

THE KEY REPORTER

THE PHI BETA KAPPA NEWS MAGAZINE

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SUMMER • 1949

International Universities, Textbook Screening Proposed

Establishment of international universities in Europe and creation of an international commission to eliminate nationalist prejudice and bias from history textbooks were proposed by delegates to the first World Conference on Comparative Education, held in Germany in April. The convention, concerned with common world education problems, gave particular attention to the needs of educational reconstruction in Germany.

A minimum of three institutions to be supported by nations of the world was urged by the 200 educators from 12 Western European countries meeting at Rasthaus on Chiem See.

Christian Paulmann, education minister for Bremen, revealed that the site has been chosen and actual plans laid for the first international university. To be located in Bremen, the institution will occupy a plant now used by the United States Army of Occupation and will not be in operation for another year. Bremen has allocated 300,000 marks and pledged partial support for maintenance of the university, with full expenses to be provided by foundations and voluntary groups.

Aid to Peace and Unity

The educators conceived the establishment of the international institutions as an aid to democratic unity and world peace. Professors and students would be drawn from the upper two classes of existing undergraduate colleges in Europe and the United States. It is hoped that participation in the new universities would come to be regarded as the highest academic honor attainable by professors and students.

A core of subjects of common interest to all countries would constitute curricula — international law and traffic, communication, financial, cultural and economic problems.

German educators were particularly

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Department of State Reviews American Efforts To Establish Cultural Exchange with USSR

Efforts to implement cultural exchange between the United States and the Soviet Union have been increasingly opposed and blocked by the USSR, according to a survey released in April by the Department of State.

"Whether U.S. efforts were aimed at establishing an exchange of students, professors, and artists, or books, research findings, and films, the results were the same. The uncooperative attitude, the lack of interest, the interminable delay or absence of replies by the Soviet Government thwarted American attempts at establishing cultural relations between the two wartime Allies. Furthermore, since the middle of 1947 the Soviet Government has embarked upon a campaign to place every sort of legal obstacle (backed by threat of heavy punishment) in the way of contacts between the Russian people and foreigners and to instill in the Russian people the belief

that cultural relations with Americans and other outsiders carry a threat to the well-being of the Soviet state," states the survey.

A brief review of American technical and material aid to the Soviet Union, exclusive of Lend-Lease, is given, and a detailed account is rendered of American efforts since 1943 to facilitate cultural exchange of persons and publications with the Soviet Union. The offers of the University of Texas, Amherst College, and Columbia University to provide tuition scholarships for Russian students, the request of the American Council of Learned Societies to send ten or twelve professors and research workers to the USSR, the invitations of Princeton University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to initiate exchange of scientific personnel, the invitation of Cornell University for four Soviet students to do graduate work and teach Russian, in addition to numerous overtures for exchange by private citizens as well as by the United States Government officially, are described in the survey as having been treated by the USSR with silence, incomplete response, or evasion. Similar attempts by music, dance, and art groups are shown to have failed.

Soviet Policy

The pamphlet outlines the evolving of Soviet policy on cultural exchange from one of passivity to active rejection of the principle of cultural exchange. A few Americans have been granted entrance to the Soviet Union in recent years, but their number is negligible in comparison to the large number refused. The survey states:

"Despite the postwar efforts of the United States Government to widen the channels of cultural interchange, the Soviet Government persistently pursued an obdurate policy. First the resistance was of a passive nature, delayed replies, incomplete replies,

[Continued on page 2]

Charter of Delta of Ohio . . .



. . . is found just before celebration of golden anniversary. Inspecting it are Paul V. Kreider, who retired on May 4 as president of the Cincinnati chapter, and Patricia Blasdel, recent Cincinnati initiate. *[For story, see page 3.]*

Directors Elect 16 Members of Phi Beta Kappa Associates

The Board of Directors of the Phi Beta Kappa Associates has recently elected 16 new Regular Members of the Associates, according to an announcement made by Thomas C. Desmond, president. Those chosen are:

Homer Price Rainey, of Columbia, Missouri, Phi Beta Kappa University of Texas, president of Stephens College, formerly president of the University of Texas.

Sylvia Field Porter, of New York, New York, Phi Beta Kappa Hunter College, financial editor and columnist of the *New York Post*, authority on United States government finance.

John Calvin Naylor, of Webster Groves, Missouri, Phi Beta Kappa University of Missouri, business executive, vice-president of Pet Milk Company, author, lecturer on accounting and financial subjects.

Clarence Belden Randall, of Winnetka, Illinois, Phi Beta Kappa Harvard University, president of Inland Steel Company, trustee of the University of Chicago and Wellesley College.

Stellanova Osborn, of Poulan, Worth County, Georgia, Phi Beta Kappa University of Michigan, poet, author of *Eighty and On* and *A Tale of Possum Poke in Possum Lane*, co-author of several works with Chase S. Osborn, including *Schoolcraft-Longfellow-Hiawatha*.

Thomas Clark Pollock, of New York, New York, Phi Beta Kappa Ohio State University, professor of English and dean of the Washington Square College of Arts and Science, New York University.

Marvin Pierce, of Rye, New York, Phi Beta Kappa Miami University, corporation official, president of McCall Corporation.

