

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"

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A Books-of-the-Year List for Christmas

The publishing world's bumper crop for 1950 is in the diversified-culture field of non-fiction.

From the approximately 10,000 titles off the presses thus far this year, The New York Times Book Review Christmas gift book issue lists 275 outstanding books, and fiction is in the minority.

There are some noteworthy new novels. John Hersey's "The Wall" is acclaimed as the best of the year. Other best books are collections of reprints, including: "Collected Stories of William Faulkner," "Collected Tales of Walter De La Mare," William Saroyan's "The Assyrian and Other Stories," "An Edith Wharton Treasury," and "The Watchful Gods and Other Stories" by Walter Van Tilburg Clark.

Three Italian novels—"The Mill on the Po" (Bacchelli), "The Wine of Etna" (Baron), "Two Adolescents" (Moravia)—are highly rated. Hemingway's long-awaited "Across the River and Into the Trees" caused a big splash and some disappointment. The cream of the novels in American settings seem to be "World Enough and Time" (Robert Penn Warren), "A Stretch on the River" (Richard Bissell), "The Town" (Conrad Richter), "Jubilee Trail" (Gwen Bristow), Henry Green's "Back" and "Nothing," Joyce Cary's "A Fearful Joy," C. V. Gheorghiu's "The Twenty-Fifth Hour" deserve special mention.

Poets Carl Sandburg, Wallace Stevens, Peter Viereck, William C. Williams, E. E. Cummings and Christopher Morley all published a new volume this year.

But the cold war-hot war climate of 1950 was more conducive to books dealing with down-to-earth fact, and conflict—between nations, ideas, and within man himself—is the fertile soil that produced the meatiest fruit.

The problem of communism looms large; there's plenty of raw material here and the public appetite for information on the Reds is insatiable. So we have: "Red Masquerade" about the FBI, "A Generation on Trial" and "Seeds of Treason" about the Hiss case, "Ordeal by Stander" by Lattimore, "Mao Tse-Tung" by Payne, "The Coming Defeat of Communism" by James Burnham, "The God That Failed" by six ex-Reds.

The list of volumes about the last great war grows longer with the following outstanding additions: Winston Churchill's "The Grand Alliance" and "The Hinge of Fate," Herbert Feis' "The Road to Pearl Harbor," General Clark's "Calculated Risk," General Clay's "Decision in Germany," Admiral Leahy's "I Was There," General Morgan's "Overture to Overlord," Admiral Sherman's "Combat Command," General Smith's "My Three Years in Moscow," Hanson Baldwin's "Great Mistakes of the War," de Sevres's "Air Power: Key to Survival," Zachary's "Behind Closed Doors," Fitzroy Maclean's "Escape to Adventure," and "Life's Picture History of World War II"—worth the \$10 price-tag.

Timely, in view of the present crisis, are: "Why War Came in Korea" by Robert T. Oliver, "Out of This World," by Lowell Thomas, Jr., "The Red Army Today," by Colonel Ely, "Defense of the West" by Licell Hart, "The Prospect Before Us" by John Dos Passos, "The Future of Democratic Capitalism" by Thurman Arnold et al, and "War Civilization" by Arnold Toynbee.

Conflict and crises—collective and individual—have brought about a revival of interest in religion reflected in the 1950 book lists. Among the best in this field: "Christianity and History" by Herbert Butterfield, "Is God in History?" by Gerald Heard, "Five Minutes to Twelve" by William Purcell, "The Descent of the Dove" by Charles Williams, "The Meaning of Human Existence" by Leslie Paul, "Psychoanalysis and Religion" by Erich Fromm, and "Religion and the Cure of Souls in Jung's Psychology" by Schaefer. (Two new Bibles are out: "The Dartmouth Bible" and a new translation by Ronald Knox).

Under miscellaneous, for want of space, we list a few other new books of more than passing interest in the non-fiction field: "The Man of Independence" by Jonathan Daniels, "Roosevelt in Retrospect" by John Gunther, "Boswell's London Journal," "Eleanor of Aquitaine," "The

Little Princesses," by Marion Crawford, "Of Men and Mountains" by William O. Douglas, "The Story of Ernie Pyle," "John Adams and the American Revolution" by Catherine Bowen, "The Blue and the Gray" by Commager, "Psychosomatic Medicine" by Franz Alaxander, "Kon-Tiki" by Thor Heyerdahl, "The Age of Faith" by Will Durant, "The Cocktail Party" by T. S. Eliot, and "Shooting An Elephant" by George Orwell.

These 75 books out of 275 out of 10,000 titles for 1950 seem to this writer the most likely to be found in Christmas gift-wrapping paper on December 25. —M.W.

Outlook in Korea

Hal Boyle, AP correspondent in Korea, lays it on the line cold. He writes:

"The war in Korea appears to have been militarily decided.

"The United Nations has no military force here or in prospect that seems able to achieve victory against a Chinese Red army officially estimated at more than 1,000,000 men."

He goes on to anticipate a slow retreat to Pusan and a complete evacuation of Korea. The United Nations haven't the stuff in men or gear to hold South Korea if the Reds really are determined to drive them out. Apparently they are from their Peking broadcasts and the actions of their armies in Korea.

