

The Best Books Are Even Better When Read Abed

By LINDO MOORE

If the pernicious habit of reading in bed has you in its clutches, the Public Library is aiding and abetting this week with a special full of new books.

Rio Grande to Cape Horn, by Carleton Beals. An armchair journey through Spanish America with human interest pictures of each country, as well as sidelights on political and economic conditions.

The American, by James Truslow Adams. What makes an American? How does he differ from anyone else and why? These are the questions Mr. Adams tried to answer in his new book.

Naturalist at Large, by Thomas Barbour. A lifetime of following the small-boy love of collecting things—anything—made Barbour a great naturalist. His reminiscences make good reading.

Against This Rock, by Louis Zamperini. A novel based on the amazing career of Charles V., Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, who fought five wars, ruled half of Europe, yet abdicated and spent his last years in a monastery.

The Sun Shines West, by Nathan Schachner. Story of a young college instructor and his wife drawn into the turbulent events of Kansas in the years just before the Civil War.

The Grand Design, by David Pilgrim. A dramatic story of James de la Cloche, a student of Charles Darwin, and his activities as secret agent for the British.

Shadow of Night, by August Derleth. Frontier days in Wisconsin, a vengeful man seeking his brother's murderer and how he lost

his lust for revenge, make this a dramatic novel.

The Ringed Horizon, by Edmund Gilligan. Salt water story of sub-catchings. Exciting.

And So To Bedlam, by Marguerite Lyon. All about the dizzy advertising profession by one who has been there and returned to the cut out of anybody's hair.

Mr. Mirakel, by E. Phillips Oppenheim. As a gesture toward saving something of civilization from bombs, Mr. Mirakel acquired a Utopian island and brought there a people selected for their beauty or brains.

Corner of Heaven, by Kathleen Norris. Tale of young girl torn between love of arctic doctor and his equally handsome but 4-F stay-at-home brother.

Red Raskall, by Clark McEckin. The story of a great stallion and of his owner. Background is early days in Tidewater Virginia.

Murder in Havana, by George Harmon Cox. Murder strikes in the midst of a group of wealthy refugees.

Indigo, by Christine Weston. October Literary Guild selection is a thoughtful and moving novel of India. Conflicts between old India and the new and between Indian and white man, making it absorbing story.

Smart Soldier Bismark was commissioned by the Emperor to decorate with the Iron Cross a soldier who had shown great prowess and had a moment of extreme danger. "I am authorized," said Bismark "to offer you 100 thalers instead of the cross."

"Please sir, how much is the cross worth?" inquired the soldier.

"Three thalers."

"Very well, your highness, may I have the cross and 97 thalers?" Bismark was so pleased by the shrewdness of the reply that the soldier received both.

Rise Stevens, Newest "Met" Star, Will Appear Nov. 8

Rise Stevens, the nation's new singing star, member of the Metropolitan Opera Association, will appear at the Masonic Auditorium on Monday evening, Nov. 8, 1943.

Glamor and glory have come quickly to Miss Stevens, young American singer. Born in New York City of a Norwegian father and American mother, at the age of ten she sang on the radio, in her middle teens for an opera company series and at nineteen started serious vocal work in a three-year contract at the Juilliard School of Music.

To Rise Stevens' eternal credit is the fact that she had the courage and the great good sense to turn down her first bid from the Metropolitan Opera. She said she wasn't ready. Instead she went abroad, toured Europe and South America, returned two years later with wide stage experience and critical laurels.

Wendel-Slyter Nuptial Services

In the October 21 issue of The Eccentric we recorded the marriage of two Lathrup Townsite young folks, at the personal request of the groom's father, as follows:

"Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Wendel, announce the marriage of their son, Marvin, to Virginia Slyter, daughter of Mrs. Henry Cosgrove of East Orange, N. J., and Theodore Slyter, of the Townsite, on Saturday, Oct. 9, at the Shrine of the Little Flower."