Iva Lowther Peters, of Fishkill, New York, Phi Beta Kappa Syracuse University, specialist in personal and voca-

tional rehabilitation work with adults, the problems of old age, and the occupational status of women.

Albert Gordon Redpath, of New York, New York, Phi Beta Kappa Columbia University, banker, partner in the firm of Auchinloss, Parker and Redpath, president of the Columbia chapter of Phi Beta Kappa.

Grace Lee Nute, of Saint Paul, Minnesota, Phi Beta Kappa Smith College, educator, author, professor of Minnesota history, Hamline University.

Frederic Austin Ogg, of Madison, Wisconsin, Phi Beta Kappa DePauw University, author, editor, emeritus professor of political science, University of Wisconsin, editor of *American Political Science Review*.

Mina S. Rees, of Alexandria, Virginia, Phi Beta Kappa Hunter College, mathematician, head of the Mathematics Section, Office of Naval Research, member of the Hunter College faculty, 1926-1943.

Abit Nix, of Athens, Georgia, Phi Beta Kappa University of Georgia, member of the law firm of Erwin, Nix & Birchmore.

Frederick William Pickard, of Greenville, Delaware, Phi Beta Kappa Bowdoin College, director of E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company, trustee of Bowdoin College.

Edward Grosvenor Plowman, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Phi Beta Kappa Dartmouth College, vice-president in charge of traffic, United States Steel Corporation of Delaware.

Alva Washington Plyler, of Greensboro, North Carolina, Phi Beta Kappa Duke University, clergyman, editor of the *North Carolina Christian Advocate* from 1921-1946.

During recent months Eugene Meyer, Lincoln Filene, John M. Hancock, Charles A. Tonsor, Owen D. Young, Joseph E. Goodbar, Arthur T. Vanderbilt, and Edgar B. Stern have transferred from Regular to Life Membership in the Associates.

Desmond Succeeds Graves

Thomas C. Desmond, New York state senator and president of the Phi Beta Kappa Associates, has succeeded Frank P. Graves as a member of the Phi Beta Kappa Senate. Dr. Graves, whose resignation was forced by ill health, had been a senator since 1928 and served as president of the United Chapters from 1937-1940. New York state commissioner of education from 1921-1940, Dr. Graves entered Albany Law School after his retirement and in 1943 received his law degree at the age of 74.

Action on Dr. Graves' resignation and Mr. Desmond's election was taken by mail vote of the senators in April.

Soviet

[Continued from page 1]

failures to reply. Then after the summer of 1947, rejections became more definite, based upon positive although specious reasons such as overcrowded housing conditions and psychological fears allegedly incited by the U.S. Alien Registration Act. Finally, in 1948, the Soviet Government took the open position of refusal to participate in cultural interchange with the United States because of suspicions that American motives behind the program were aimed at undermining Soviet security.

"Concomitant with the increasingly vehement opposition to cultural interchange has been the increasing emphasis upon Soviet priorities and Soviet superiority in the realm of the arts and sciences. The mounting tight control exercised over Soviet artists and scientists, and the increasing attack upon those who maintained contacts with fellow specialists in the free world have also poisoned the atmosphere and inhibited Soviet intellectuals."

Address Changes

In notifying Phi Beta Kappa of a change of residence, members are reminded that, whenever they are not able to indicate this change on a KEY REPORTER wrapper, they should send not only their new address but the one to which their Phi Beta Kappa mail was previously sent. This information should be directed to Phi Beta Kappa, 415 First Avenue, New York 10, New York.

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Council Announces Results of College Admissions Study

The American Council on Education has recently announced the results of a college admissions study made by an ACE committee headed by Floyd W. Reeves, professor of administration at the University of Chicago. Basic data for the study was gathered by Elmo Roper and financing was by grant from the Anti-Defamation League and the Vocational Service Bureau of B'nai B'rith.

The results of the survey do not substantiate the charges frequently made of the extent to which college admissions committees practice religious discrimination. That there is some religious discrimination is adequately borne out by the study.

The survey was undertaken to ascertain the facts which determine acceptance or rejection of college applications and to investigate the current demand for college education. In May 1947 Mr. Roper's public opinion organization interviewed 15,000 high school students selected at random from 255 high schools to learn their desires and plans for college application. The following autumn each applicant was interviewed again to discover the results of his attempts to enter college.

Catholics Fare Worst

Statistically, Catholic students fared worst as applicants, with 81 per cent being admitted. Of the Jewish students 87 per cent were admitted, and 88 per cent of the Protestants.

However, only 67 per cent of the Jewish students were accepted by the college of their first choice, as compared with 71 per cent of the Catholics and 82 per cent of the Protestants.

Chances of acceptance were shown to be better for girls than boys and for students living in other sections of the country than the Northeast. Superior students (those in the first quintile of their classes) were 92 per cent successful in gaining admission. Private non-sectarian, coeducational institutions with enrollment over 1,050 were favored by applicants.

