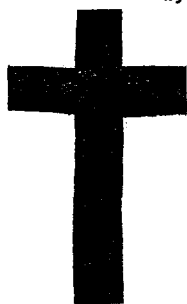


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Fiction

Continued from page 13

sight of the essential crassness of Major Barlow. Lieutenant Joyce tends to sympathize with him, and even seems to regard him as a figure of heroic proportions. The Major Barlows do not deserve this consideration.

The members of Barlow's staff may have an easy time of it—so far as direct exposure to the war is concerned—but this doesn't make them too happy. They can drink and whore pretty much as they please, but they still feel the grinding heel of authority and the goad of ambition. There is even a casualty, when one of the officers is foolish enough to volunteer as an observer during an airborne operation in Normandy. Like any ordinary combat man, he gets shot to death. Mr. Fain implies that other officers were more careful about volunteering after that.

What kind of war was it? Read both of these books, or take your choice.

Occupational Hatreds

"The Cross of Baron Samedi," by Richard Dohrman (Houghton Mifflin. 502 pp. \$4.50), a first novel, is set in Haiti and tells of a young American marine who becomes involved in the cross currents of the island. Our reviewer, Selden Rodman, wrote *"Haiti and the Black Republic."*

By Selden Rodman

I FEEL called upon to remark," says the Haitian élite beauty Adèle Carraud—a faithful wife, until she gives herself to Lieutenant Owen Wiley, USMC, who brutally rejects her as soon as he has possessed her—"I feel called upon to remark that you have probably the least personality of any man I have ever met . . . I do not feel your identity . . . I keep waiting for you to come alive."

Adèle Carraud's shrewd analysis is true not only of the hero of "The Cross of Baron Samedi," to whom she is speaking, but applies in greater or less degree to every figure in the book, and to the book itself. I feel obliged to say this after a great deal of effort to conclude otherwise; for its author, whose first book this is, demonstrates undeniable gifts. Commendably ambitious to write a novel on a grand scale, he has achieved a composition of considerable density: cleverly plotted, carefully researched (there is an astonishing fidelity to detail in

local traits and idiom) and filled with an abundance of complex characters, Haitian and American, who probe each other's social and personal conflicts tirelessly.

Unfortunately, the novel never comes to life, and, like Cozzens's "By Love Possessed," which it resembles in many respects, for the same basic reasons: failure of love, failure of style.

Let us consider the style of Mr. Dohrman's book first, though this may only be a reflection of the greater failing. To begin with, the novel is appallingly involved, and its involutions add nothing to depth of understanding. Owen Wiley's insipid wife is dead at the outset but there are hundreds of pages before we are sure of it, and the reasons for her death are not clear even at the end. Adèle Carraud, until seduced, is the exemplary wife, full of admiration for her husband, Eugene; the latter's inadequacy and his affair with an ugly slattern aren't revealed until much later. Or am I confused on both counts? Quite possibly. Lack of clarity infects every conversation. "Wonderful man," says Adèle to Owen, of himself, "so delicate, because he does not know our stone from our glass, and cruel Adèle, who will not—because Eugene would worry about the people surrounding Julien, Owen, that is why." One can tolerate a certain amount of this sort of writing, if it is compensated for by poetry, but there is even less poetic imagination in Dohrman than in the pedantic Cozzens.

Coldness is the crux of the failure in both cases. As one who knows Haiti well, it seems almost incredible to me that a sensitive person would be moved by *nothing*—either in the awesome landscape, the tragic history, or the people—yet all three are treated with contempt. Even this could be overlooked if some affection or pity for the unwanted Americans of the 1915-1934 occupation were felt. But the Marines are monsters of indifference; and Wiley, frustrated and righteous, lacks even the somber dignity of controlled rectitude. The result is that all the relationships in the book are fundamentally unbelievable.

What the author is trying to convey, judging by the title and a dark hint dropped here and there, is that occupation of a primitive country by a less primitive one results in misunderstanding and death. The point would have been made much more effectively if the high comedy of the actual situation, the not infrequent friendships that developed between blacks and whites, and the limited gains to both parties, had been included in the canvas.

An End to Tumult

Continued from page 18

wars are not used as instruments of big-power politics.

But how can we disarm if we cannot trust our opponents and if there seems to be no way to establish an effective system of inspection? The problem of inspection becomes an easy one as soon as there are no armies and there are no military secrets to hide. There need be no limit to the number of "inspectors" any country can send to the other and there need be no closed doors before them.