This was at the personal request of T. G. Slyter, the bride's father, who is publishing a portion of his letter relating to a earlier marriage, as follows:

"My daughter married Wendel's son against the wishes of the parents on both sides, last July 9th. The marriage was performed by the minister of the Royal Oak Methodist Church in his home on Main street. After the girl consented to become Catholic they were allowed to live at Wendel's home. Nothing was published about the marriage until the girl was converted and plans were made to have them remarried in the Rectory, not the Church, as you printed of the Shrine of the Little Flower. You may quote my letter for the correction."

Miss Stevens' debut at the Metropolitan Opera Association, will appear at the Masonic Auditorium on Monday evening, Nov. 8, 1943.

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Bowling Scores

LADIES ALIB LEAGUE	
Wm	Lost
Birmingham Beauty	15
Miss Ann Wagon	10
Miss Belle Beatty	10
Johnston	10
Berley Dress Shop	10
Wolverine Potato Chips	11
Maxwell Shop	11
Rhodes Machine Shop	11
Shain's Drugs	11

High Scores		
Ind. 1 Game—Roberts Springs, 182.	Wm	Lost
Team 1 Game—Birmingham Drugs, 147.	10	1
Team 3 Game—Brim'sham Drugs, 307.	10	1

JUNIOR HOUSE LEAGUE	
Wm	Lost
Peck's Clothing	9
Montgomery Ward	9
Birmingham Herbicide	9
Bird Service	9
DeWalt	9
Martin Lums	9
O.E. Machine	9

High Scores		
Ind. 1 Game—Carl Nauman, 232.	Wm	Lost
Ind. 3 Game—Carl Nauman, 426.	10	1
Team 1 Game—Montgomery Ward, 309.	10	1
Team 3 Game—Birmingham Rec, 252.	10	1

MERCHANTS' LEAGUE	
Wm	Lost
Hunter Drugs	11
W.W. Furniture	11
Triangle Furniture	10
Miller Coffee Shop	10
Postage Co. Service	10
Oliver's Beverages	10
Great Lakes	10
4211	10
Lums Cuts	9
Erwin's Tool	9
Birmingham Feedery	9

High Scores		
Ind. 1 Game—E. Shofield, 221.	Wm	Lost
Ind. 3 Game—Wm. Gardner, 452.	10	1
Team 1 Game—Great Lakes, 901.	10	1
Team 3 Game—Great Lakes, 219.	10	1



Years of history-making decisions are being compressed today into minutes. It is thirty minutes before war might. Soon only seconds will remain.

The urgency of these minutes and seconds is being indicated this week at the assembly Thursday and Friday (Oct. 28 and 29) at Fort Knox, Ky., of large groups of Michigan public officials, war leaders and newspaper editors, led by Governor Kelly.

The key men were invited there by the war department.

The purpose is to hear from high-ranking army officials confidential information about the impending showdown between the United States and the Axis; the relative strength of these two forces, military and civilian; and to hear what steps are being taken to increase production in the United States of munitions and ships.

Washington has announced that the Fort Knox conference is a regional meeting, patterned after the recent national conference at Washington several weeks ago which was attended by approximately 200 leaders. At its close, the war department permitted reporters to interview participants about the economic resources of the Germans and the Japanese.

Newspaper war correspondents at a recent newspaper meeting in Ann Arbor were critical of the army and navy for allegedly failing to give the American people the "facts"; they emphasized repeatedly the vastness of the military task confronting the United States, especially in the Pacific.

If there has been public complacency, many newspaper editors are inclined to blame Washington for manufacturing the news. At times, the Fort Knox conference may be interesting repercussions. Some editors will accept the fact that an uninspired truth. Others may conclude that talk of a long war is merely a Washington official "hook" for the purpose of conditioning the public to additional requisitioning.

The coming 1944 political campaign is a factor.