More Jewish Applications

The ACE stated, "Evidently Jewish applicants were nearly as successful as Protestants — and more so than Catholics — in gaining admission to *some* college, and this despite the fact that 68 per cent of all Jewish high school seniors made application, as compared

with a national average of 35 per cent, and that they predominantly lived in the Northeast where getting into college was hardest for everybody. Their success is clearly to be explained by their determination — as expressed by their outstandingly high average number of applications, 2.2 per individual. But this determination, while it got Jewish students into *some* college, did not get them into those they preferred. . . . As a matter of fact the study, by complex analysis, is able to identify the type of institution most resistant to applications from Jewish students. This is the privately-controlled college not located in the home town of the applicant, especially the small northeastern college for men or women only. Another striking — and particularly disturbing — finding is that the Jewish applicants who have the hardest sledding are those who offer what in the national sample as a whole makes for high acceptability: those from the first high school quintile, who are children of college-bred professional men or executives."

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Delta of Ohio Celebrates Golden Anniversary in May

Lost for years, the original charter establishing the Phi Beta Kappa chapter at the University of Cincinnati, the Delta of Ohio, was found almost on the eve of a celebration marking its issuance 50 years ago.

The golden anniversary celebration was a dinner for active and alumni members of the Cincinnati chapter on May 4, when Allan Nevins, DeWitt Clinton professor of American history, Columbia University, spoke on "Fifty Years of It."

The charter turned up during a housecleaning of the university's observatory, located in suburban Mt. Lookout, about eight miles from the campus. It was discovered there by Paul Herget, director of the observatory, who wasn't sure just what the charter was doing at the observatory. However, listed among those who petitioned for a chapter at Cincinnati is Jermain G. Porter, director of the observatory when the charter was issued.

Dr. Porter's name is carried on the document, as are the names of other distinguished Cincinnatians, all members of Phi Beta Kappa at other colleges who petitioned for the chapter.

Japan Association Hears Raymond Walters in Tokyo

Phi Beta Kappa Association of Japan heard an address by Raymond Walters, president of the University of Cincinnati and Phi Beta Kappa senator, in March. President Walters returned in April from Japan where he spent three months as adviser to the Education Division, Civil Information and Education Section, General Headquarters.

Speaking on liberal education as the foundation for citizenship, President Walters stressed the role which liberal education can play in developing public-spirited citizens of broad interests and the significance of that role in Japan today.

President Walters, whose trip was also sponsored by the Japanese Ministry of Education, lectured during his stay in Japan on university administration and teaching at conferences of 140 Japanese universities in Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, and Hiroshima. Changes in the Japanese university system have resulted: a four-year curriculum has been substituted for the three-year German system previously followed, a general education program including the physical and social sciences and the humanities, has been instituted, and a student guidance program headed by deans of men and women has been organized. President Walters also had interviews with Douglas MacArthur and Hirohito.

The Tokyo group, which meets monthly, has an active membership of approximately 50 — half of whom are personnel in the occupation forces, the other half Japanese residents.

Emerson Chapin, American secretary of the group, in writing to the United Chapters of the Japan Association's activities, said, "The growing interest which is being shown in the group's activities is a tribute particularly to Lt. Col. Hubert G. Schenck, chief of the Natural Resources Section, GHQ, who fostered the reorganization in 1946, and to Mr. Yoshio Ichikawa, manager of the Foreign Department of the Oji Paper Company, a driving force in the pre-war Phi Beta Kappa group in Tokyo. Mr. Ichikawa preserved through the war years the records which made it possible to reconstitute the group. This subjected him to considerable hazard from the Japanese police, who were not exactly sure what Phi Beta Kappa was, but entertained strong suspicions about it."

A Poetic Achievement

COLLECTED POEMS OF WILLIAM EMPSON. *New York: Harcourt, Brace. \$2.50.*

It is almost inevitable that a review of William Empson's poetry appearing within a few months of publication should begin with a confession — an admission that the reviewer has not waited to master these poems before venturing to write of them; for particular poems he has not waited even for primary understanding. Admissions of this sort, however, too often suggest that the obscurity or difficulty is a fault and that the burden of the fault is upon the poet. Here there must be no doubt. In Mr. Empson's "evasive" and "clotted" poems there is not a line of willful obscurity, nor a line whose difficulty is attributable to idiosyncrasy of vocabulary or structure. His position is unequivocal here: "It seems to me that there has been an unfortunate suggestion of writing for a clique about a good deal of recent poetry." The extensive notes he supplies (despite serious misgivings) for his own poems confirm his opposition to obscurantism, his humility. This is a poet who writes, "It is impertinent to expect hard work from the reader merely because you have failed to show what you were comparing to what."

Mr. Empson's aim is to illumine, his linguistic resources are unexampled, and his notes are always helpful. And yet, though it is possible to overemphasize it, the hardness and the difficulty remain. The fault is not the poet's.

Partly the difficulty is the fault of all of us and none of us: "There is no longer a reasonably small field which may be taken as general knowledge." Community between artist and audience no longer exists where there is no common store.

Partly the difficulty arises from the good and ill luck that these poems are distillation from one of the most wide-ranging and subtle minds of our time. Mr. Empson, mathematician and mystic, is at home in "non-Euclidian space" ["Letter V," note]; he is the first of our poets to live in such terms of familiarity with the new science that he can use the protection of the "wide Heavyside layer" ["Doctrinal Point"] or arrive at his moral through "allegorising Eddington" ["Letter IV," note]. But Anita Loos and Argentina and

Douglas Fairbanks and Mrs. Eddy are also here. (Comparison with the mathematician-poet who created the world of Alice is perhaps inescapable but only superficially rewarding.) Mr. Empson, out of his prodigious knowledge of literature and out of his absorption in metaphor, is also in his time the acknowledged first reader of the poem as poem, the kind of reader for whom Mr. Empson must write.

