

# SR Recommends

## BOOKS

### Fiction

- TO AN EARLY GRAVE**, Wallace Markfield. Simon & Schuster, \$4.50 (SR, June 6)—An inspired satire of New York's literary intelligentsia that finds low comedy in high seriousness.
- BOSWELL**, Stanley Elkin. Random House, \$5.95 (SR, Aug. 1)—High-flying satire with a mind to it, about a modern-day James Boswell who collects celebrities and men's egos.
- THE TOMORROW-TAMER**, Margaret Laurence. Knopf, \$4.95 (SR, June 13)—Sharply perceptive stories of transition in Africa.
- PNIN**, Vladimir Nabokov. Atheneum, paperback, \$1.25—Protagonist is a homely, lonely, blundering White Russian refugee professor. A classic of Chaplinesque humor.
- THE RECTOR OF JUSTIN**, Louis Auchincloss. Houghton Mifflin, \$4.95 (SR, July 11)—Authentic, exciting character revelation of an eighty-year-old headmaster at a small private school, a man both complex and heroic.

### Nonfiction

- BEFORE THE COLORS FADE: PORTRAIT OF A SOLDIER, GEORGE S. PATTON, JR.**, Fred Ayer, Jr. Houghton Mifflin, \$6 (SR, July 11)—New portrait of the bold and free-wheeling warrior of two world wars, by his admiring but very candid nephew.
- THE GREAT TRANSFORMATION: THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ORIGINS OF OUR TIME**, Karl Polyani. Beacon, paperback, \$1.45—Brilliant, provocative analysis of nineteenth-century conflict between economic liberalism and the human needs of society.
- THE LIVING NOVEL AND LATER APPRECIATIONS**, V. S. Pritchett. Random House, \$6.95 (SR, June 27)—Penetrating essays on British, American, and European writers.
- JUSTICE IN MOSCOW**, George Feifer. Simon & Schuster, \$5.95 (SR, June 27)—Impressive account of Soviet courts and law today, inspired by the conviction that a nation's concept of justice is at the heart of its civilization.
- GIDEON'S TRUMPET**, Anthony Lewis. Random House, \$4.95 (SR, June 27)—Veteran journalist relates the story of a man who takes his case from a jail cell to the Supreme Court of the United States and brings a new law into being.
- THE CART AND THE HORSE**, Louis Kronenberger. Knopf, \$4.95 (SR, June 6)—Essays by a sane contemporary spokesman, addressed to those, the intellectual included, "infected with the worst diseases of our age."
- THE LIFE AND DEATH OF LENIN**, Robert Payne. Simon & Schuster, \$8.50 (SR, June 13)—Handsomely designed, well-crafted biography of a seminal figure who helped shape our century. Author turns a marmoreal image into a human being.
- EROS DENIED: SEX IN WESTERN SOCIETY**, Wayland Young. Grove, \$7.50 (SR, June 6)—Delightful, factual treatise evoking the idea that love itself is a form of piety that goes beyond persons.

## MOVIES

- THE ORGANIZER** (SR, May 9)—Somber yet curiously elevating account of the struggle toward human betterment. Occasion: strike in Italian textile mill at turn of the century. Strike organizer: Marcello Mastroianni.
- THE EASY LIFE**—Perfectly realized, seemingly affectionate study of a carefree bounder who thoughtlessly plays with life and lives.
- THE NIGHT OF THE IGUANA** (SR, July 18)—John Huston substantially improves upon Tennessee Williams's short-lived but provocative play, aided by top star and technical performances.

**SEDUCED AND ABANDONED** (SR, July 11)—Marital folkways of Sicily; comedic and satiric film by Pietro Germi of *Divorce, Italian Style*.

**THAT MAN FROM RIO** (SR, July 11)—Wild tale of adventure and intrigue that kids half the movies ever made. Director is talented Frenchman Philippe de Broca. Man is Jean-Paul Belmondo.

**A SHOT IN THE DARK** (SR, July 11)—The protean Peter Sellers repeating his bumbling French detective role. The play? Forget it.

## RADIO-TV

- AFRICAN WRITERS OF TODAY** (on most National Educational Television stations)—Unique series (six programs), uneven in quality, including interviews with current African poets and novelists.
- ERIC SEVAREID'S EDITORIALS—CBS EVENING NEWS WITH WALTER CRONKITE** (Monday through Friday)—Witty, wise, and consistently forthright, Mr. Severeid's "analyses" are worth seeking out.
- DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION COVERAGE** (all three networks)—A highlight is the convention review by Senator Hubert Humphrey and Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. ABC-TV Sunday, Aug. 30, 5-6 P.M. EDT.
- CONVERSATIONS WITH ERIC HOFFER** (NET stations)—Philosopher-longshoreman from San Francisco verbalizes provocatively on six half-hour programs based on his latest book, *The Ordeal of Change*.

