

Letters & Life

In which books, plays, and people are discussed


Edited by LEON WHIPPLE

Tracts for the Revolution

MAN AND TECHNICS, by Oswald Spengler. Knopf. 104 pp. Price \$2 postpaid of Survey Graphic.

WORLD CHAOS, by William McDougall. Covici-Friede. 117 pp. Price \$1.25 postpaid of Survey Graphic.

HOLY PRAYERS IN A HORSE'S EAR, by Kathleen Tamagawa. Long & Smith. 264 pp. Price \$3 postpaid of Survey Graphic.

HE spirit of our age is the sense that man can design life. What is a five-year plan but economic design? birth control but a population design? the League of Nations but a social design? The hour of consciousness has struck. The burden of consciousness explains the distraught soul of man. This god-like ambition was born out of our half-mastery of Nature through mathematics, physical science, and machines. We gathered knowledge and made tools that stole vast powers from Nature for our health, comfort, and leisure. Now, says Spengler, our Faustian civilization is builded on machines and like a machine: men have become machines: our minds, even our spirits, have become machine-like. William McDougall declares that our mad adoration of the physical sciences and mathematical reason has made the whole structure of society top-heavy and lopsided so that our only salvation is in the swift and intense study of the social sciences so that man may be restored to his sovereign place in life, and all our plans be saved from chaos by wisdom drawn from anthropology, biology, social psychology—in short by the new humanism.

There is a revolution on foot . . . against the intellect. The battalions are forming, their banners bearing strange devices like Life and Soul. We can test our revolutionary spirit by our little rebellious discontents with things. I have a slight surfeit of agendas; the word "committee" gives me a mild internal tumult; I distrust these neat charts of organization that look like trees but represent no tree-like principle of life; I suspect that our a, b, c programs miss the point; I feel that measures of quantity are not standards of quality. Do you share this weariness of clicking wheels, without and within? Are we all too brain-minded?

Spengler says that this Civilization that is no longer a Culture is "weary of that mature and autumnal product, technical intellectuality . . . a sort of pacifism in the battle with Nature is spreading. The flight of the born leader from the machine is beginning." McDougall examines the plea of the English bishop that science take a holiday for fifty years while men catch up, but concludes that the momentum of our complex social machine is so terrific that we dare not stop if we want to. The vast forces of machines, transportation, health, and philanthropy conflict so basically with the old brutal evolution by trial and error, natural survival, and laissez-faire that if we abandon the conscious processes by which huge populations are supported and ruled, the world will fall into chaos.

The only hope is to go on with more social science and a less mechanic social science. He pleads for the endowment of such research by university and foundation. His book is brave and luminous and destructive of complacency. Its temper

shows in his tilt against our alleged economics that can neither predict before the crisis nor explain afterwards. He quotes Arnold Toynbee: "But the economist has to deal with facts which are obscured by human passions and interests." And adds: "Toynbee should have said rather that the essential economic facts are human passions and interests. The economist constantly speaks as though there were a realm of facts and laws which he might reduce to order, if only there were no human passions and interests." This is the new mood of social science, the new humanism, and a rallying-cry against intellectual illusion.

Spengler has no such hope. We are doomed to chaos by inward spiritual necessities. "There is no question of prudent retreat or wise renunciation. Only dreamers believe there is a way out. Optimism is cowardice." The role of such absolute pessimism in a revolution is very important. Rebels are made by despair. The Bogey-Man of Munich tells us the worst, and his great gifts as prophet, poet, iconoclast, and German give his words a kind of deafening boom. "So," we say, "That's the worst. That's 100 per cent. Well, where do we go from here?" It would be just like Faustian Man, assigned by Spengler to die without hope, like a Roman stoic and a German aristocrat, to get bored with the job and nonchalantly ask Fellow-Stoic Spengler for a light for his cigarette to pass the time of night till doom struck. The light might show him a crevice in the blank wall and presently he'd be puttering in his fool way, and find *the way out*. Yes, the revolution needs Spengler.

IT needs him more as poet than as historian and anthropologist apparently, for this digest of his thought, very short, very easy in contrast to his *Decline of the West*, very eloquent, is not convincing in its account of the genesis of the Machine Age. Man is a beast of prey that must wrest life from Nature. We secured our hand and the tool to use by a kind of catastrophic mutation, not evolution, for Iconoclast Spengler truckles not to evolution, being by urge the first great Devolutionist. By cooperation in work, we developed language, and so collective enterprises.

Thus began the rift between the language-mental-collective enterprise, and the doing hand and single soul. Driven by an unassuageable will-to-power against Nature that sought superiority far beyond the limits of bodily power, man slowly sacrificed his individual freedom to the collective enterprise. Democracy say, in which as statistics we obey agenda! "The enterprise in the mind requires a firmer and firmer hold on the life of the soul. Man has become the slave of his thought."

This technical thought must have its actualization, sensible or senseless, to wit, the machine, spiritual and intellectual, but no vital necessity. There develop an esoteric class of machine-creators, thrilled by their prey (Property), and another of mass-men or "hands" who cannot comprehend the nature or values of the creators. Now the weary creators are abandoning their machines; the "hands" are rebelling against their sterile and monotonous task; the colored races, having learned

about machines because of our own treason to technics, are plotting to swamp us by using the machines for their own fell purposes. And since we cannot stop our will to mechanism and intellectual power, we plunge to ruin.

That is grand poetical myth-making, here unbuttressed by any real evidence. But the final picture has elements enough of truth to demand attention. The points to remember are that the very flight of talent and revolt of "hands" constitute the revolution. We face not ruin but change, and at worst a kind of Dark Age of transition, and the burden of conscious plan for human people. The desire to live and get comfort will keep us from junking the useful parts of the machine though we may from pure revolt try to arrange for them an inconspicuous and automatic role. That revolution is on foot.