What are the "secret statistics," as revealed in Washington following the recent pop-up conference? Here are a few:

Germany has 300 well-trained and well-equipped army divisions in Europe. Most of these are on the Russian front. The American army and navy at the end of 1944 (fourteen months from today) will have about 2,000,000 men overseas and 3,750,000 still on duty in this country. Today, the reverse is true. Our overseas army is not concentrated in France as they were 25 years ago; they are scattered around the globe. At the end of two years of preparations, we are just about ready to transport a big invasion army to Europe. Our best asset is yet to come.

Contrary to common belief, the German air force is larger today than it was in 1939, and the Japanese strength is constantly increasing. Japanese have 2,000,000 men who have not been called yet to the colors; its manpower resources are "very great." Our victories in the South Pacific have 3,000 miles from the empire itself and only at the fringe of the Japanese-held territory.

Germany is estimated to have 35,000,000 workers in war factories today, compared with 23,000,000 in 1939. Their food ration is higher in calorie content than four years ago.

The American home front must increase production of munition about 21 per cent in 1944. This means the making of \$75,000,000,000 in weapons of war. Much of this will be in airplanes, especially heavy bombers, and transport planes. To get our army and their material overseas and to keep our many fronts supplied with replacements and additional supplies, the American home front must produce 20 per cent more ships in 1944 than in 1943.

Such is the picture, as certified this month by the army and navy.

Transfer of pre-war fathers from Michigan war plants to the armed forces is going to tighten Michigan's labor shortage still more. The dearth of manpower should scrape bottom by April or May 1944. Our army is due to reach full strength by July, 1944—30 months after declaration of war. Already our war is stretching into length.

Michigan manufacturers are wary about giving approval to any "precedent" which would possibly embarrass them later on government control of manpower. Today's utilization of labor is on a voluntary basis, although new restrictions went into effect Oct. 15 requiring funneling of employment requests involving "critical" occupations into the United States Employment Service. The new manpower control, based on management-labor committees, is said to be the next thing to a national labor draft.

Organized labor also wants a back door opened wide. Actually Michigan labor is rationed on the matter of manpower utilization; some leaders are willing to accept all-out control "for the duration" on a basis of "strictly" sacrifice; other leaders violently oppose it as a dangerous invasion of "their own rights."

Michigan farmers have succeeded pretty well in their 1943 efforts to deliver the crops on schedule. Despite handicaps of short supply of labor and a late spring in several areas, voluntary labor has come out to meet the "demand" for it. It is only about 10 per cent from 1942 bumper production. Victory gardens are scheduled to produce 12 to 15 million tons of food, as expected by the U. S. department

of agriculture to yield around eight million tons.

As any city dweller knows, prices of fruits and vegetables have approached fabulous levels. Luxury goods—jewelry, for example—are enjoying record sales. Men's suits are up in price, despite the absence of a vest and a second pair of pants. Women's clothing sales are 50 per cent ahead of 1942 at this time.

Inflation is here, although the cost of living has been stabilized momentarily.

Michigan's state government is wrestling with problems of post-war planning, trying to absorb the terrific shock of vast unemployment and heavy relief loads; meeting impending department deficits due to wage raises while other departments return unexpended funds to the state general fund; trying to satisfy liquor buyers with a short stock of goods; retreating strictly on a quota basis, in competition with black market liquor available to private dealers in other states which do not control profit through a state monopoly.

As 446,000 fathers are drafted this year and 500,000 more fathers face military service in 1944, no

Let's Change the Subject

Husbands: "This is a remarkable book. It proves how marvelous how stupendous is nature. Whenever I read something like this, I realize how lowly and insignificant man is."

Wife: "A woman doesn't have to wade through four hundred pages to learn that."

NO HUNTING—NO TRESPASSING signs on sale at the Eccentric office. Special prices on quantity lots. (27-53)



As 446,000 fathers are drafted this year and 500,000 more fathers face military service in 1944, no

Confusing—wasn't it?