Partly the difficulty stems from Mr. Empson's conception of the nature and function of poetry:

The poles define the surface and it rolls
Between their warring virtues; the spry arts
Can keep a steady hold on the controls
By seeming to evade.
— "Your Teeth Are Ivory Towers"

This kind of poetry does not employ the "direct yell" which would allow "no scope for trickwork":

He who tries
Talk must always plot and then sustain,
Talk to himself until the star replies . . .
— "Your Teeth Are Ivory Towers"

He is more congenial with Yeats who

. . . does not send
Any advice so far below.
— "Autumn on Nan-Yueh"

than with the poets who think that "things have got to tend" ["Just a Smack at Auden"]. He employs rather the ambiguities and the exactness of the metaphor (including the pun), not alone because he believes the poet must, but because for a mind like Empson's all certainties are too easy and too false. The complexity, relativity, and indeterminacy of truth are deeply felt.

Yet Mr. Empson is not a poet without beliefs. He would choose anarchy and uncertainty rather than some of the forms of order and certainty that are promised us. He is without despair, although he realizes that "verse likes despair" ["Success"]; but his serenity and detachment, for which he is called sage, derive not from the absence of passion, of fear and terror, but from its control.

The fifty-four poems in this volume, all that he has published, are among the most solidly won achievements in the arts of this century. The revelations they offer do not wait upon the *definitive reading*; rather their delight lies in their power eternally to invite and evade.

MARC FRIEDLAENDER, Shakespearean authority, is professor of English at the Woman's College, University of North Carolina. For several years he has been chairman of the annual Arts Forum at Woman's College.

Recommended Reading

Philosophy, Religion and Education

Alain L. Locke

A DREAMER'S JOURNEY. By Morris R. Cohen. *Boston: Beacon. \$4.*

Though technically an autobiography, the story of the triumphant unfolding of the life of reason in Morris Cohen from a ghetto boyhood in Minsk through an American adolescence at City College, an early manhood at Harvard to a final pre-eminence as a philosopher and teacher of philosophy in City College and at large, is a unique philosophical document, vindicating philosophy at its characteristic best in a democratic American setting.

STUDIES IN PHILOSOPHY AND SCIENCE. By Morris R. Cohen. *New York: Henry Holt. \$4.50.*

A well-integrated collection of the best thinking of one of America's outstanding philosophers, relating his contributions in philosophy, the philosophy of science, and his philosophy of society and law.

ESSAYS IN SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY. By Alfred North Whitehead. *New York: Philosophical Library. \$4.75.*

For the layman, undoubtedly the best systematic condensation of the many-sided philosophical genius of Whitehead. Fortunately, too, a selection acceptable to the professional student.

THESE ALSO BELIEVE. By Charles S. Braden. *New York: Macmillan. \$6.*

Itself sub-titled correctly as "A Study of Modern American Cults and Minority Religious Movements," this objective but not unsympathetic presentation of the ever-growing cult developments in American religious life deserves the attention of all students of contemporary religion.

Literary History and Criticism

G. Armour Craig

THE LETTERS OF EDGAR ALLAN POE. Edited by John Ward Ostrom. *Cambridge: Harvard University. \$10.*

The definitive edition of Poe's letters, with a check-list of all his known or implied correspondence and bibliographical notes. A work which no American literature collection should lack.

CRITIQUES AND ESSAYS IN CRITICISM 1920-1948. Edited by Robert Wooster Stallman. *New York: Ronald Press. \$5.*

A collection of essays representing what the textbooks are already calling the "new criticism." The full bibliography of "modern" critical articles and books suggests the range of the movement, and the essays themselves show its concern with central problems of literary art.

POETS AND STORY-TELLERS: A BOOK OF CRITICAL ESSAYS. By David Cecil. *New York: Macmillan. \$4.*

Although he discusses a variety of forms, Lord Cecil is at his best on the novel and ranges here with great relish and appreciation from Fanny Burney and Jane Austen to E. M. Forster and Virginia Woolf.

T. S. ELIOT: THE DESIGN OF HIS POETRY. By Elizabeth Drew. *New York: Scribner's. \$3.*

The first comprehensive elucidation of the most influential and perhaps the most difficult modern poet. The detailed interpretations of particular poems are carried out in the framework of a general analogy between certain key concepts of Jung and certain recurring symbols of the poetry. This is certainly the best work on Eliot yet to appear.

HISTORY OF EARLY RUSSIAN LITERATURE. By N. K. Gudzy. *New York: Macmillan. \$10.*

A survey of Russian literature from the 11th to the 18th century. Though it stops short of the period most familiar to American readers, the study is an illuminating example of contemporary Russian scholarship, which, at least in literature, is surprisingly conservative.

VOYAGES TO THE MOON. By Marjorie Hope Nicolson. *New York: Macmillan. \$4.*

The literature of the lunar flight and cosmic voyage, from Lucian to Superman, is here described with great charm and learning. Professor Nicolson also shows the relation of these themes of "sub-literature" to the history of literature and philosophy and thus expands our conception of both.