HOLY Prayers in a Horse's Ear is a footnote to brain-mindedness, put here I confess as a paradox, even antidote, with the hope that it will reveal the raw matter of planless life from which we seek to make a plan, and underscore the singular importance of life as living, not intellect. It is the life pattern for forty years of Kathleen Tamagawa, hybrid, born in Chicago of a Japanese gentleman of good family who ran off to Milwaukee to marry an Irish lady of good standing. It is a human document, not a political one, though at the moment it gains added interest by revealing in one person how East and West never meet. In Chicago she was "the little Japanese doll" and in Japan called "Ijin-san!" meaning foreigner. She is not a legal person anywhere in the world. Her book begins: "Trying to write about one's life is like grabbing at a whirling circle. . . . Whichever way I turn I get nowhere."

So the book is not autobiography; the events are not very dramatic or important; but the pages are so human, vivid, gay, life-like, inconsequent, and moving that they are more fascinating than any I have read in a blue moon. Here stumbles a real person: she knows that life is made up of little sad-funny day by day trivia that in memory make up the I.

When one marries an American in a Japanese village so remote that his white collar does not arrive so one does not wear the bridal-dress, long-planned—that is pathos of self to be recalled for life. When one has a baby in America, and from Irish pride and Japanese reserve, never utters a cry, so that the doctor declares for the first time in his career he admits a painless birth—that ironic moment is one's unique possession. When on a trade council trip, everyone gets Peiping throat (even the dust in China is insanitary) and Mr. Morrison dies, Kathleen Tamagawa learns something. The letters on the Japanese earthquake of 1923 she received are remarkable documents, but for this woman they mean that her brave mother, with a "flair" for things, comes home to America and never sees again her Japanese husband who has refused to become head of his family, but lives quietly in a small boarding-house, alone. That is tragedy but not drama, such as we all endure. Indeed, beneath all these vivid etchings that you must read to savor is tragedy, bewilder-

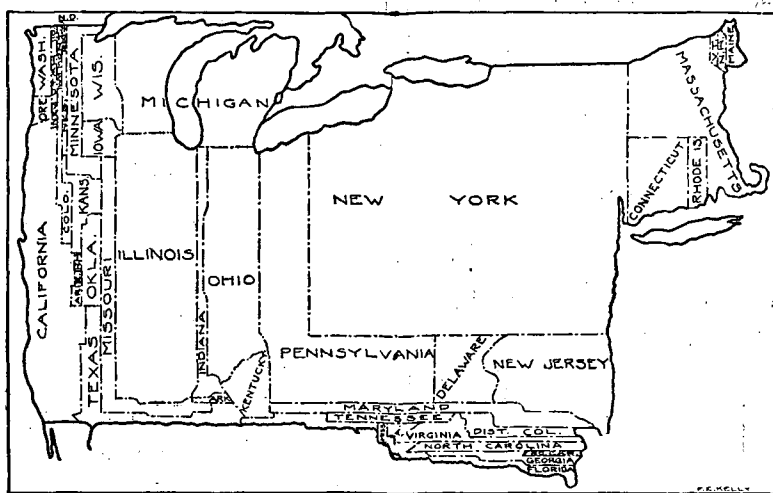
ment and the queer feeling that life is prayers in a horse's ear.

The very pictures are snapshots and utter those secret revelations of time passing, destinies interweaving, faces being carved, that we get from family albums. The story is the album of one soul, and told with the courage and honesty that raise the tale into something universal, noble and full of meaning. From such facts of the single and simple life the new humanism must begin its planning. Otherwise we shall be muttering new prayers in a horse's ear.

LEON WHIPPLE

Revolutionary Symbol

LIVING MY LIFE, by Emma Goldman. Knopf. 1000 pp. 2 vols. Price \$7.50 postpaid of Survey Graphic.



Distortion map of the United States. Each state is distorted according to the amount of income tax it pays. An outstanding feature of The Abolition of Poverty in which Harrison E. Fryberger sets forth his plan based on his long experience as a corporation lawyer. It is dedicated to "the masses of the American people" who "are not receiving your share of our national wealth and income." (Advance Publishing Company, 151 pp. Price \$1.50 postpaid of Survey Graphic.)

IN my judgment this life story is a rare and dynamic document, vivid and nakedly honest, that reveals at once a great personality and the unsuspected force and drama of the struggle for freedom among the working-class. To most social workers and reformers a life like Emma Goldman's must seem remote from their interests and methods. But kinship is there. Nobody with a concern for social justice can read these pages packed tight with thirty-odd years of passionate struggle without a sense of identity with her revolt and her faith in freedom. Her resistance to exploitation, to

the violence of government; her burning championship of strikers and revolutionists; her campaigns for free speech and birth control; her uncompromising selflessness and independence—all awake in us responses which are the common property of spirits with a touch of social passion.

Her anarchist philosophy of a classless and stateless freedom fitted a nature early made rebellious by tyranny in her native Russia, by a hard father, and by bitter experiences as an immigrant worker in America. A strong will, maternal feeling balked by sterility, and comradeship with men revolutionists as men and lovers drove her to a ceaseless and restless activity, fired fresh by every injustice around her. She symbolized in the United States, as no other radical of her generation, the extremist indictment of our civilization. Living from hand to mouth in precarious occupations, she was hated and feared and vilified. Her story of those years opens up a whole unknown world, the struggle of the foreign-born workers in their revolutionary movements.

