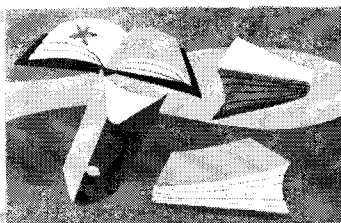


Trade Winds

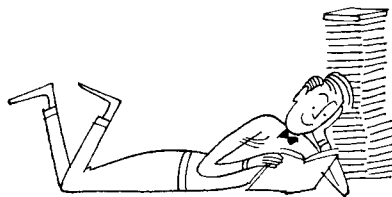


I don't suppose you remember, but about ten years ago *paperback* was a dirty word. (In fact, *drugstore* didn't sound like a nice place to go, because that's where the paperbacks were.) Today, we find paperbacks in classrooms, and teachers are feeding them to students like oatmeal. The kids, of course, are eating them up a lot faster than they eat oatmeal.

The picture of kids gobbling up books has startled the adults who are accustomed to youngsters' disliking books. But it has been the big, heavy textbooks that were distasteful to them, not the books they could read with a flashlight under the blanket when they were supposed to be asleep. Now some schools have brought the books out from under the blanket and the results have been marvelous.

Daniel Fader's program of exposing children to paperbacks was described in *TRADE WINDS*, June 25. Another program was carried on last year in the very fine

Manitowoc, Wisconsin, school system. There, Lincoln High sophomores were offered the chance to read paperback books in class two to three hours a week,



with no lectures, no discussion, no tests, no homework, no book reports. The slow readers finished about twenty books in one semester, the fast ones fifty books! The list consisted of quality novels, plays, biographies, and collections of essays and poems.

After the experiment was over, a survey of the 286 sophomores showed that they were crazy about the course; 274 of them said it was the best way "to

study literature." It also appears from the survey that there have been three deterrents in the past to making serious readers out of young Americans. One is the book report. If there is anything that can spoil a book it's the pressing realization, while you're reading it, that you are going to have to write a book report on it. The second is that teachers feel guilty if they are not teaching, reading students' papers, or marking. They'll have to learn to give a report-card grade without relying on the daily class record book.

The third problem has been at home. Some students reported that parents are suspicious of books, especially paperbacks. "Reading a story again?" they ask. "Can't you find something better to do?"

But the kids keep on reading—at the apparent rate of fifty to a hundred books a year. Then, when they reach maturity, they stop. Would it be asking too much of publishers to find out why and what to do about it?

That funniest of all magazines, *Crump*, has an exposé in the current issue entitled, "Unsafe at Any Sitting." The author, Ralph R. Nodder, accuses America's furniture manufacturers of turning out unsafe chairs. He cites the shocking statistics on how many people are injured and killed in chair accidents, and then points out how poorly our chairs are made.

Half the chairs made in the United States do not even have arms! "These armless sports chairs have a dangerously high topple factor under test teetering conditions," Nodder reveals. Also, allowing people to sit and drink on lethal bar stools is criminal negligence, he says.

Nodder attacks the imported Italian rocker known as the Alpha Romeo 900.



"In this model," he says, "it is possible for an agile old lady to reach 62 r.p.m. (rocks per minute) even though tests prove that even at 40 r.p.m. it takes over three minutes for the average old lady to stop."

Nodder's solution to the problem is for manufacturers to be required to outfit all chairs with an untippable base, safety belt, padded head rest (to prevent "chair lash"), first-aid kit, etc. He also calls for compulsory sitter education courses in schools.

Sharps and Flats: The Shields Jewelry Company is putting out a line of after-

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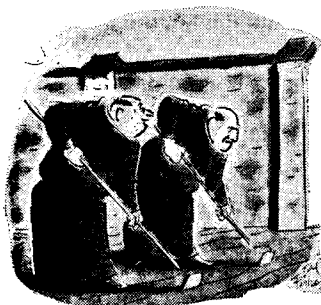
100% BLENDED SCOTCH WHISKY EIGHTY PROOF IMPORTED BY INVER HOUSE DISTILLERS, LTD., PHILA.

