

Unless well cared for, nothing that existence gives us will last. Every material possession one has is subject to deterioration, to the ravages of moth and rust, to the erosion of the elements. Liberty, freedom, too, must be cared for, if they are to last. Most people spend time and money to keep their homes in a preserved condition. Fewer of us have equal concern for our American freedoms.

The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1959

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BOOKS and REVIEWS

The Fume of Poppies

By Jonathan Kozol. 181 pp. Boston. Houghton Mifflin Co. \$3.00

Reviewed by DONALD A. YATES

This is a first novel of great promise about the enchantment and disenchantment of young love. Jonathan Kozol, a 21-year-old graduate of Harvard, opens his story with his young hero observing the girl named Wendy in Professor Putnam's English literature class.

From a distance, he has completely fallen for her. He approaches her, tentatively, they talk, they like each other, and the affair begins. Wendy is easily the least inhibited young heroine of this generation. At the cabin in Maine, in the couple's quiet apartment near the Charles River, on a festive holiday in New York, on an extended, fugitive trip to Europe she gives freely, openly, passionately of herself to her lover.

He takes her, with wonder at their union, in the seemingly perfect matching of their souls. Later, when the ultimate sadness and folly of their light-hearted flight to the continent becomes evident, he possesses her with the resignation that can be known only to those who have had physical love at its most intense and then have seen its charm broken by an inexplicable need of the female who, one realizes, was never possessed for a moment.

This is an old story, written with insight, freshness and immediacy by a writer with unusual understanding and an unmistakable talent for prose description and genuine dialogue.

It is a slim work, but one that stands on its own merits, and at the same time, gives promise of fine writing to be done in the future by a young artist who is learning his trade rapidly and well.

Ben-Burion: The Biography of an Extraordinary Man

By Robert St. John. 336 pp. New York. Doubleday & Co. \$3.95.

Reviewed by ROBIN BAHR

One of the world's outstanding contemporary leaders is David Ben-Gurion, prime minister of Israel.

The state of Israel was created in 1948 by UN proclamation. This was to Ben-Gurion, perhaps more than to any other single individual, the realization of a life-dedicated

struggle to re-establish a homeland for the Jews.

As the first prime minister of this new and precarious state, Ben-Gurion immediately became an important international figure. His attention focused on the troubled middle east area, Ben-Gurion has continued to remain in the limelight.

This biography by Robert St. John, Associated Press reporter, is one of what will probably be many, not only because of Ben-Gurion's political significance, but because he is truly an extraordinary individual.

The author carefully traces his long career devoted to the cause of the Jewish state, which began at 18 when he left Russia to make his permanent home in Palestine, working first as a day laborer and later as a Zionist official, henceforth calling himself Ben-Gurion (son of the lion). Each step was motivated by his overriding conviction that Palestine must once again become a homeland for the Jews.

With his single-minded dedication, his strict sense of right and wrong, his love of the land and belief in the glorification of manual labor, the monastic simplicity of his own life, his courage and independence, Ben-Gurion presents an awesome resemblance to Elijah of the Old Testament.

He once said, "It is my duty and desire to spend as much of my time as possible outside working hours reading or thinking." Thus, for relaxation during the Sinai campaign, he read Greek and oriental philosophy.

"With almost no sense of humor," and "almost always in deadly earnest," "he reverts only men and women of dedication and lives his every minute as a cause."

Although not a Jew, the author is sympathetic to the Jewish state. Ben-Gurion's political policies and decisions—some of which are controversial at best—are examined from only the Jewish point of view. Thus, the book is not an objective assessment of Ben-Gurion in the whole context of the middle east.

However, it is an honest and intimate portrait of a distinguished man who has deservedly earned world-wide respect, if not sympathy.

The Sanilac Petroglyphs

CRANBROOK INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE. 45 pp.

Reviewed by BYRON FARWELL

"Beside a small stream that winds through rough pasture land in the Thumb of Michigan is a sandstone outcrop richly embellished with figures of men, animals, tracks and geometric figures." So begins Robert Hatt's introduction to this little booklet describing the only

primitive rock drawings in Michigan.

Carved 100—perhaps 200—years ago by unknown Indians, these petroglyphs lie almost forgotten except for the attentions of a few professional and amateur archeologists.

The Cranbrook Institute of Science has done a good turn by publishing this fine account of all that is known about them.

This short (45-page) booklet—officially known as "Bulletin Number Thirty-six"—is richly illustrated with pictures and drawings of the rock and maps pinpointing its location.

Some of the photographs, taken with lights at night, the better to bring out the shapes of the carvings, would be of interest to serious photographers for their own sake.

Robert Hatt, director of the Cranbrook Institute of Science, is a rare individual: a scientific scholar who is also a brilliant writer. He has written a fine introduction to the booklet and, of course, directed its publication.

It is to be hoped that his bulletin will call attention to the fact that the rock and its unusual carvings lies unprotected in a privately owned field.

While most states have laws and agencies to protect such historic items as the rock at Sanilac, our own state of Michigan has no legal or administrative machinery to save this unique heritage. It is difficult for people to become aroused to action for the sake of a stone, but let us hope that through Cranbrook's efforts something may be done to preserve this one.

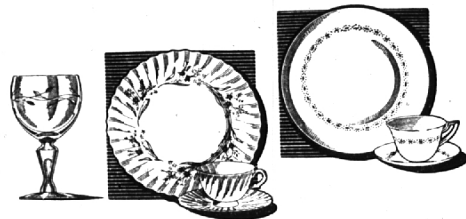
Peck in Washington

Navy Lt. Paul A. Peck, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Peck of Hanna street, Birmingham, is serving in the Production Division of the Bureau of Aeronautics in Washington, D. C.

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