THEORY OF LITERATURE. By Rene Wellek and Austin Warren. *New York: Harcourt, Brace. \$4.50.*

An immensely learned but lively answer to the question: What does the professional student of literature do? The answer is that he unites the functions of the aesthetician, the critic, and the historian, and this study describes some of the routes to this desirable union. On the basis of their survey the authors in their last chapter take a critical look at the study of literature in graduate school.

THE THEORY OF AMERICAN LITERATURE. By Howard Mumford Jones. *Ithaca: Cornell University. \$2.75.*

Mr. Jones surveys American literary scholarship and asks for a concern with our literature wider than that which he finds practiced by contemporary critics.

PIERRE, OR THE AMBIGUITIES. By Herman Melville. Edited by Henry A. Murray. *New York: Hendricks House-Farrar, Straus. \$5.*

The third published volume of a project to re-edit Melville completely. As a professional psychologist the present editor brings to bear some useful analysis upon this perplexing novel.

Social Sciences

Eric F. Goldman

THEIR FINEST HOUR. By Winston Churchill. *Boston: Houghton Mifflin. \$6.*

The second volume of Churchill's magnificent account of World War II, covering the last eight months of 1940 when France fell, the RAF saved England, and the first glimmer of success appeared in North Africa.

THERE'S FREEDOM FOR THE BRAVE. By Paul McGuire. *New York: William Morrow. \$4.*

An appeal for the restoration of a "moral consensus" among men as the solution to the problem of world order, written with a sure sense of history, brilliant insight, and compelling eloquence.

TRIAL AND ERROR. *The autobiography of Chaim Weizmann.* *New York: Harper. \$5.*

At once an autobiography of rare discernment and charm and the best existing account of the Zionist movement.

UPON THIS CONTINENT. By Abel Plenn. *New York: Creative Age. \$3.50.*

A rich, exciting rewriting of the history of the United States, presented by an adroit mingling of the author's commentary with actual historical documents.

Natural Sciences

Kirtley F. Mather

FEAR, WAR AND THE BOMB. By P. M. S. Blackett. *New York: Whittlesey. \$3.50.*

A very "controversial" book in which a top-flight British physicist develops the astonishing thesis that a few dozen atomic bombs "are likely to be of little military significance if used for mass destruction in a war between two major powers." Even if one does not agree with Professor Blackett's political ideas, it is quite worth while to read his critique of the negotiations directed toward international control of atomic weapons.

IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES AND WORLD ORDER. Edited by F. S. C. Northrop. *New Haven: Yale University. \$4.50.*

These studies in the philosophy and science of the world's culture comprise twenty-one essays that present a broad and profound analysis of the ideological differences standing in the way of progress toward world order. Each of the authors is well-qualified to treat the culture upon which he writes. For all persons who have confidence in the processes of education and persuasion, the information and ideas that they present will prove both an inspiration and a directive for action.

NUTRITION AND THE SOIL. By Lionel James Picton. *New York: Devin-Adair. \$4.*

Modern medical science is coming more and more to accept as its primary goal the prevention of ill-health rather than the curing of disease. Dietetics is one of the most important aspects of this modern campaign for health. In this truly fascinating and highly informative book, one of the outstanding English physicians of our time stresses the relation between the soil in which crops are grown and the nutritive value of the food derived from those crops. Rich in practical suggestions, it is a significant contribution to the solution of the ever-present problems of human sustenance and well-being.

Poetry, Drama, and the Fine Arts

Marc Friedlaender

BUILDING FOR MODERN MAN. Edited by Thomas H. Creighton. *Princeton: Princeton University. \$3.50.*

A symposium participated in by the architects, planners, and critics who attended a conference on "Planning Man's Physical Environment" held in the unlikely collegiate-Gothic air of Princeton, and consisting of statements read at the conference, of *ex tempore* remarks later reduced to writing, and of statements prepared after the conference and growing out of it. Animating the whole discussion, which shows a wholesome blend of the theoretical and the practical and which arrives at more of a synthesis than is usually achieved on such occasions, is the view that the physiological and psychological needs of man should determine the forms in which architecture and planning find their aesthetic, that architecture's function is to provide the means for the attainment of the objectives which our knowledge and beliefs name as socially desirable and humane, that good architecture and planning involve the application of knowledge from all the arts and sciences and thus peculiarly require wholeness of vision. The more important statements are those of Henry S. Churchill, Carlos Contreras, Siegfried Giedion, Walter Gropius, George Howe, and Roland A. Wank. Others making statements include Robert Moses, Richard Neutra, and Frank Lloyd Wright. Strangely absent is Lewis Mumford, who has said so much of what is said here and towards whose position and that of his master, Geddes, so many of the participants seemed to be groping.

THE ART MUSEUM IN AMERICA. By Walter Pach. *New York: Pantheon. \$6.*

The valuable core of this book is a history of the collecting of art objects in the United States that reveals the author's broad learning and experience in the field. His book makes available for the first time in any single work authoritative appraisals of the holdings of American collections representative of the great schools and periods and of the several media. The survey of the collections of all museums of consequence with notes on the particularities of each is a general guide of great usefulness. The sixty-two plates illustrate the range and quality of the accumulated treasure. The approach is conventional and the observations not very penetrating in those sections which venture beyond history into the philosophy, implications, and influence of the museum.