Emma Goldman scorned the social workers and reformers. She knew them and she passed them up as servants of the propertied class. But among them she had many friends and admirers, attracted especially in her latter years by her fight for birth control, for free speech and against the war. And among artists and literary people her lectures on revolutionary drama and on Russian literature enlisted an appreciative following.

Her story closes with her deportation back to her native Russia after her prison term for opposing the war, and paints the new Russia of the Soviets as she saw it—first bright with hope, then dark with disillusionment over its cruelties and tyranny. Exiled again, hopeless of working under any government, she has found refuge in France, where she lives at

*Are your children living
in the nineteenth century?*

COMMON-SENSE AND THE CHILD

By Ethel Mannin

"I believe that the harm that parents and teachers do children in the name of discipline, education and moral training is incalculable; I believe that religious instruction is



one of the deepest roots of fear in children; I believe that a child is born sexed, not a sexless little flower."

Bertrand Russell calls it "a most courageous book," and George Dillnot "the worst libel on childhood ever penned." Buy your copy today. \$2.00

LIPPINCOTT
Philadelphia

CRIME

CRIMINALS AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

By N. F. CANTOR

DR. RAYMOND MOLEY in his preface to this work writes: "In thus presenting in a single volume the entire range of subject matter which pertains to crime, including its causes, its legal formulations and the treatment of the criminal, Professor Cantor has made a daring foray. . . . This book meets a distinct need. It offers students, public officials and the public generally an exceedingly valuable perspective of a great question. . . . To write a book of this sort requires an extraordinary diversity of knowledge, training in both sociological and legal science and withal, great discrimination. These qualities are here combined in an unusual degree."

Crime will be found especially valuable by social workers for its treatment of the relation of the criminal to society, of the nature and making of the criminal mind, of juvenile delinquency and of other social aspects of the problem of crime. Probable price \$3.50

SECRET WAYS OF THE MIND

By DR. W. M. KRANEFELDT, Berlin

With an introduction by C. G. JUNG

Translated with a preface by R. M. EATON, Harvard University

A terse but interesting and informative summary and comparison of the three leading psychoanalysts, Freud, Adler and Jung. \$2.00

HENRY HOLT AND COMPANY
One Park Avenue New York

sixty-three, still restless in spirit, chafing under inactivity.

No picture of the external drama of her life can begin to convey the sense of personal power and drive which her words carry. She writes intimately, vividly, in warm and conversational style. She strips naked her own private and public life—her loves, hates, fears and hopes. Alexander Berkman, lover and comrade, runs through the pages from beginning to end, a personality almost as clearly portrayed as her own. The book teems with people—an almost endless parade of them, the well known equally along with the unknown, in all classes, in all parts of the country—and in Soviet Russia. Emma Goldman is as unsparing in her judgments of them as she is of herself. But her warmth and tenderness, quick to respond under her defiant public exterior, make you understand them and her attitude to them, and draw you close to them all—even when they are folks who are anathema to "respectable" people.

You will have to do the analyzing of motive and conduct, which I always felt Emma Goldman herself ignored or subordinated. She behaved as if some superior force were driving her. And she writes like that. But revolutionary emotions are not ordinarily subject to check or examination by mere intellect.

For an understanding of a period in American life seen through the eyes of one of its most significant interpreters, this book stands alone. Lincoln Steffens covered the same years; they might as well have been different ages or in different worlds. But more important, no social worker or reformer can afford, for the inspiration of spirit it brings, to miss this almost first-hand contact with one of the most passionate and challenging personalities of our time.

American Civil Liberties Union

ROGER BALDWIN

New York's No Model

THE BUILDING OF THE CITY, by Thomas Adams, assisted by Harold M. Lewis and Lawrence M. Orton. Plan Volume II, The Regional Plan of New York and Its Environs. 600 pp. 356 illustrations, 90 maps and diagrams. With Volume I (The Graphic Plan), \$25 postpaid of Survey Graphic.

THE "city" with whose planning and building this imposing volume is concerned is an area of 5528 square miles comprising the metropolis and some hundreds of adjacent governmental units in the states of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, with a combined population in 1930 of 11,457,949. The book's publication marks both an end and a beginning. It serves as a terminal milestone in the ten-year task of regional planning liberally financed by the Russell Sage Foundation, and as a stepping stone from which the Regional Plan Association will move forward in its organized effort to make the Plan an effective instrument in guiding the growth of the Region.

The volume is divided into three main parts: Part I, the Making of the City, discusses city building in a democracy; civic art in relation to street planning; architecture; work and living conditions; beauty and reality in civic art; and individuality of communities. Part II, Guidance of Building, has sections on planning land for buildings; zoning principles and proposals; houses and housing neighborhoods; improvement of terminal facilities; and fitting streets to the buildings. Part III, Opportunities in Rebuilding, covers opportunities in downtown and midtown Manhattan; in upper Manhattan and the Bronx; in Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island; in Metropolitan New Jersey; and in the environs. The wealth of beautiful illustrations includes maps and plates in color, airplane views, photographs, diagrams and reproductions of architects' drawings.

Most of the standards suggested as to land coverage and restriction of building heights, and as to minimum requirements for park and playground areas, would if adopted represent forward steps in the New York Region; but many of them, in the opinion of the present reviewer, are below the desirable aspirations of other regions whose lesser sins of overcrowding make spacious salvation more readily attainable.

