is the question: Is it possible to take care of a given number of pupils with a fewer number of *trained* teachers, if not necessarily with a fewer number of adults?

Although not attempted at Hagerstown, the use of teacher aides—

advanced students, degree-holding housewives, educated retired persons, and other intelligent members of the community—has been suggested to take over the clerical, housekeeping and other nonprofessional tasks on which teachers now spend a good portion of the school day. Just as nurses' aides enable nurses, and various technical assistants enable doctors, to serve more patients, teacher aides would leave more teachers freer to use their professional training, either as television or classroom teachers, to take care of a greater number of pupils.

QUANTITY along with quantity is also the essence of the teacher shortage. "With the money saved because of the fewer number of trained teachers required, salaries could be raised, so that the ablest people are attracted to the teaching profession," says John M. Baer, president of the Washington County Board of Education. Savings, according to other school authorities, could also be used to pay for all or part of the costs of operation of the television system.

How will television help offset the growing shortage of building facilities, and make more efficient use of existing classroom space, thereby helping reduce costs of instruction even further?

How it will is already evident at the fifty-room North Hagerstown High School, which has an enrollment of 1,300. The 250-odd students—only a fraction of the student body—taking one televised course or another at various times of the day occupy the equivalent of five classrooms, three fewer than last year. Similar savings are indicated in other academic space as well as by the multiple use of laboratory equipment and other materials. "The same test tube can now be seen on dozens of television screens instead of by just a single class," says ninth-grade science teacher Eugene Mittel.

A detailed study will be made to determine exactly what savings can be effected, as well as to test fully television's effectiveness as a teaching aid as the experiment continues. This September, with the extension of the coaxial cable circuits to take in two more high schools and thirteen more elementary schools in the Hagerstown area, an additional 6,200 pupils will be included in the setup. By the school year 1958-59 the 20,000 students in all of Washington County's forty-eight schools will be receiving televised instruction.

The project is the culmination of a two-year effort by the Radio-Electronics-Television Manufacturers As-

A Fat Man Dies

By George Abbe

I HEARD a woman soft with fat cry out she saw her husband dead, that he had risen from his bed a certain way, and, just like that, had fallen, and when they lifted him his limbs were lard, his heart a crumb.

I saw her, gentle and piteous, whose fleshiness had melted his, turn from her dream, and there upon tomorrow's white and icy screen he rose, he fell, he died the same as in that most meticulous dream.

And now, her softness, large and giving, yearned at his live obesity, his kindness slow and darkly striving; yet all her size could vainly do was make his lips more certain gray; with each caress his own fat grew;

till, sick, from their sad bed he rose, and fell, and died as in her dream,— with one thing added: he was so large from life, from her, his burial mound, big beyond custom, drew men's eyes and gave them pause for miles around.