THE CLOUDS, ANGELTINGER, RUSSIA, AND OTHER VERSE. By William Carlos Williams. *Wells College Press and Cummington Press. \$5.* THE SELECTED POEMS OF WILLIAM CARLOS WILLIAMS. *New York: New Directions. \$1.50.*

Two volumes of the shorter poems of one of our best poets. The first is a splendidly printed limited edition of sixty-one recent lyrics, new in book form. The second, which contains a perceptive essay of interpretation and appraisal by Randall Jarrell, is a selection made principally from the published volumes by Williams. Both reveal the characteristic sharp observations and the generous humanity applied to teeming and various life that delight and enlighten.

AMERICAN FOLK SCULPTURE IN WOOD, METAL, AND STONE. By Jean Lipman. *New York: Pantheon. \$7.50.*

An altogether delightful account of the development of an American idiom, relatively free of traditional art influences, by the craftsman-sculptors of the 18th and 19th centuries, written with enthusiasm and authority. Like the author's earlier *American Primitive Painting*, this volume contains a rich store of background material that should interest the amateur or the scholar working in any part of the American past. The 183 illustrations of ship figureheads, weathervanes, cigar-store figures, circus wagons, decoys, and the like are admirably chosen and well reproduced.

REMBRANDT. By Jakob Rosenberg. *Cambridge: Harvard University. 2 vols., \$18.50.*

A superb example of humanistic scholarship carried on for more than twenty years and brought to splendid culmination both in manner of expression and in the mechanics of presentation. The unorthodox method followed in the organization of the text and in the arrangement of the plates provides the opportunity for the consideration and analysis of each work by itself and in rewarding relationship with other works which presented comparable problems to the artist. A sense of the range of the artist's mind and of his resources is thus secured. Professor Rosenberg's point of view is catholic, his scholarship impeccable. The 281 plates, a few of works by Rembrandt's contemporaries, are beautifully reproduced. The complete scholarly apparatus includes a concordance of all the attributed paintings with indication of Professor Rosenberg's judgment as to authenticity. A rewarding book for the general reader, an essential book for the specialist.

PARABLES FOR THE THEATRE. By Bertolt Brecht. *English version by Eric and Maja Bentley. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota. \$3.50.*

Two uncommonly interesting plays, *The Good Woman of Setzuan* and *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, here printed for the first time in any language. Eric Bentley here undertakes to demonstrate what he maintained so persuasively in *The Playwright as Thinker* — that Brecht is a major literary figure of our time. Yet Brecht has been relatively unknown in the United States. Only two of his plays have been produced professionally here, and those by experimental groups and for a limited audience. Bentley would show, however, that Brecht writes for the theatre and that Brecht has much to teach our theatre. He belongs to the non-realistic tradition and seems to have been influenced by the Chinese theatre in more than choice of subject. Unlike most of the present literary greats, he is of the Left. He writes with wit and tenderness as well as power. Those interested in the modern theatre have here available for study enough of Brecht's recent work to allow appraisal and contemplation of his meaning and methods.

WAR, POLITICS, and INSANITY

By C. S. Bluemel, M.A., M.D.

Here the psychiatrist looks at the politician and records his observations both for the layman and the scholar.

"The author throws a penetrating light on the psychiatry of history." — *Springfield Republican.*

"A critical evaluation of leadership." — *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science.*

"Brilliant psychiatric analyses." — *Hartford Daily Courant.*


"Written for the layman in simple fashion." — *Rhode Island Medical Journal.*

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Phi Beta Kappa: Its Proper Function

To the Editor:

Dorothy Canfield Fisher has been good enough to refer [THE KEY REPORTER, Vol. XIII, No. 4] to a communication of mine previously published in "They Say . . ." regarding an extension of Phi Beta Kappa's somewhat limited function of fostering scholarship to include many additional activities that would logically flow from a broader interpretation of that function.

We live in a world that is as far removed from the relatively static one that saw the birth of Phi Beta Kappa as one could well imagine. We are no longer a struggling, colonial people, but the greatest world force seeking to protect the freedoms of the common man. We wrestle with enormously complex internal and foreign problems, on the successful solution of which the continuation of our civilization depends. Realizing this, it seems to be no longer adequate that our membership should be content that "scholarship," narrowly interpreted, is not merely the core of our Society's purpose (as it ought logically to be), but the whole apple.

Mrs. Fisher has cited, as an example of what the present-day role of Phi Beta Kappa's scholarship might be in many other fields, the brilliant work done by Robert Hutchins, Borgese and their able associates who have addressed themselves with magnificent courage to the key problem that has faced humanity since historical times — the problem of how to transfer government and human association from a provincial to an international plane, so that the best in civilization as we know it may be preserved and projected with increasing effectiveness into the future. It is perhaps significant that all ten of the Chicago committee's members were also, if I am not mistaken, members of Phi Beta Kappa, which gives us not only a legitimate pride in their pioneer accomplishment, but indicates what Phi Beta Kappa's members, if suitably organized, might achieve in many other spheres.