This is humiliating, especially to the United States which took the lead in resisting aggression in South Korea. But we know of none who favors engaging in all-out war with Red China. That would be long and costly and perhaps entirely futile. The road to the Kremlin is not through Peking, to reverse one of Lenin's quoted remarks.

A large fraction of the male population has a yearning to wear a star and be a policeman. Not a regular one, in uniform and walking a beat; just a flash officer who can stick his nose into other peoples' business and crash a gate somewhere. Those who want a police detail with little immediate prospect of duty may respond to the invitation of Chief Warren for 100 volunteers for civil defense police work. If trouble really comes they would get a chance to stand in the middle of an intersection and wave their arms and bawl out the motorists, but not much chance at spending time and talent on detective work.

Chugging tugboats do most of the chores on inland streams and harbors. They really push the big boats around. But there is place for the stern-wheel churns which once flourished on the Columbia and Willamette. One went aground after striking a rock below Portland Monday. It was doing a tow job and another sternwheeler came to relieve it of its tow. Another sternwheeler had a crash Tuesday at Wauna. Mostly though the sternwheeler and the sidewheeler have given way to the prop jobs, just as diesel-electrics have put steam locomotives on the sidings or scrap heap.

The report of the interim committee on taxation will be accompanied by two minority reports. That isn't surprising. Rarely is there unanimity on tax measures. The committee has done a great deal of spadework however and the report should result in a speed-up of legislative action on tax measures. Since we are spending and spending we must tax and tax.

Information respecting Samuel Newhouse, new owner of the Oregonian, is that at Syracuse and Harrisburg where he owns papers he gives the staff its head in providing the community with a paper the community likes and wants. Probably the managers of the Oregonian will find it easier to run a paper with one owner-boss than with a board representing many stockholders.

Too early for Canby and Aurora to be "walking on air" on the chance that an airforce academy may be located in the vicinity. Recalling the objections the navy used to raise to developing Tongue Point base at Astoria we incline to the guess that "compelling reasons" will result in the choice of a site in say California—and hope our guess is wrong.

Korean Situation Appears to Revolve About Possibility of Continuing Limited Warfare

By J. M. Roberts, Jr.
AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12—(AP)—Despite all the resolutions at Lake Success, the Korean situation appears today to revolve around the possibilities of continuing a limited war.

That is the intention of the United States, and presumably of Great Britain, whose prime minister said he was in agreement with President Truman on the subject. Mr. Attlee told parliament yesterday that he had "good hopes" that U. N. forces would be able to maintain themselves on the disputed peninsula.

He spoke only a day after General MacArthur had reported that the Chinese, despite the withdrawals forced by overwhelming numbers, had not been able to break the U. N. ability to fight.

Estimates of the situation from reporters at MacArthur's headquarters suggest that further withdrawals will be necessary,

however, and that if anything like a permanent defense line can be established it will have to be around Seoul or somewhere in the south where the allied commanders can anchor both flanks. The present line from which the 8th army now awaits further attack peters out toward the center of the peninsula, with the communists apparently bent on turning this unanchored flank.

MacArthur was represented, however, as having always to consider the possibility that, regardless of high policy not to withdraw voluntarily, the Chinese may be able to throw his armies out forcefully. This, of course, was also to be reckoned with around the political conference tables. The Chinese and the Russians have suggested their intention of doing just that.

The MacArthur and Attlee statements could be taken as warnings, however, that the U. N. should not do any panic trading just yet.

Many people are asking what is to be gained by continuing a war south of the 38th parallel, even if a temporary stalemate can be obtained, and what has been gained at all by the Korean episode if North Korea is not

freed from communist control.

Probably the greatest gain has been the revelation of the extent to which imperialism communism is prepared to go; that it is ready to use military aggression, ready to risk world war. That brought a unified reaction from 53 nations, 16 of which actually contributed military strength as evidence of their determination to resist such aggression. That may be a great deterrent against future experiments of this kind, even though communist force proves a temporary winner. It certainly has built a fire under the preparedness programs of the non-communist world.

It has given the United Nations a new lease on life, through demonstration of its determination to act promptly and with force to meet force. It produced a method by which the general assembly can by-pass the security council veto to carry out the spirit of the charter.

If the fight can be continued it will serve as constant evidence that the world is determined to help those who are willing to fight for their own liberties. It will encourage other countries to hold until strength can arrive.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from Page One)

there must be continuing exercise of authority, not only in administration but also in legislation. It isn't practical to go through the process of amending a compact for that would require unanimous consent of all the states and approval by the congress. The machinery isn't flexible enough. And besides, what would the proposed compact authority use for money?

I have understood that the Port of New York Authority was created through a compact between New York and New Jersey, but that relates to a single joint interest, the control of New York harbor which serves both states. No such single interest prevails in the Columbia basin. We have had fish packers at the mouth of the river fighting dams on the Columbia and the Snake. Navigation interests may conflict with diversion of water for reclamation; and downstream power demands may be in conflict with upstream irrigation requirements.