Attempts to improve not only on what the New York Region has done, but on what its planners hope it may do, would do no violence to the philosophy of The Building of the City. This rejects the optimistic assumptions (1) that economic pressure and the working of natural law will accomplish most of

(In answering advertisements please mention THE SURVEY)

what is necessary in regard to distribution of buildings and population, and (2) that the evils of congestion are overrated and hence that we should plan to facilitate more concentration; while a third assumption is accepted—"that conditions will continue as they are, except to the extent and degree that they are changed by conscious effort, and that this effort should be directed towards obtaining better balance in the distribution of building bulks, industry and population." Of fundamental importance in this connection is the statement: "It is a fallacy to assume that high prices or assessed values of land, based on overcrowded building and unhealthful conditions, are sound or desirable."

To official and civic bodies concerned with the future development and welfare of the New York Region prompt purchase of this monumental work is strongly recommended. For similar bodies in other regions and also for city planners and social welfare workers generally, the book has great value; more than half of its text is devoted to statements of planning principles and ideals of widespread application. But for all beyond the shadows of New York's skyscrapers, one sentence from the final chapter of the book might well be inscribed in red ink on the fly-leaf:

"Men say New York is a warning rather than an example and then proceed to make it an example."

Editor, *The American City*

HAROLD S. BUTTENHEIM

Physician and Personality

LIVES IN THE MAKING, by Henry Neumann. Appleton. 369 pp. Price \$3.00 postpaid of *Survey Graphic*.

DR. NEUMANN has not written this book to inform ignorant readers as to modern discoveries about child and adult psychology. He takes for granted that you have picked up the current amount of knowledge but that this knowledge is in the current condition of vagueness and incoherence. He seeks to help you make sense of it, to show you which elements are worth holding fast to, and which would be better used as condiments rather than as ingredients. Here are some of the chapter headings: Better Homes, Home-making and Sex, Community Help, Work in the Present and Future, Social Spirit, Religion. The heading of Where Psychology Can Help presents chapters on Mental Hygiene Prescribes, Individual Differences, Making Nature an Ally. This last might be the motto for the book. He refuses to exaggerate the efficacy of the "new" psychological methods of untying twists in personalities. He actually heightens your faith in them because unlike many enthusiastic psychoanalysts, he does not seem to tell you that two and two in a little boy's personality if only added together by an analyst of real skill can be made to total up to considerably more than four.

In Part 3 he considers what schools can do, and teachers must be comforted by his generous sympathy and appreciation of their difficulties. I was stirred by his fairness to our hard-working public-school teachers usually ignored by advanced writers on education, and I registered a heart-felt "amen" when I read his italicized statement, "Until every child in this country gets an education as excellent as the best provided now in our best experimental schools, let us not boast of our democratic education."

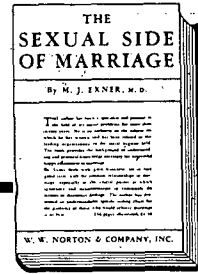
The chapter on Measuring Results has some excellent information and excellent good sense about tests and charts. There are crisp, pointed anecdotes and a wealth of fine quotations. A wise book, a modern one, a well-balanced one. Yet with none of the clamminess that often attends moderation and good sense.

If ever there was a calming, cooling, curative hand laid on a fevered and anxious brow, it is Dr. Neumann's on the brow of the modern educator, whether in or out of a classroom. And when I say educator I mean, don't I, almost every adult with a fair sense of his responsibilities towards the younger generation? Even if your children are now grown up, or if you never had any, even if you never taught or had any teachers in the family, even if you never so much as lived on the same street with a schoolhouse, you cannot escape from your responsibility to do the right thing by the younger generation in the shape of having the right opinion about them. And as a help to obtaining the right (Continued on page 52)

(In answering advertisements please mention THE SURVEY)

The One Book on Sex-Social Problems

To Be Endorsed by Leaders in Every Field



SOCIAL HYGIENE: Dr. William F. Snow, General Director of the American Social Hygiene Association, writes: "I wish to congratulate Dr. Exner upon this very earnest and commendable effort to provide a layman's handbook which may be used by physicians, clergymen, educators, and other qualified persons in a position to advise young men and women in matters of marriage and family life. I believe it the best attempt thus far to provide a book on this subject."

MEDICINE AND HEALTH: Dr. Haven Emerson, former Health Commissioner of New York City, writes in *The Survey*: "A simple, direct, objective story of the troubles of the married together with plain and practical instruction for their prevention."

PSYCHOLOGY: Dr. Knight Dunlap, Professor of Experimental Psychology, The Johns Hopkins University: "The book may be usefully placed in the hands of all persons who have reached the marriageable age, and it is hoped that it will have a wide circulation among young women who are approaching marriage."

EDUCATION: Mr. Abel Gregg, National Council of the Y. M. C. A.: "A finely posed presentation of the facts and factors which enter into unsuccessful and successful marriage."

The author has been a specialist and pioneer in sex-social problems for more than twenty years and is related to the leading organizations in the social hygiene field. *Table of Contents:* 1. Sex in Life. 2. The Sex Mechanism. 3. Sex Differences. 4. Sex Factors in Maladjustments. 5. Other Factors in Maladjustments. 6. Factors in Ideal Marriage. 7. The Family.

THE SEXUAL SIDE OF MARRIAGE

By M. J. EXNER, M.D.

252 pages 4 full-page illustrations \$2.50



Of Importance to Survey Readers

THE WISDOM OF THE BODY

By WALTER B. CANNON, M.D.

Author of *Bodily Changes in Pain, Hunger, Fear and Rage*.

In this book an eminent physiologist explains how we stay normal. He gives the first detailed presentation of the theory of homeostasis, which accounts for bodily stability. "A vivid and authentic conception of the underlying mechanisms of the intact body and an insight into the nature of disease."—Dr. John F. Fulton, Professor of Physiology, The School of Medicine, Yale University.