It seems to me that the fundamental difficulty in the way of a constructive reorientation of Phi Beta Kappa is that its present organization tends to result in apathy and a paralysis of initiative that are inhibiting what should be a normal development of its function. We need some "grass roots" action — work that should take on a progressively larger significance and scope as it extends to our national scene.

There is no essential contradiction, as I see it, between a deep interest in scholarship as generally applied to the learning and literature of the past, and in the compelling and absorbing problems of our present age, which, full of significance for the future, are either a threat or an opportunity — depending upon what our thoughtful contemporaries do about them. We ourselves stand on the shoulders of the past and can only approach the problems of the future by an intelligent application of its wisdom, tempered by a common-sense utilization of the experience of our own generation.

I would suggest that, as a start to a more dynamic approach to its present-day responsibilities, our Society, instead of waiting for local groups to organize, try to reverse the process by stimulating their formation through direct action from headquarters. This would entail, first, the compilation of lists, biennially or at frequent intervals, of all members of Phi Beta Kappa at home and abroad (for much good might come from collaboration between our many members who live in foreign countries), giving basic information regarding their residence, college, class, and profession, and if possible such data about

They Say . . .

their activities and chief interests as they might care to supply. Such lists would of course be arranged geographically as well as alphabetically in order to enable members to know who are their fellow Phi Beta Kappa members in their own communities and regions. It would also entail the sending of a letter from headquarters to every member explaining the many opportunities that exist for fruitful collaboration not only in members' primary function of scholarship as currently conceived, but also as interpreted in a broader sense to include citizenship, and urging that they confer with nearby colleagues with a view to setting up many new alumni associations. If within a reasonable period of time groups did not of themselves come forward to request a charter, our Society should not be backward in taking the initiative again to invite three or four likely persons in each city or district to undertake to form such a group.

If this were done on a continental scale, we should soon double or triple the number of Phi Beta Kappa associations throughout the country, and, depending upon the character and predominant interests of their members, they might become important influences in dealing with such matters of good citizenship as local and state educational problems, regional schools, adult education, inter-group and inter-faith cooperation, Americanization programs, civil rights, extension of library facilities, modern municipal government, state charter revision, encouragement of fair employment practices, labor-management relations, better district and state boards of education, juvenile delinquency, adequate recreational and public health facilities — or even the organization of a local symphony orchestra or the abatement of a smoke nuisance. The matters that might engage our groups' attention would be limited only by the character and interests of their members. In order to prevent Phi Beta Kappa from becoming indirectly or otherwise engaged in politics, all such activities would have to be conducted on a completely non-partisan basis. At least one national organization — the League of Women Voters — succeeds in doing precisely that.

These "grass roots" interests would be invaluable in training the younger men and women as eventual leaders to deal with Phi Beta Kappa's larger, national responsibilities as well as with such adventures in high scholarship in the international field as the enormously important studies of the Committee to Frame a World Constitution, to which Mrs. Fisher has referred. In time, as our membership, over 110,000 strong, embraces these larger opportunities for service, Phi Beta Kappa might become a really vital force in our generation.

STUART E. GRUMMON
REDDING, CONNECTICUT

White and Zionism

To the Editor:

In his review of Walter White's autobiography [THE KEY REPORTER, Vol. XIV, No. 1], Eric F. Goldman argues that Mr. White's pro-partition activity was inconsistent with his principles. I, for one, feel that the reviewer has not represented Mr. White's views adequately; furthermore, neither Mr. White nor Dr. Goldman has done justice to the position of Zionism.

Dr. Goldman writes, for example, of Mr. White's "indignation" at Zionism, but I failed

to find any substantiation of this in *A Man Called White*. The only paragraph specifically mentioning Zionism (and a good summary of Mr. White's stand) reads as follows: "In my own opinion both the wisdom and the practicability of partition were doubtful. But no other solution had been devised or discussed. I did not like the self-segregation of Zionism, nor did I approve of the attitude of many Jews who had made it a sacred cult. But I reluctantly supported partition only because Palestine seemed the only haven anywhere in the world for nearly one million Jews of Europe" [*A Man Called White*, p. 353].

It appears that "self-segregation" is the key to both Mr. White's and Dr. Goldman's dislike of Zionism. Though the term is ambiguous, their position is untenable according to any definition.

First, it surely cannot be alleged that Zionists advocate the kind of segregation practiced in the South and would like to transplant this custom to Palestine. Incidentally, the anecdotes related by Mr. White, and alluded to in the review, are irrelevant to an evaluation of Zionism. To exhibit films promoting race hatred, or to bar Negroes from certain residences, is deprecable — but surely these activities are not confined to Zionists or their sympathizers.

The reviewer asks, ". . . How can the self-segregation of Zionism advance humanitarian ends?" If survival (individual and group) is included among those ends, the answer is obvious.

Advocacy of Zionism has been on two levels. On the first, the movement is a *pis aller*: Palestine is the only place where Jewish refugees can be resettled, the only place where the majority wish to go.

On another level are found those who believe that settlement in the Holy Land is essential to the survival of Judaism and to the renaissance of Jewish culture. They recall the words of the prophet Isaiah: "For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem."