Seventeen war agencies coming to you for funds... Now they've been unified into one big Fund... Here's the story...

Wherever the Jap or Nazi boot has marched, it has crushed under its heel the homes, the food, the bodies, the hopes, the souls of men, women and children.

These men, women, and children are our friends, our allies, and it is inconceivable that we would not extend to them all possible help. It is inconceivable too that we would not help American fighting men who have gone forth to bring freedom back to the world, and the families these men have left behind them.

This we have done. Agencies have been formed to provide aid to our friends, our own fighting men here and across the world, and the needy here on the home front.

There were many of these agencies; there had to be. They all had to come to you for money and your heart could say "no" to none. But it was confusing.

Eliminating the confusion

Now, in order to eliminate that confusion, a very sensible thing has been done. Seventeen national war relief agencies have been combined into one campaign, into the National War Fund. You give to this unified Fund and you have given to seventeen agencies. You give once, for all these!

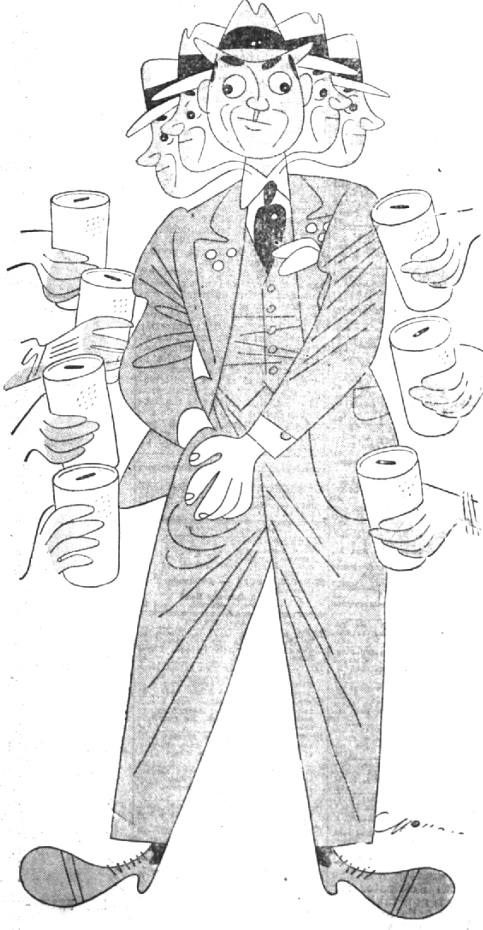
The National War Fund is officially endorsed by the President. It has the backing of the Government as an improvement over the old confusing way of raising money. It permits you to budget your wartime giving more easily. It makes sense.

Yet it does not intrude upon the autonomy of any of these agencies. The USO, China Relief, British War Relief, and all the others will be left under their present efficient and experienced direction. They will be freed from the task of raising money, and have time to devote full time to their good works, and you will not have to dig down so often that your pocket becomes frayed at the edges.

Round the world and at home

The money you give will work round the world. It will also go to work right in your own neighborhood; for the National War Fund appeal has been combined with that of our own local agencies. Part of it will be used for the families of men in the service, for the children of parents at war work, for the social services needed to keep a community at war healthy and efficient.

Give generously, today. Add up your total gifts—then double it!



- Birmingham Y.M.C.A.
- USO
- United Seaman's Service
- War Prisoners Aid
- Belgian War Relief Society
- British War Relief Society
- French Relief Fund
- Friends of Luxembourg
- Greek War Relief Association
- Norwegian Relief
- Polish War Relief
- Queen Wilhelmina Fund
- Russian War Relief
- United China Relief
- United Czechoslovak Relief
- United Yugoslav Relief Fund
- Refugee Relief Trusts
- United States Committee for the Care of European Children

OAKLAND COUNTY UNITED WAR FUND

A Division of National War Fund

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