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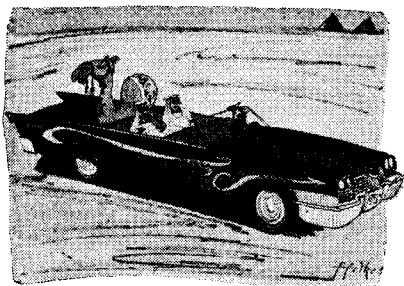
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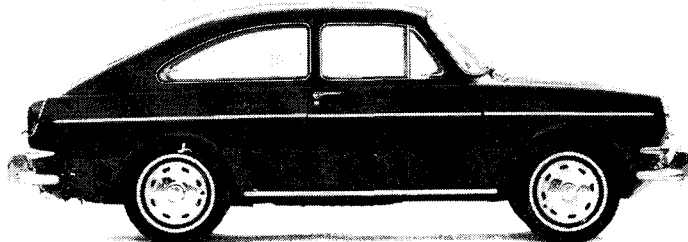
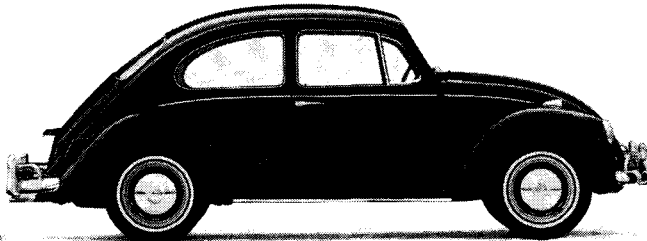
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shave lotion and cologne called Dante. On the label is a picture of Lord Byron. The explanation I got from Shields is that "Dante was a very homely man."

► A locksmith on New York's 84th Street has a sign in his window: "Sorry — No Parking Meter Duplicate Keys Made."

► An Asian has tried to explain his feeling about America. "How can we Orientals do business," he asked me, "with a country so backward that it is afraid to build a thirteenth floor in its new buildings?"

► A new book published by Lippincott is called *Climax at Buena Vista*, and is advertised as describing "a decisive defeat for the ogre of the Alamo." General Santa Anna an ogre? Is that any way to refer to a patriotic Mexican defending his country against Texas rebels?

► Dr. Nathan Pusey, president of Harvard University, said in September that Christianity is being questioned throughout the world, and that most men and women cannot or will not find a believable faith in that religion. The disc jockeys are really up in arms over this statement, and have stopped spinning Pusey's records, have you noticed?

► If twelve is a dozen, and thirteen is a baker's dozen, what is eleven? A butcher's dozen?

► Bill Murphy says that things used to stop, end, or even cease. But now a lot of happenings strangely "grind to a halt," such as football games, Senatorial investigations, and school terms. He also wants to know why hurricanes are always "packing winds" and where they pack them.

► In Athens 2,500 years ago a man poured a glass of wine for a concubine named Gnathaena, saying it was sixteen years old. She looked at it and remarked, "Small for its age, isn't it?"

—JEROME BEATTY, JR.

SOLUTION OF LAST WEEK'S
KINGSLEY DOUBLE-CROSTIC (No. 1701)

LEONARD MOSLEY:
HIROHITO

Hirohito was resentful that the militarists wanted someone who could be presented as a god to the multitude but manipulated as a puppet by the men in power. First they deified him; then they led the Japanese people astray in his name.

**11 out of 12
could not answer
this question
correctly.
How about you?**

How much of the GNP does steel represent?

- ☐ 2% of the GNP
- ☐ 7% of the GNP
- ☐ 12% of the GNP
- ☐ 17% of the GNP
- ☐ 22% of the GNP

Steel represents *less* than 2 percent of the Gross National Product.

When you couple this with the fact that in the last 7 years—as government indexes show—the price of finished steel has gone up only 2 percent while the cost of living has increased about 5 times as much, it can hardly be said that steel is a bellwether of the national economy, or a cause of today's inflation.



United States Steel



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SR's Check List of the Week's New Books

Crime, Suspense

THE DAY IT RAINED DIAMONDS. By M. E. Chaber. Holt, Rinehart & Winston. \$3.95.

DEATH OF A FAT GOD. By H. R. F. Keating. Dutton. \$3.95.

THE MAGIC GRANDFATHER. By Doris Miles Disney. Doubleday. \$3.50.

WITNESS AT LARGE. By Mignon Eberhart. Random House. \$3.95.

Current Affairs

ANTI-POVERTY PROGRAMS. Edited by Robinson O. Everett. Oceana. \$6.