I often see headlines about the "survival race." The hard fact is that there is no such race, for we have to live or die together. But there is a third alternative: that the Cold War is made into a noble competition to the advantage of both parties. We Americans praise our bipartisan system, as compared to a one-party system. One of the greatest troubles of this world is that there was a one-party system during the past century, the one-party being that of the Westerner who dominated the whole world. The rapid progress of the Soviet Union and China created a bipartisan world structure, and American science and education already feel its beneficial effects. It could become a general blessing.

Both the dangers of the present situation as well as the gains which could be made by disarming are enormous. Why, then, do we not disarm? The reason lies, at least partly, in a minor human shortcoming. The human mind is so constituted that once a statesman gets to the helm he stops seeing his country as the sum of its people and starts thinking of himself as a guardian of some abstraction, a theory or a state, glory or sovereignty. This leads to paradox. Instead of guardianship, the governments become the enemies of their peoples, willing to have them killed or poisoned in the service of their abstractions. The contending governments are, in a way, members of the same trust, allied against their peoples, each government playing its part in frightening its people, keeping fences erect and impenetrable.

A recent editorial of *The Saturday Review* calls for 2 billion angry men, unwilling to be killed or poisoned, to tear down these fences. I would prefer to see 2 billion men capable of thinking with a scientific clarity, establishing a new world order which is in harmony with scientific progress, making an end of the tumult.

—ALBERT SZENT-GYÖRGYI.

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(Continued from page 33)

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CHARMING MAINE FARMHOUSE, five bedrooms, two baths, furnace, two fireplaces, near Southwest Harbor, Mount Desert close to lake and Blue Hill Bay. \$600 June thru September. Will consider sale. Box E-622.

FORT TRUMBULL BEACH, MILFORD, CONNECTICUT. Fine bathing, 6 rooms, grounds, trees, screened, porches, utilities. Lease reasonable. McGivney, Derby, Connecticut. Phone REgent 4-0143.

WESTHAMPTON, LONG ISLAND. Ocean-view houses. Ideal for two, sleep two guests. One, June \$350, September \$450. Other, June \$300, August-September, \$850. Pictures available. Box E-499.

DINGMAN'S FERRY, PA. 7 room house, porch, 3 acres. Swimming, fishing, 1½ hours N.Y. 4 month rental \$1,000, sale \$13,000 (taxes \$75). Juster, WA 4-2600 (NYC).

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SUFFERN, N.Y. 2 large 4 room cottages, enclosed porch, modern, new. (Private estate) June 15-September 15, \$1,000. ES 7-1149 (NYC).

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CAPE COD. Secluded one room studio cottage, screened porch, modern bath, kitchen. In pines, on salt water. June-July: \$250 per month. J. Pershing, Orleans, Mass.

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PORTABLE BATTERY-OPERATED TAPE RECORDERS. Record music, speech, sounds, anywhere! Ideal for travelers who want to retain their experiences on magnetic tape and add sound to home movies. Various models available for all field uses. Sold direct from factory. Write for free literature to Dept. SR; AMPLIFIER CORP. OF AMERICA, 398 Broadway, NYC 13.

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VACATIONS

PELICAN COVE—in unspoiled Florida Keys. Immaculate oceanside apartments, beach fishing, shelling, skin diving, birdwatching, loafing. Literate, congenial company on balmy tropical isle. Tom and Carolyn Brown, Islamorada, Florida.

PELICAN COVE SAILING SCHOOL. Boys 10-14, girls 14-18. Capacity 24. Instruction and salt-water recreation (plus tennis, golf, baseball) under professional guidance. Tutoring available. \$50 for six weeks beginning July 7th. Islamorada, Florida Keys.

COLONIAL CHARM midst wooded Litchfield Hills. Trout stream. Casual, intimate; luscious food. Swimming pool—horses, golf, lakes nearby. Country auctions, summer theatre. LEWIS & MARY FISHER, Bantam, Conn.

THE LOG HOUSE, THIRTEENTH LAKE, North River, New York. Altitude 2,100 feet, 600 acres midst Adirondack Forest Preserve. "We didn't think there was a place left like this!" Cottages. Meals varied and best. The Tibbits.

GREEN SHADOWS INN, Old Lyme, Conn. Open all year.