The March Selection of the Scientific Book Club

312 pages 41 illustrations \$3.50

THE MEDICAL VALUE OF PSYCHOANALYSIS

By FRANZ ALEXANDER, M.D.

The author of this book, the first Professor of Psychoanalysis to hold such a chair in an American university, shows the necessity for a closer relationship between the doctor and the psychoanalyst; and shows how the psychoanalytic technique can be used in medical and social practice. Dr. A. A. Brill writes: "A very concise presentation of psychoanalytic theories which should be of great value." \$2.75

MAN AND MEDICINE

An Introduction to Medical Knowledge

By DR. HENRY E. SIGERIST

Foreword by Dr. William H. Welch, Johns Hopkins University.

In this book, a doctor invites the layman to explore the field of medicine—to trace the exciting history of its great discoveries; to look at disease through the microscope and see how it is cured; to sit in the physician's private office and watch his absorbing work. 352 pages. \$4.00

W. W. NORTON AND COMPANY, INC.
70 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

THE COLLEGE AND SOCIETY

By

ERNEST HATCH WILKINS, Ph.D.

President of Oberlin College

THIS volume presents a novel and interesting plan for the higher education of those students who do not intend to enter a profession, and who, for this reason, find the existing four-year college course unsuited to their needs. It proposes the creation of a new type of college, the General College, offering a three-year course which will train its students to live with intelligence and good will in the five fields of social living: home life, the field of earning, citizenship, leisure, and the field of philosophy and religion. The establishment of such General Colleges would allow the four-year college to be more exacting in its admission requirements and to restrict its student body more nearly to a group with professional aims. An additional recommendation is the development of a fifth year of work following the senior year of the four-year college and leading to a master's degree.

Octavo 175 pages

THE CENTURY CO.

Publishers of The New Century Dictionary

353 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

2126 PRAIRIE AVENUE
CHICAGO

"Timely, thorough and comprehensive"

Agricultural Credit in the United States

By Earl Sylvester Sparks

"Dr. Sparks has performed a notable service. Other writers have done excellent work on special phases of the subject, but this is the first time the whole field has been covered."—T. N. Carver, Harvard University.

\$3.75

from CROWELL'S List of Good Books
THOMAS Y. CROWELL COMPANY, NEW YORK

Community Chest Campaigns

GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

A detailed account of the Rochester Campaign and Audit System. Suggested bookkeeping and collection methods for Community Chests.

106 pages

In paper \$1.00 per copy postpaid
" boards 1.50 " " " " " "

Association of Community Chests & Councils

1810 Graybar Building

New York, N. Y.

420 Lexington Avenue

(Continued from page 51) perspective on the problems of growing up and forming character, you can't do better than to read and ponder this wise, genial volume. As for those who really at first hand as parents or teachers are struggling to understand and intelligently to train an actual flesh-and-blood young generation, they will feel, as on the advent of the good physician, as soon as they plunge into this book by a magnetic physician of personalities, that they and their young charges have a much better chance of reasonable success in life than they have been led to believe by alarmists.

Arlington, Vt.

DOROTHY CANFIELD FISHER

Making Minds in Russia

NEW MINDS: NEW MEN? by Thomas Woody. Macmillan. 528 pp. Price \$4 postpaid of Survey Graphic.

THE study of the Soviet citizen in the making is both hazardous and fascinating. Professor Woody has been venturesome enough to record his valuable observations of Soviet youth, gained during extensive travels and visits to various institutions in the Union. Yet he is not unaware of the peril of passing final judgment on things in flux, hence his conclusions are tentative and cautious. There is enough factual material in the volume to suggest tomes of comment and conjecture. The author quotes letters written by children and youths of different nationalities, which give us a direct notion of the attitudes and reactions of Russia's future citizenry. These letters and similar documents are invaluable as an authentic barometer of changing psychology. One thing is definite: the young Russian thinks and feels no longer selfishly and parochially, but socially and nationally, indeed—internationally.

How the adults are effecting this changing psychology is shown in the chapters on various phases of education and organization. The author surveys, for example, the field of literature for children, with copious samples in verse. I do not know of any other country where the finest poets and painters are cooperating so effectively in producing children's literature as in the Soviet Union. Fairies and supernatural miracles are eliminated, yet the authors manage to depict the actual world and natural phenomena in a way to hold spell-bound not only youngsters, but such seasoned readers as the reviewer.

To be sure there is propaganda in the efforts of the authorities to create a desirable citizenry. From the tender age of the Oktyabryata (Octobrists), through the Pioneers and Young Communists, the pupils are imbued with collectivist tendencies, with loyalty for world toilers and with hatred for world exploiters. This propaganda is not veiled or sugar-coated. Since Soviet pedagogy is determined on encouraging the child's critical faculty, one may expect the new citizen to be in a position to select and to reject with an independent mind.

ALEXANDER KAUN

University of California

The Puzzle of Economics

MODERN ECONOMIC SOCIETY, by Sumner H. Slichter. Holt. 909 pp. Price \$5 postpaid of Survey Graphic.

AN economist who sets out to write a book to give students a genuine grasp of economic society in the United States and to suggest ideas as to what ought to be done about it, has an unenviable task. He is debarred from giving them a nicely rounded, systematic treatment because we do not have a system, but a haphazard aggregation characterized fully as much by discord and confusion as by ruling principles. It is a society in transition: some would say, in decay. If he has a realistic sense of what goes on, a broad range of fairly accurate information and a well developed critical faculty—characteristics possessed to a high degree by Mr. Slichter—he cannot rely on the old exposition of neatly interlocking theories which start by taking for granted certain assumptions about human motives and institutions, since these assumptions are largely untrue.