Presumably Dr. Goldman disagrees with the latter argument, for the stark reality of the first is only too painfully evident. If so, "self-segregation" is being used in a very curious way! For under this concept would have to be included all nationalisms, cultures, and religions.

Zionists, moreover, do not contemplate isolating the new state in Tibetan fashion. Quite the contrary: active cooperation with neighboring states, and indeed with the entire world, is envisaged. I do not think it presumptuous to assert that the establishment of the state of Israel will appear in perspective to have been a great blessing not only to Jews, but to all mankind.

BENJAMIN KLEBANER
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

Federal Aid to Education

To the Editor:

That Dorothy D. Busiek [THE KEY REPORTER, Vol. XIV, No. 1] had "no mental grasp whatsoever of Mary Edna Mahan's letter" [Vol. XIII, No. 3] was so evident from the rest of Mrs. Busiek's letter that her introductory statement was redundant to say the least. Unfortunately, Mrs. Busiek's confusion of mind over the problem of federal aid to Roman Catholic education is a not uncommon mental state of many well-meaning Americans.

I have taken the liberty, therefore, of quoting some of Mrs. Busiek's confusions and have attempted to present as briefly as possible the Catholic position on the problem.

"Since Catholic children are welcomed in our public schools, parochial schools are a matter

of choice, not of necessity, and the public is not responsible for this choice," Mrs. Busiek said. I refer her to the report of the President's Commission on Higher Education regarding discrimination in American education, or to Stephen S. Wise's article in the Winter 1948-9 issue of the REPORTER, in which he points out that the commission found that discrimination affects "Catholics, Puerto Ricans, Mexicans, Latin-Americans, Italians, and Orientals," in addition to Negroes and Jews. Catholic children do not *always* find themselves *welcomed* in public schools; and many a child has to suffer from slurs cast at his religion by textbooks, teachers, and pupils. However, that is a minor "confusion," and I mention it chiefly because it illustrates the too-common practice in American educational circles of making broad, general statements which sometimes stray widely from the truth. The other "confusions" mentioned by Mrs. Busiek help to confuse the real issue.

It is not a question of the *eligibility* of Catholic children to attend the public schools; or of whether the church, built on the authority given by Christ to Peter, is "authoritarian"; or of whether a papal concordat with a totalitarian state to secure freedom for its ministers to carry out their religious work and for people to perform their religious duties makes the church "not hostile" to such totalitarianism; or of whether the Prince of Peace "taught on a mountain top, or on the shore," or in a Jewish synagogue — He was equally effective everywhere.

The whole problem of Catholic education in the United States centers in the education of the Catholic child, here and now, and it is concerned with the education of the *whole* child. Because it is concerned with the whole child and because public education in the United States is concerned only with the material part of the child, the parochial school is a *necessity* and not merely a *matter of choice*. Not only Catholic children, but every child in the United States, is entitled to a *full* education (and I am *not* speaking of education from kindergarten through college but of the education of a complete person at every level). If federal aid is to be given to any type of education it should not be denied to the child who is getting this complete form of education in a non-profit educational institution.

May I explain my statement more fully? Public school education in America today aims to educate the mind and body of the child. It does not attempt to do anything for his soul. In fact, the prevalent psychology, which is taught to most of the teachers of the public schools, denies that the child has a soul; and the philosophy of education dominant in public education likewise ignores the spiritual element in man.

Catholic education is based on Catholic philosophy, which teaches that man is a person composed of a corporeal, mortal body and an immaterial, immortal soul. His body does not go to school five days a week and his soul one; nor can the subject matter taught the child be divided into some subjects for his body and religion for his soul. Catholic education does not consist *merely* in adding religion to the accepted curriculum. Catholic philosophy, as a way of life, permeates all subjects taught in Catholic schools whether they be elementary, secondary, or higher institutions. It is because of this fact that Catholics are not satisfied with "released time" programs for religious instruction or with other devices for carrying on religious instruction outside of the regular school program. It is an integral part of education.

Because of Mrs. Busiek's statements:

Together with its institutions it claims the position of a sovereign state, independent of and superior to all governments — a claim which, however deep one's belief in it, a democracy cannot admit. A compromise results, but the church's ideal still is a Catholic state. To ask public aid for schools naturally devoted to this ideal and aloof from public authority, while anathematizing the public school system, seems unjust.

it is perhaps necessary to repeat the explanation of Christ to Pilate when the latter questioned Him regarding His claims to power, "My kingdom is not of this world." It is not only possible but very simple to teach and practice democratic ideals in a Catholic educational system; in fact, it is perhaps easier there where the full dignity of man is appreciated than in a system where each teacher is free to promulgate, under the guise of "academic freedom," his own particular biases and prejudices.

GREGORY KELLY
MT. ANGEL, OREGON

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International [Continued from page 1]

enthusiastic about the world university proposal. The belief was expressed that implementation of the plan would help to bring new life and spirit to German institutions of higher learning, whose traditions are largely antipathetic to the democratic ideal.

The proposal to rewrite history textbooks was made by Otto Mueller, secondary school director in Frankfort. The purpose in such a careful examination and screening would not be to achieve a uniform interpretation of world history, but rather to remove "hatred, prejudice, and misunderstanding" from European texts. The commission would be financed by voluntary organizations.

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