SPRING THRIFT VACATIONS on farms and hotels welcoming children. Call LORrain 8-0700 (NYC).

LIKE THE COUNTRY? Come to Graymont, a Colonial home. Good food. R.D. 2, Middlebury, Vermont.

OGUNQUIT. AAA. Beautiful grounds, gardens overlooking the ocean. Exceptional meals. Planned activities June to September. Lookout Hotel, Ogunquit 21, Maine.

WINHALL MOUNTAIN LODGE, Green Mountains, Manchester, Vermont. Charming Alpine chalet. Food for the discriminating. Rest for the weary. Inspiration for writers, artists. Folder.

OGUNQUIT. Famous Summer vacation center. Smooth, uncrowded beaches, numerous activities. Artists' Colony, Summer Theatre, Shopping Center. Deep-sea fishing, golf, movies. Hotels, guest houses, motels, cottages, restaurants, tea rooms. For information write Ogunquit Information Bureau, Ogunquit 15, Maine.

ARTISTS, WRITERS, THOUGHTFUL PEOPLE find relaxation in quiet Cape Cod seaport village. Beach, beautiful harbor view, shore drives. Summer theaters accessible. Rates from \$10. A.P. Booklet. BREAK-WATER HOTEL, Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

VACATIONS

ENCHANTING LAKESIDE VACATION, deep woods, mountain-top, two connected lakes, boating, tennis, shuffleboard, badminton, croquet, ping-pong, HiFi concerts, barbecues, hiking, packed lunches, etc. Lodge, Cabins and Cottages. Moderate, informal, relaxed. May 29-October 12. Midway Tanglewood and Jacob's Pillow. Folder S. CHANTERWOOD, Lee, Mass. Lower rates to June 21.

NATURE-LOVERS RETREAT in the Smokies 4000' high. Charming cottages with modern kitchen. Rosemont, Balsam, N. C.

SNOWVILLAGE LODGE, SNOWVILLE, N. H. Tel. Conway, Hicory 7-2818. The charming Swiss resort in the White Mountains. Nestled in pine woods 1,100 feet high. Own tennis. Swimming, fishing, boating. Excellent continental cuisine. Every room has private bath. AAA approved.

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CIVILIZED BUT NOT COMMERCIALIZED—Peter Pan Lodge offers exquisite food, accommodations, and ocean panoramas for the cultured few. Carmel, California.

TUILAUVENT, Maple Road, Brewster, N. Y. 9-3154. Friendly, informal home atmosphere. No planned activities. Relaxation, reading, painting, in beautiful countryside, 50 miles from N. Y. Ideal for weekends and vacations. Open all year. Attractive, sunny rooms. French cooking. Moderate rates.

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BLUEBERRY HILL! Lucullan Food. Nothing whatever to do. Brandon, Vermont.