He may, as some economists have done, begin with an outline of the traditional theory and then show in what respects this theory is inapplicable. In that case his treatment has the disadvantage of a negative and qualifying attack, inevitably

(In answering advertisements please mention THE SURVEY)

biased by the group of conceptions which it takes as a starting point. Or he may largely ignore that theory and proceed to describe our actual institutions and habits. In that case it is difficult to arrange the material with any unity and coherence at all; the consequence is that economists with this point of view usually do not attempt to describe economic society as a whole but concentrate on descriptions of or statistical researches into certain parts or phases of it. Mr. Slichter's method is closer to the first of these two, than to the second. Yet he makes a heroic attempt not to give undue concessions to the more unrealistic "principles" of formal economic theory, but rather to bring together the conceptions and discoveries of the institutional and statistical economists into a single picture.

The plan of the book is logical enough. After an introduction which sets straight a few ideas about economic control and defines fundamental concepts, comes Part II, which describes some of the basic characteristics of the existing economy—private enterprise, capitalistic organization, machine production, specialization, big business, labor organizations, speculative production and the role of credit. Part III tells in more detail how these things operate, with particular reference to the determination of prices, costs, wages and profits, and with treatment of such subjects as the business cycle and public regulation. Part IV reviews and assesses a number of suggestions for improvement.

The result is, on the whole, about the most illuminating and helpful single-volume work of the kind that I have seen. Certainly a person who was not familiar with the technical literature of American economics would gain from this book a more full-bodied sense of what really goes on than he could from any other reading of like compass. And the absurdly inaccurate impressions that he had received from discussion of economic subjects in the daily press and the popular magazines would be in large degree corrected.

Nevertheless, as a guide to action the book suffers from the circumstances which surrounded its formation. The recommendations in Part IV appear to be rather miscellaneous and without much organic inter-relationship. The impression is left that what we have to do is to perform a lot of *ad hoc* tinkering here, there and elsewhere, and that while the results of this tinkering may be helpful, not too much is to be expected from it. This is indeed a natural conclusion to draw from a close inspection of the varied and incongruous parts of our economic life, especially if one assumes that the forces and ideas on which we must rely for improvement are the same forces and ideas which have produced what we already have. If, however, there is beginning a historic change in our social and economic concepts, the case may be different. We may, for instance, become convinced that the central trouble is that our economy is not systematic and organic, and there may be a crystallization of will to create an organic social economy, sufficiently powerful to break through the crust of habit and the resistance of particular interest. In that case what will happen cannot be predicted on the basis of an analysis of how modern economic society now behaves.

GEORGE SOULE

New York City

Voice of the Proletariat

MAXIM GORKY AND HIS RUSSIA, by Alexander Kaun. Cape and Smith. 620 pp. Price \$5 postpaid of Survey Graphic.

THE significance of Maxim Gorky seems destined steadily to increase. As the one great literary figure who spanned, not only temporally but spiritually, the gulf between the old and the new Russia, his historical importance can never be shaken by changes in literary fashion. Furthermore, Gorky is the most authentic voice of the proletariat in modern literature. Unlike Burns, he was not spoiled by his association with the literati, and he was quite devoid of the self-conscious posing which marred Walt Whitman's message. He remained faithful to his class while rising so far out of it as to survey other classes with catholic sympathy. It is natural to speak of him thus in the past tense (although he is still only sixty-three, with the probability of further masterpieces from his pen) because of the very completeness with which he has become the literary symbol of the Revolution.

All of this Dr. Kaun brings (Continued on page 54)

(In answering advertisements please mention THE SURVEY)

Shoulders are sagging in Gas Tank Alley

Families come big in Gas Tank Alley. Wages come small. And life falls hard on the shoulders of those who must cook and clean and wash.

You can't change the families; nor the wages. But one way you can help these weary housewives is to show them how to lighten their housekeeping tasks. Of course, when it comes to washing and cleaning, Fels-Naptha Soap will do that very thing.

For Fels-Naptha brings extra help that even slim purses can well afford. The extra help of two brisk cleaners—good golden soap teamed with plenty of naptha. Together, they loosen dirt and get things clean without hard rubbing—even in cool water.

Though this particular point may be of little interest to the housewives of Gas Tank Alley, you'll appreciate the fact that Fels-Naptha is kind to hands. Every big bar contains soothing glycerine. Write Fels & Co., Phila., Pa., for a sample, mentioning the Survey Graphic.

FELS-NAPTHA

THE GOLDEN BAR WITH THE CLEAN NAPTHA ODOR

"MODERN HOME EQUIPMENT"

Our new booklet is a carefully selected list of the practical equipment needed in an average-sized home. It is invaluable, alike to new and to experienced housekeepers—already in its eleventh edition. It considers in turn the kitchen, pantry, dining room, general cleaning equipment and the laundry, and gives the price of each article mentioned.

Ask for Booklet S—it will be sent postpaid.

LEWIS & CONGER

45th Street and Sixth Avenue, New York City

WORLD UNITY

The magazine which records progress toward world community and a humanized civilization. Sample copy, free. Important reprints: Reading List of Current Books on Internationalism, 5c; Building Up the International Mind, by H. A. Overstreet, 5c; Education for Human Brotherhood, by Rufus M. Jones, 5c. Free booklet on request.

WORLD UNITY, 4 East 12th Street, New York City.

The World Outlook in Economics and Politics SCOTT NEARING

IN AMERICA

NORMAN THOMAS

IN EUROPE

MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 28th, 8:00 p.m.

Star Casino, 105 East 107th Street, N. Y. C.

Auspices: Manumit Parent-Teachers Association. Tickets 50c.