## RECORDINGS

- BERG**: Pieces for Orchestra (Op. 6); **WEBERN**: Pieces for Orchestra (Op. 6); **STRAVINSKY**: "Agon" (SR, June 27). Hans Rosband conducting Southwest German Orchestra. Westminster, \$4.98 (mono only).
- DEBUSSY**: Nocturnes (SR, June 27)—Pierre Monteux conducting Boston Symphony Orchestra; **STRAVINSKY**: *Firebird Suite*. Monteux conducting orchestra of the Concerts Conservatoire. RCA Victor, \$2.50; stereo, \$3.
- MOZART**: Quintet in A (K. 581) and Divertimento in F (K. 247) (SR, July 25). Members of the Vienna Octet. London \$4.98; stereo, \$5.98.

**ROUSSEL**: Symphony No. 3. **MESSIAEN**: *Trois Petites Liturgies de la Présence Divine* (SR, June 27). Leonard Bernstein conducting the New York Philharmonic. Columbia, \$4.98; stereo, \$5.98.

## THEATER

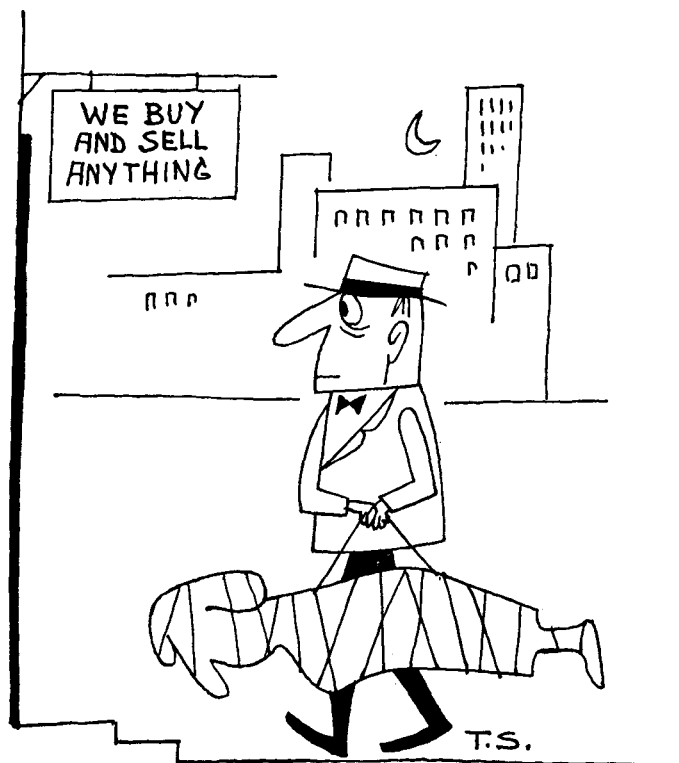
- AFTER THE FALL** (SR, Feb. 15)—Arthur Miller's remorseless examination of our potential for destructiveness.
- THE TROJAN WOMEN**—Brilliant staging or Euripides's classic.
- HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT REALLY TRYING** (SR, Oct. 28, 1961) and **THE FANTASTICKS** (SR, May 21, 1960)—Long-running musical attractions that continue as the best in town.
- THE DEPUTY** (SR, Mar. 14)—Controversial play about the alleged failure of the Vatican to counteract Hitler.
- THE KNACK** (SR, June 20)—Fun about seduction, British-style.
- IN WHITE AMERICA**—Vivid presentation of the history of U.S. race relations from the first days of slavery to Little Rock.
- THE SUBJECT WAS ROSES** (SR, June 13)—Quiet but generally absorbing play about the subsurface emotional currents in an ordinary family of three.

## PHOTOGRAPHY

- SAM FALK'S NEW YORK**—Attractive installation of photos from Gilbert Milstein's book *New York: True North*. At Smithsonian Institution in Washington through August 30.
- FRONTIERS OF NEWS**—Expert editing and skilled production team convert 200 AP photos and newspaper headlines into eleven minutes of documentary paying tribute to world's newsgatherers.

## MISCELLANEOUS

- BREAD LOAF WRITERS' CONFERENCE**, August 12-28—Probably the best talkfest in the country. Includes Howard Nemerov, Nancy Hale, Shirley Jackson, Stanley Elkin, Robert Pack, John Ciardi, David McCord.



T.S.