CONDITION CRITICAL: Our Hospital Crisis. By Edwin P. Hoyt. Holt, Rinehart & Winston. \$5.95.

DE GAULLE AND THE WORLD: The Foreign Policy of the Fifth French Republic. By W. W. Kulski. Syracuse Univ. Press. \$8.50.

INDIA AND THE FUTURE OF ASIA. By Patwant Singh. Knopf. \$5.95.

A SACRED TRUST. By Richard Harris. New American Library. \$5.

THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA IN WORLD AFFAIRS. By Robert Blum. Edited by A. Doak Barnett. McGraw-Hill. \$6.50.

VIETNAM NORTH. By Wilfred G. Burchett. International. Hardbound, \$4.95. Paperback, \$1.85.

THE WEAPONS OF WORLD WAR III: or The Long Road Back from the Bomb. By John S. Tompkins. Doubleday. \$5.95.

Fiction

ALL NIGHT STAND. By Thom Keyes. Simon & Schuster. \$4.95.

THE COMPLETE STORIES AND POEMS OF EDGAR ALLAN POE. Doubleday. \$5.95.

THE HEIRS OF CAIN. By Abraham Rothberg. Putnam. \$5.95.

MOMENTS OF TRUTH. Edited by Dan Herr and Joel Wells. Doubleday. \$4.95.

PRUDENCE, INDEED. By Anne Bernays. Trident. \$4.95.

STORIES FROM EPOCH: The First Fifty Issues (1947-1964). Edited by Baxter Hathaway. Cornell Univ. Press. \$7.50.

THE TRANSPLANTED. By Fridel Stoetznier. McGraw-Hill. \$5.95.

TWO MINUTES OF SILENCE. Selected Short Stories by H. C. Branner. Translated from the Danish by Vera Lindholm Vance. Univ. of Wisconsin Press. \$5.

THE WORLD OF MODERN FICTION: European and American. Edited by Steven Marcus. Simon & Schuster. Two volumes, \$17.50.

History

THE CHALLENGING SKIES: The Colorful Story of Aviation's Most Exciting Years, 1919-1939. By C. R. Roseberry. Doubleday. \$9.95.

THE FIGHTING MAN: An Illustrated History of the World's Great Fighting Forces Through the Ages. By Jack Coggins. Doubleday. \$9.95.

MAO TSE-TUNG IN OPPOSITION, 1927-1935. By John E. Rue. Stanford Univ. Press. \$10.

MEAD AND WINE: A History of the Bronze Age in Greece. By Jean Zafiropolo. Schocken. \$6.

THE MUSLIM WORLD ON THE EVE OF EUROPE'S EXPANSION. Edited by John J. Saunders. Prentice-Hall. Hardbound, \$4.95. Paperback, \$1.95.

THE NORMANS. By Timothy Baker. Macmillan. \$7.95.

THE RELUCTANT WARRIORS. By Donald Armstrong. Crowell. \$5.95.

SARATOGA: Saga of an Impious Era. By George Waller. Prentice-Hall. \$12.95.

THE SECRET BATTLE FOR ISRAEL. By Benjamin Kagan. World. \$6.

1775: ANOTHER PART OF THE FIELD. By Ivor Noël Hume. Knopf. \$7.95.

Law

JUSTICE AND THE PRESS. By John Lofton. Beacon. \$5.95.

THE MARK FEIN CASE. By William Reuben. Dial. \$5.

Literary History, Criticism

THE ADDED DIMENSION: The Art and Mind of Flannery O'Connor. Edited by Melvin J. Friedman and Lewis A. Lawson. Fordham Univ. Press. \$6.95.

FAULKNER: The Major Years; A Critical Study. By Melvin Backman. Indiana Univ. Press. \$5.75.

THE SMART SET: A History and Anthology. By Carl Dolmetsch. Dial. \$9.95.

Miscellany

THE BOOK OF SNOBS. By John, Duke of Bedford with George Mikes. Coward-McCann. \$4.

ECCE HOMO. By George Grosz. Grove. \$15.

FURNITURE PAST AND PRESENT. By Louise Ade Boger. Doubleday. \$12.95.

LA PATISSERIE EST UN JEU D'ENFANTS. By Michel Oliver. Random House. \$6.95.

MYTH AND LEGEND OF ANCIENT ISRAEL.



Agnes