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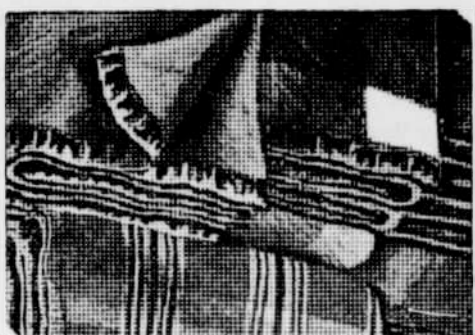
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The PARIS FAIR

Hood River, Oregon

What They're Reading

By Grace Babson

First, an apology must be offered for having written so indistinctly that the name of Archie Binns, whose new book "The Laurels Are Cut Down" was reviewed in this column last week, turned into Archie Burns.

Next, a confession must be made that we have read no books this week nor found time to review books read in the past. But we'd like to tell you a bit about a guest, a very inspiring guest, who was with us for 24 hours this week. Dr. J. Duncan Spaeth, formerly professor of English at Princeton university and now president of the University of Kansas City, Mo., is well known to Oregonians. Ten years ago Dr. Spaeth spent a Sabbatical year as professor of English at Reed college. For many years he has come west in the summer to give courses in the University of Oregon summer school. At Princeton the students voted Dr. Spaeth their most inspiring teacher and many echo the vote here.

Last summer Dr. Spaeth was not on the summer faculty of our university, but he did come out to deliver the commencement address in June. The subject was "Training for Freedom" and stressed the necessity for us to look backward to the culture of the past in order to steer our way in the present; in order to find constancy in the world of continual change.

Dr. Spaeth is offering two courses in this year's summer school in Portland. One on Shakespeare and one on "Makers of American Ideals." In the latter course he will talk of Jefferson, Hamilton, Walt Whitman, Herman Melville, Mark Twain, Henry Adams, each in his own way a great idealist, each a forerunner of today's liberalism.

Dr. Spaeth read to us from James Truslow Adams' "The Epic of America." He spoke with enthusiasm of the Mississippi river and of Mr. Adams' spiritual appreciation of the life of that river. Then we spoke of Ludwig's "The Nile", which was reviewed last week. We told Dr. Spaeth that with his love and enthusiasm for the Northwest he should write the life of the Columbia.

And speaking of the Northwest and Oregon, Dr. Spaeth asked us how we felt about H. L. Davis' "Honey in the Horn," last year's Pulitzer prize novel. We told him that we appreciated the strength of the book, but felt it portrayed only one side of Oregon at the turn of the century. That we resented having a book on Oregon win national fame when that book stresses the life of the horse thief, the camp follower, the derelict, completely ignoring the lives of the many spiritual and intellectual leaders who were making Oregon at that time. Dr. Spaeth said he felt the same way and felt very strongly about it.

Many persons were disappointed that "Honey in the Horn" received last year's Pulitzer award, but most persons were delighted that the award for this year's novel went unanimously to "Gone With the Wind." J. K. Gill has on exhibit the first 12 Pulitzer prize novels (Gone With the Wind is the 13th) uniformly bound in an attractive edition at one dollar each.

Foreign Apple Crop Strong, Pears Weaker

Preliminary indications point to an abundant crop of fruit in Europe this season, according to information assembled by the London representative of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Fruit trees came through the winter satisfactorily. In general, they blossomed abundantly and without serious frost damage. In England and France, where large apple crops were harvested last year, production may be lower in 1937, but in Germany and the Netherlands, where production was small last year, indications point to a sharp increase over 1936 in the production of principal fruits.

Prospects of large apple and pear crops in Europe this year are particularly important to the apple and pear industry of the United States, since early prospects in this country also point to large crops.

In England, the trees came through

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the winter in excellent condition and a satisfactory set of fruit is in sight, but a somewhat small crop is expected following the heavy crop borne by the trees last year.

The winter and spring was mild in France, and apples have blossomed well though somewhat less than last year. In the Valais section of Switzerland, apples bloomed well and a heavy crop is expected, in contrast with last year's half crop.

Countries in the Danube basin report favorable apple crop prospects, especially as compared with last year. Many young trees in Bulgaria are now coming into bearing, and a crop considerable in excess of the 6000 short tons produced last year is considered possible. In Hungary prospects are also good, and a crop of 50,000 short tons, equal to that of two years ago, is considered possible.

Apple trees blossomed well in Rumania, and an excellent initial setting has been made. Although the weather has given Yugoslavian apples some setbacks, production may be considerably above last year's yield of 100,000 short tons.

European pear crop prospects in general are less favorable than apples. In France pear trees blossomed exceptionally well, but are dropping their fruit badly, especially in the Rhone valley and in the region around Paris. A small crop of early pears and a larger crop of late pears than last year is expected in Italy.

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