# Trade Winds



**One of the saddest** stories I've heard occurred in Memphis. Mrs. E. S. Liddell's children were given two homing pigeons a couple of years ago. The birds multiplied and there are now twenty of them. The children have outgrown them



and Mrs. Liddell has been trying to get rid of them. She has given pigeons to friends and to strangers. She has taken pigeons far away and deserted them. She has shooed them. All to no avail; a homing pigeon takes its title seriously.

I sure hope the Liddell children don't outgrow that boomerang they've been playing with.

**When I mentioned** that a bank in New York displayed a sports car, a tent, and a putting green in its lobby, I merely scratched the surface. These modern institutions offer some wonderful distractions for the indigent. Betty Haughey clocked the following exhibits in New York banks:

A show of paintings by Chagall and "other famous artists."

Models of ships and oil paintings of ships. (Seaman's Bank for Savings, of course.)

An indoor fountain and a lady who plays the piano.

A dog show. (Same place where they have ice skating in winter.)

**I had a shock** when I saw a book published by Hill and Wang entitled *Jokes for Children*. Most of them were jokes I had been telling or hearing from so-called grownups, like "What happened to the girl who didn't know the difference between cold cream and putty? All her windows fell out."

**Somehow Charles Sopkin** got around the press agents and past the secretaries and persuaded ten American millionaires to spill the beans to him. In *Money Talks* (Random House) their first-person stories are collected. I was most taken by what John H. Ballard said. He started in 1909 with the Bulova Watch Company, making \$4 a week. He quit high

school to take the job, and in 1935 at the age of forty-two he was made president of the firm. Not a bad record for a drop-out!

Millionaire or not, Ballard was faced with one heck of a problem not long ago. Here's how he explains it: "All of a sudden I found myself at the age of sixty-five. Well, at sixty-five you're supposed to retire. . . . I'll tell you truthfully about that first day when you don't have to go to work. . . . You stall around. . . . You don't know what to do with yourself. . . . You take a walk. . . . I went to a movie for the first time in my life in the middle of the week. . . . The next day I stalled around some more and the next day was the same as the previous day . . . get a massage . . . go to the bank . . . walk . . . Boy, do you walk! . . . I roamed around until I was nuts. . . ."

When Ballard retired in 1959 he turned down many offers of jobs. One was from the Gruen Watch Company,



about \$11,000,000 in the hole and sinking fast. After three weeks of "retirement" Ballard changed his mind and went to Gruen. Now he's back on an eighteen-hour day, and Gruen, which lost almost \$2,000,000 in 1959, is making a profit well up into six figures.

When Ballard left Bulova after fifty years, he took with him a lifetime pension of \$40,000 a year. There was only one string attached to it: it was forfeited if he went to work for another watch company! He now says:

"I don't think much about retiring these days."

**My interest in peculiar signs** prompted D. Rollins to bring us up to date on the ones that amuse her in London. In Oxford Street, where some repair work is being done, the sign says: "Walk Warily." The favorite phrase in England seems to be "Beware of," followed by "Children" or "Pedestrians." She has also seen "Beware of the Ramp" and even "Beware of the Road."

But Henry Castor reports this one at a food counter at the New York World's

Fair: "Popcorn—25¢. Buttered Popcorn—35¢."

Mrs. W. Gordon Ross recalls one in the Boston Public Library: "Only Low Talk Permitted Here."

Sallie Wagner is intrigued by a redundant sign on a fence just south of Santa Fe: "You Keep Out!" In another part of New Mexico is her favorite: "Private Property. Welcome."

**Sharps and Flats:** What does it mean when your nose itches? In the field of anatomical superstitions, I know that when your palm itches it means money is coming to you. When your ears burn, someone is talking about you. When you shiver, someone has walked over where your grave will be. But does a nose itch mean anything?

► If you want to have fun, shoot a



dollar on the do-it-yourself analysis book by Roger Price called *Snoop*.

► Some of the best Japanese literature is on the canned food labels. Safari-San Smoked Oysters are described as "Packed in Japan with diligence and responsibility." They are very tasty. The directions read: "Serve cold or not with lemon perhaps. It is assuredly advised that all who delight with their cocktails will happily engage in serving this most sincere brand."

► Paul Kerby tells me that Tibetans would like to see their religious leader, now exiled in India, back in power. If he were to return to his homeland, he would be greeted by the familiar song "Hello, Dalai, we're glad to see you back where you belong!"

—JEROME BEATTY, JR.

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S  
KINGSLEY DOUBLE-CROSTIC (No. 1581)

N. BENCHLEY:  
A WINTER'S TALE

If by any mistake things got put away, he would spend hours finding them and leaving them about again. . . . As far as he was concerned, closets were for old hats and out-of-season clothes, and everything else should be where a man could put his finger on it.