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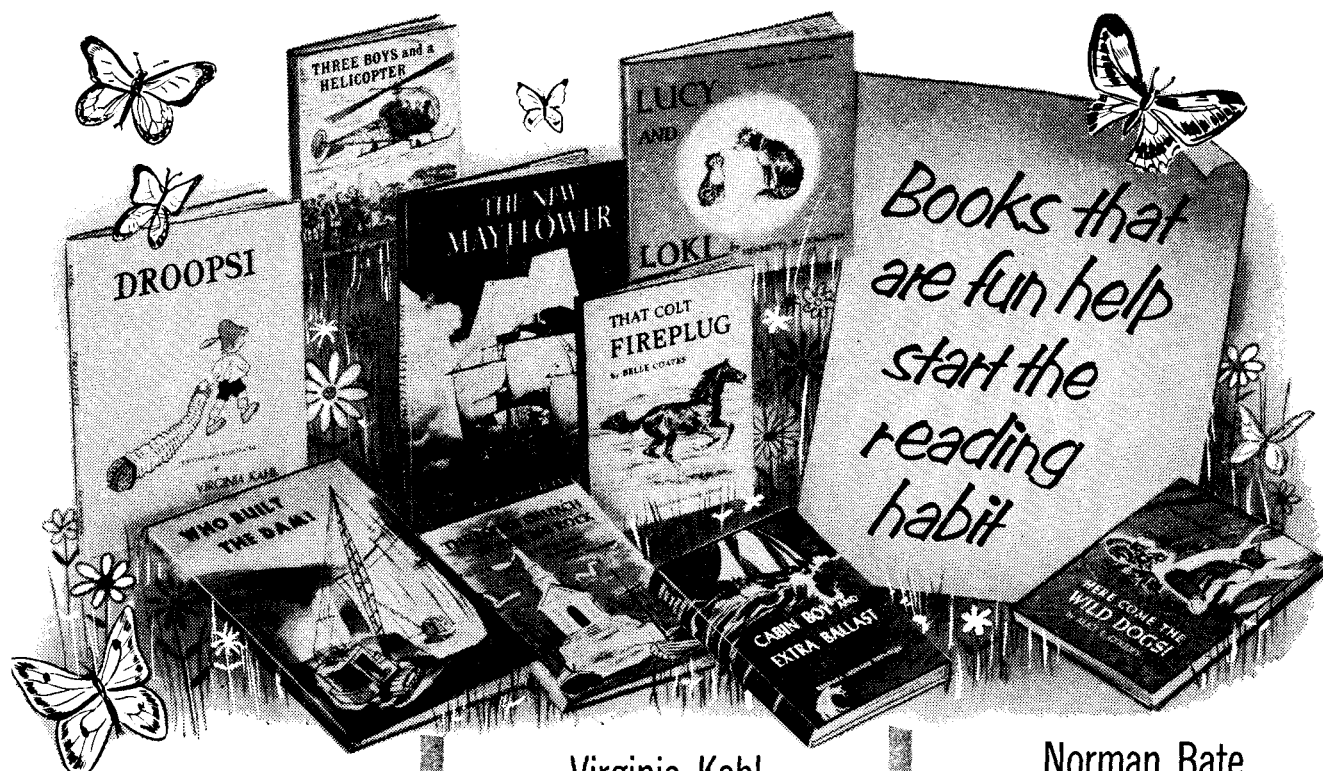
MEXICO CITY VACATION—Weekly accommodations. Cultured home atmosphere. Reasonable rates. Isabel Carbajal's, Rio Amoy, 17, Mexico 5, D.F., Mexico.

GARDEN GABLES, Lenox, Mass. Comfortable rooms. Extensive, restful grounds. Swimming pool. Gift Shop. Open all year. Folder.

SAN FRANCISCO ON A BUDGET? Charming, centrally located. Hotel Beresford, 635 Sutter Street.

MUSIC INN AT LENOX, MASSACHUSETTS. Close to Tanglewood and Hector Berlioz. Adjacent to Music Barn and Tom Lehrer. Swimming, boating, bicycling, tennis, and the sound of silence, too. Write Stephanie Barber.

THE CLIFF HOUSE, Bald Head Cliff, Ogunquit, Maine. Ocean on three sides. Informal. Cocktail Lounge. All sports. Art School. Early reservations suggested. With or without meals. Open June 27. Booklet. Maurice Weare, Manager. Wells 791.



Henrietta Buckmaster
LUCY AND LOKI

*Illustrated in color by Barbara Cooney—*Subtly humorous writing and appealing pictures make this a perfect cat and dog story. Lucy tried to do everything Loki did — then she found out that cats can do some things dogs *can't* do! Washable covers. Ages 5-9. \$2.50

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Illustrated in color by the author —“Down in the valley, deep in the Alps, there is the little village of Pfeffernushofen.” Droopsi is a little boy with a great ambition — to play the concertina. How he took part in a contest and who won the prize makes amusing reading. Washable covers. Ages 5-10. \$2.50

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*Illustrated in 2 colors by the author —*For a long time the river had been wearing away the mountain. Norman Bate shows how the big dam that harnessed the energy of the river was built and also all the machinery used to build it. Washable covers. Ages 6-10. \$2.50

Hazel Allen
THE LITTLE CHURCH ON THE BIG ROCK

*Illustrated in color by Roger Duvoisin—*Written in rhythmic, easy prose, this is the refreshing story of the little church on the big rock — how she stood firm against the threats of flood, desertion and a new highway. Washable covers. Ages 7-9. \$2.50

Belle Coates
THAT COLT FIREPLUG

*Illustrated by Wesley Dennis—*Fireplug was a worthless-looking colt. But Beth and Tim believed in him and Fireplug grew and proved himself valuable. A graphic picture, told briefly and effectively, of water shortage and brushfires. Washable covers. Ages 6-10. \$2.50