Write Rand School

7 East 15th St.

or Manumit School
Pauling, New York

GOING ABROAD?

Follow the Traveler's Notebook (page 55 this issue) for interesting items regarding places, people and convention doings.

A Primer of Capitalism and Socialism

The Road Ahead

By Harry W. Laidler

A book which points out in terse, simple language the flaws in our present economic system—and the way out.

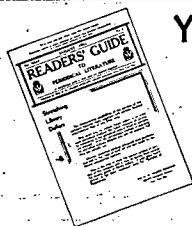
With 33 illustrations by Mabel Pugh

\$1.00



from CROWELL'S List of Good Books

THOMAS Y. CROWELL COMPANY, NEW YORK



Your Own Readers' Adviser!

Better than anybody else you know the subjects about which you would like or need to read.

Regardless of whether the subject has to do with business, religion, sport, children, a hobby or other personal interest, new and helpful material about it is always easy to find.

To locate the best articles upon any subject or to find stories by your favorite authors consult the READERS' GUIDE TO PERIODICAL LITERATURE in your nearest Public, College or School library. It is a monthly index to the contents of 116 general magazines including

SURVEY GRAPHIC

The librarian will be glad to show you how easy it is to use. The library will probably have just the magazines you wish, new or old. If not, we can supply them promptly and reasonably.

Periodicals Department

THE H. W. WILSON COMPANY
Compilers and publishers of indexes to periodicals.
950-972 University Ave. New York

RESORT

Western View Farm

An ideal place for a Spring vacation, whether it be for a week-end or an extended visit.

Rates \$8.00 a day or \$49.00 a week. Send for new booklet.

Address EDWARD G. OHMER

New Milford, Conn. Telephone, New Milford 440

SPEAKERS:

We assist in preparing special articles, papers, speeches, debates. Expert scholarly service. AUTHOR'S RESEARCH BUREAU. 516 Fifth Avenue, New York.

THE PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH WORK

Two-year program of graduate training for principal fields of Social Work.

One-year program in Public Health Nursing for Graduate Nurses.

311 So. Juniper Street

Philadelphia

Columbia University Home Study Courses

A wide variety of practical as well as cultural subjects, specially prepared for study through correspondence under guidance of the University teaching staff.

For full information address

Home Study Department SG, Columbia University
New York City

(Continued from page 53) out in his admirable biography. A Russian who has lived a score of years in America, he is peculiarly fitted for his task. His Russian training and temperament enable him to understand the background of his subject, while his aloofness during the critical period of the Revolution permits him to survey that struggle with detachment. He also enjoys the advantage of a personal acquaintance with Gorky intimate enough to be revealing, without that over-intimacy that leads to personal distortion. He avoids both flattery and denigration, and creates on the whole a convincing picture of a great man with great faults who yet remains, as the great so rarely do, lovable.

Although Dr. Kaun's sources, nearly all in Russian, are voluminous, for the record of his subject's early years he has been obliged to rely almost entirely on Gorky's own autobiographical writings. This is doubly unfortunate: on the one hand, Gorky's own style is so incomparably vivid and colorful that nearly any biographer would be put to shame by the comparison, and, on the other hand, while Gorky's narrative is substantially true, some specific incidents were undoubtedly heightened in the telling by his romantic tendencies and others were blurred by inevitable lapses of memory. One could wish here that Dr. Kaun had attempted the admittedly very difficult task of analyzing and criticizing his source material.

Even with this reservation, however, the story of Gorky's successful struggle up from the sordid brutality of his early surroundings forms a sufficiently harrowing tale. A welcome element of comedy enters in the account of his relations with Tolstoi, telling how Gorky was shocked by the aristocrat's salacious talk and how Tolstoi was angered by the vagabond's bookishness. But the best of Dr. Kaun's book comes in the last two hundred pages dealing with Gorky and the Revolution, showing Gorky's personal friendship with Lenin and hostility toward the Bolshevik program, his final acceptance of the Bolsheviks in preference to the White Reactionaries, and his efforts for the preservation of culture and the relief of the intelligentsia. An interesting appendix gives a full account of Gorky's ill-fated trip to the United States in 1906, revealing the fact that his disgraceful treatment in this country can be directly traced to the intrigues of the Russian Embassy and to The New York World's jealousy of the Hearst papers which had been given exclusive rights to Gorky's publications.
Sputenduyvil, N. Y. ERNEST SUTHERLAND BATES

Youth and the War

KATRIN BECOMES A SOLDIER, by Adrienne Thomas, translated from the German by Margaret Goldsmith. Little Brown. 321 pp. Price \$2.50 postpaid of Survey Graphic.

WE meet Katrin on her fourteenth birthday, on the first page of her fat, new red-leather diary with gilt edges; and we shut that book five years later, filled with impotence and wrath. And yet we are glad to have seen her smile and heard her sing. Across the composite picture of our recent war fiction run two straight black parallel lines: All Quiet on the Western Front and Katrin Becomes a Soldier. Adrienne Thomas has shown, for the girls of an uprooted generation, what Eric Remarque demonstrated for his boys—the gradual disintegration of a sensitive, beautiful young personality under the shock and strain of war. Calmly and pitilessly, with subtlety and skill, she tells how war calls out the finest and bravest qualities of youth, along with other things; and then destroys the fineness and the courage. Margaret Goldsmith's English version miraculously escapes the heaviness which so often accompanies the German language in translation. Katrin is fragile and swift in her English dress. We love her, and lament the waste of so much beauty. HELEN CODY BAKER
Chicago Council of Social Agencies

Most Picturesque American

THEODORE ROOSEVELT, by Henry F. Pringle. Harcourt Brace. 627 pp. Price \$5 postpaid of Survey Graphic.