The interstate compact machine is not the only alternative to a Columbia valley administration, nor the practical one. The Hoover report gave a better alternate in the consolidation of water development agencies of the federal government. Why not go through on this line instead of fanning the breeze with interstate compacts?

At the Portland meeting Howard Stinson, regional counsel of the bureau of reclamation, attending as an "informal representative" of the government revealed the opposition of the federal government to the plan. He warned that interstate compacts may conflict with federal projects and said the government might assert its constitutional right to develop waterways for national welfare notwithstanding state laws or contracts. Naturally the state group wouldn't expect the blessing of the present administration; but I do not see that any congress or administration would advocate its authority in this field, especially if it still would have to put up the money.

Some compact may be necessary or advisable with reference to allocation of water rights, though that is not imminent; but a compact that would take over the contemplated power and responsibility of a Columbia Valley administration seems to me just a pipedream.

GRIN AND BEAR IT

by Lichty



"Our agents in America reporting many Reds with whiskers appearing openly in stores and on streets."

ONE-TRACK MINDS



Ways in Washington

By Jane Eads

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Through the army's famed K-9 corps, which served so valiantly throughout World War II, was disbanded five years ago, some 500 dogs are being used by the army throughout the world today.

They are used for sentry duty in Korea and Germany, Japan and Okinawa. Sled dogs were used in Alaska. The Atlantic wing of the air transport service uses them for rescue work, and at Ft. Riley, Kas., there is an infantry scout dog platoon.

A dog-breeding program was started by American troops in Korea during the occupation days. When the occupation ended some 100 of the army's dogs were sent back to Japan.

"The remarkable record during the occupation days. When the occupation ended some 100 of the army's dogs were sent back to Japan.

"The remarkable record during World War II removed any doubts which may have existed as to their value in time of war," the office of the quartermaster general said in a recent report.

"They saved the lives of a number of men in combat. They also performed valuable service in guarding various installations and patrolling the coasts of the United States."

Some 19,094 canines were recruited in 1942. Of this number 10,526 measured up to specifications.

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cations, were trained and put into service.

All K-9 recruits had to weigh about 50 pounds and be from 23 to 24 inches high at the shoulder. Originally five breeds were accepted. Later recruits, however, were limited to German shepherds.

Scout dogs were found to be very useful in South Pacific jungle fighting. They could scent a man 300 to 400 yards away. They saved hundreds of American boys from walking into Japanese ambush.

Of the dogs enlisted in K-9, some 2,290 were war casualties.

Better English

1. What is wrong with this sentence: "His headquarters are located at Chicago."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "Palestine"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Enoble, enormous, enfranchise, environment.
4. What does the word "moderation" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with dis that means "loose in morals and conduct"?

ANSWERS
1. Say, "His headquarters is situated in Chicago." 2. Pronounce last syllable as time, not as teen. 3. Ennoble. 4. State of keeping within reasonable limits. "His life was one of moderation." 5. Dissolute.

The Safety Valve

"As I See It"

To the Editor:

I am going to write this letter to you under the heading "As I See It."

In order to explain what I am thinking about I will go back to the Roosevelt administration. My figures which I quote won't be accurate but general, but they will do to explain what I am writing about.

As I recall it, when Roosevelt was elected, the national debt was between 20 and 30 billion dollars. And he was going to cure the depression immediately. So the administration ran the national debt up to between 60 and 80 billion. Then congress and the nation were becoming a little jittery and the administration was not sure they could get more and the depression wasn't licked yet. So we were taken into the second world war, because it was known that once we got in we wouldn't back down. So we went through it at an awful cost in dollars and lives. Well, Roosevelt died and Truman took over, and we went on still piling up the national debt. Then, a while back before this last war, there was a little depression started, only they called it a recession.

So our powers that be in Washington saw this opening in Korea and they knew that once we were in it the ball would start rolling for production of war materials. And there would be an emergency again and the same party would continue in office until it is over.

But it is a case of a little man stumbling along in a big man's footsteps and now we are out on a limb. We have been at it for 20 years and haven't won the war or the depression, we have only been spending what our forefathers gave up in 1776. We have a national debt that none living now will see paid and a debt to all the boys that lie dead on foreign soil.

This is as I see it.
EARL SHARP,
1185 Waller St.

ing for drastic action the government was compelled to sign, and the planes finally got there—too late! We lost 40,000 men, hundreds of nurses, and MacArthur added to Australia, all because we had no defense against the Jap Zeros. Now the auto makers are again placing profits above the welfare of the country in an emergency.

Recently the president wrote a very scurrilous letter to the musical critic of a Washington daily who criticized his daughter's singing. He threatened to punch him in the nose and make him need a supporter below. His daughter's singing seems much more important to him than the welfare of the nation, for he hasn't threatened to sock Mr. Wilson in the nose nor kick Mr. Ford in the groin; but the people of the U. S. still think something should be done about war profiteers as well as newspaper men and other workers whom he controls by executive order when he feels like it or gets mad. As president he sounds like a very small pebble rattling around in a very large can, and as a man—well, nobody has improved on Barney Baruch's opinion of him as "rude, uncouth and ignorant." A. M. CHURCH.

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