Barbara L. Reynolds
CABIN BOY AND EXTRA BALLAST

*Illustrated by Charles Geer—*It had been Mr. Andrew's lifelong dream to build a boat. *Daruma* was finally built and the whole family sailed it from Japan to Hawaii. This is their exciting story, based on the author's own recent sailing experience. Ages 9-14. \$2.95

THE NEW MAYFLOWER
BY HER CAPTAIN
Alan Villiers

*Photographs by the author and others—*Dramatic pictures and text show how the new *Mayflower* was built and how she crossed the ocean. All this is constantly tied up with the voyage of the original *Mayflower*. Washable covers. Ages 8-12. \$2.95

Alice E. Goudey
HERE COME THE WILD DOGS!

*Illustrated by Garry MacKenzie —*The red fox and his charming little family are the center of this story. There is also an introduction to other “wild dogs”—including the wolf and coyote. Washable covers. Ages 6-10. \$2.50

Nan Hayden Agle and Ellen Wilson
THREE BOYS AND A HELICOPTER

*Illustrated by Marian Honigman —*The triplets, Abercrombie, Benjamin and Christopher become fascinated by helicopters, make a play one and have an unexpected rescue experience with a real one. Washable covers. Ages 6-10. \$2.50

AT ALL BOOKSELLERS



CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS

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IN THE welter of things for children to do—the innumerable activities, each fine in itself but cumulating into a program of split-second scheduling and mad dashing from place to place—the time given to reading becomes an oasis, a quiet spot in the rush and hurry of the lives of today's children. This quiet time provides rest for the body and refreshment for the spirit. It can be a period when the child is freed from

planned activity and left to his own reading desires. He may choose books as his mood dictates, or he may join others of his family or friends in a reading aloud experience. Books published this spring will give him ample choice with their tempting range of subject matter, style, and appeal.—FRANCES LANDER SPAIN, Coordinator, Children's Services, New York Public Library.

"Some Poetry Makes Sense"

By JANE A. ELLSTROM, *Public Library Young Adult Consultant, New York State Library.*

"SO WHO reads poetry? A lot of silly girls and a few jerks!" This voice of authority belongs to a seventeen-year-old whose absorbing passion in life is physics, and nobody, but nobody, had better try to sidetrack him. But the teacher said, "Read some poetry." So griping, he prepared to suffer. Then the librarian handed him a copy of "Imagination's Other Place: Poems of Science and Mathematics," edited by Helen Plotz (Crowell), and within minutes he was flying a saucer with David McCord, doing "Arithmetic" with Carl Sandburg, and experimenting in a laboratory with Sully-Prudhomme. Some time later he turned to the librarian and said, "This is okay. Nobody told me some poetry makes sense."

How often a young adult misses a most rewarding experience, especially with poetry, because "nobody

told him" at the right time, or in the right way, that "some poetry makes sense." Since people differ, so does their version of what "makes sense." That this sense may often be nonsense such contemporary poets as Ogden Nash and David McCord have proved many times, and nearly all fourteen- to eighteen-year-olds enjoy inspired nonsense. Even the title of one of Nash's books, "Parents, Keep Out!" (Little, Brown), is a hyper-inducement to teen-agers to look inside, and once there, the discovery that "The wise child handles father and mother/By playing one against the other" is just one of the many bits that keeps them reading. The additional information that when

Isabel met an enormous bear,
Isabel, Isabel, didn't care; . . .
She washed her hands and she
straightened her hair up,
Then Isabel quietly ate the bear
up.

has been known to bring on a "Hey,

listen to this!" reading-aloud session among the stalwart football heroes. Certainly the succinct "The trouble with a kitten is/THAT/Eventually it becomes a CAT" has converted many teen-age dog lovers into poetry tolerators if not lovers.

Often young adults, especially boys, are too self-conscious to admit a delight in poetry when they feel it, but even a machine-shop-minded boy has been known to carry tucked under his arm, unashamed, a copy of Horace McNeil's "Poems for a Machine Age" (McGraw-Hill). He may occasionally quote a bit from Hicky's "Machines":

I hear them grinding, through the
night,
The gaunt machines with arteries
of fire,
Muscle with iron, boweled with
smoldering light; . . .

If no one watches too closely, this young man may go to a later section in the book called "Love" and discover for himself the beauty of the Shakespeare sonnet ending:

For thy sweet love remembered,
such wealth brings