MR. PRINGLE'S biography easily takes rank amid the myriad volumes that have been written about the Most Picturesque American as the biography of Theodore Roosevelt. No one else has devoted such exhaustive study to the voluminous materials. No one else has had the privilege of such complete access to the Roosevelt. (Continued on page 56)

(In answering advertisements please mention THE SURVEY)



Anti-Militarist Ministers

THERE is in existence an International Union of Anti-Militarist Ministers and Clergymen, with headquarters at Ammerstol, Netherlands. Representatives from Austria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain, Netherlands, Norway and Sweden met at the second congress in Zurich last September, and resolved to ask all authorities, ministers and members of Christian churches:

1. To recognize jointly before God our share in the responsibility for the present state of war between the nations from which humanity generally is suffering, and which constantly threatens us with a still greater evil;
2. To reflect that, if the churches do not immediately refuse to sanction war in all its forms and with all its preliminaries, they will be promoting a disaster which will hurl them, their constructive agencies and the whole of our civilization to destruction;
3. To declare fearlessly, even in the face of governments, and more particularly in anticipation of (next year's) Disarmament Conference, the will of Jesus Christ not to tolerate on any pretext the horrors of war;
4. To seek and to affirm to one another, even across national frontiers, the common faith which is stronger than all which divides us;
5. To accept gladly in the name of the Lord all the trials and all the suffering which a campaign on behalf of peace may involve.

Diamond Jubilee

INDUSTRY, unlike humans, limbers up with the years, and in celebrating its seventy-fifth birthday, the North German Lloyd unfolds a fascinating story of shipping—not only in its expansion, its safety, its luxuriance, but in its ever increasing "agility." The first Bremen, back in 1858, was a little craft 334 feet long and 42 feet broad; it averaged twelve days and ten hours in westward crossings. The present Bremen is almost three times the size and on its last crossing broke all records by making New York Harbor in four days, seventeen hours and ten minutes, about one third the time.

Foreign Food

IF you are living in, or coming to, New York City, and I would cultivate an "international appetite," here's a list of restaurants issued by Reconciliation Trips:

- CHINESE: Oriental Restaurant, 4 Pell Street
 GERMAN: Hof Brau Haus, 241 E. 86 St.; Max's, 243 E. 86 St.
 INDIAN: Ceylon India Inn, 148 W. 49 Street
 JAPANESE: Tokiwa, 44 W. 46 St.; Yoshino-Ya, 76 W. 47 St.
 JEWISH: Strobel's 216 W. 103 St.—1 flight up
 NEGRO: St. Luke's Dining Room, 125 W. 130 Street
 POLISH: Polskiego Domu Narodowego, 19-23 St. Mark's Place
 RUSSIAN: Russian Art Restaurant, 181 Second Avenue
 SYRIAN: Sheik Restaurant, 21 W. 31 Street
 TURKISH: Bosphorus, 6 E. 30 Street.

Travel Books

- IRELAND AFOOT, by John J. Welsh. Richard G. Badger. 350 pp. Price \$2.50 postpaid of Survey Graphic.
 IN THE WEST INDIES, by John C. Van Dyke. Scribner's. 211 pp. Price \$2 postpaid of Survey Graphic.
 KEEP MOVING, by Alfred C. B. Fletcher. Laidlaw. 279 pp. Price 1.
 PORTO RICO—A CARIBBEAN ISLE, by R. J. and E. K. Van Deusen. Henry Holt. 341 pp. Price \$3.50 postpaid of Survey Graphic.
 SEEING PARIS, by E. M. Newman. Funk & Wagnalls. 387 pp. Price \$5 postpaid of Survey Graphic.

(In answering advertisements please mention THE SURVEY)

RUSSIAN TRAVEL MADE EASY



In visiting Russia, you want to travel as widely as you can, gain as many first hand impressions as you can, and know what your expenses will be. The Open Road has devoted five years to perfecting its organization in the U. S. S. R. Open Road representatives in Moscow and Leningrad know the travel facilities of the country, and the things worth seeing. They save you time and money. They help you to see what interests you most.

When inquiring for rates, please indicate whether you prefer to travel alone or in one of many specially constituted Open Road groups. Also, state what phase of Russian life interests you most. Round trip rates as low as \$238.

The OPEN ROAD

Salmon Tower, 13 West 42nd Street, New York City

Cooperating in U. S. S. R. with INTOURIST

Complete service from New York through the last point in Russia (3rd class) and return passage from Cherbourg or Southampton, including

33 Days in Russia \$410.00

26 Days in Russia \$375.00

21 Days in Russia \$350.00

For tourist class on steamer and 2nd class in Russia, the prices are

33 Days in Russia \$654.00

26 Days in Russia \$584.00

21 Days in Russia \$550.00

THIS SUMMER VISIT SOVIET RUSSIA

Trip of 12 to 33 days in the U.S.S.R. visiting the most interesting of new Russia's projects.



Sailings on the "Bremen" and "Europa" June 7, 15, July 9 and August 13.

COOPERATIVE GROUPS of Teachers, Students Artists and Social Workers

Survey trips and special studies in the field of education, the theatre arts, social life and industrial progress.

For booklet address Philip Brown, Director

FRIENDSHIP TOURS 136 BERKELEY PLACE, BROOKLYN, N.Y.

LEADERS:

F. Tredwell Smith (Teachers College Columbia Univ.)

M. de Haan Keeler (Lecturer and student of Russian Affairs)

Francis A. Henson (Executive secretary Religion and Labor Movement)

Exceptionally interesting extension tours to the continent at most economical cost.