

THE KEY REPORTER

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WINTER · 1944-45

Congressional Legislation Stresses Vocational Training

LEGISLATION recently introduced in the Congress points to an increasing trend toward vocational education.

A bill (H. R. 5079) was introduced in the House of Representatives on June 21 "to provide vocational training and retraining programs for the occupational adjustment and readjustment of veterans returning from military service, workers demobilized from war-production plants, and for other youth and for adults, that individuals and the nation may attain economic stability and security, and to further extend the program of vocational education."

S. 1946

This bill has been referred to the Committee on Education. It corresponds closely to the bill introduced into the Senate, S. 1946, which is intended to expand technical, semi-technical, and vocational education. John J. Tigert, president of the University of Florida, discussed S. 1946 in the Autumn issue of THE KEY REPORTER.

The House has passed a resolution authorizing the Committee on Education to make a study of the effect of certain war activities on colleges and universities. The committee had not completed its report when the REPORTER went to press.

Other Bills

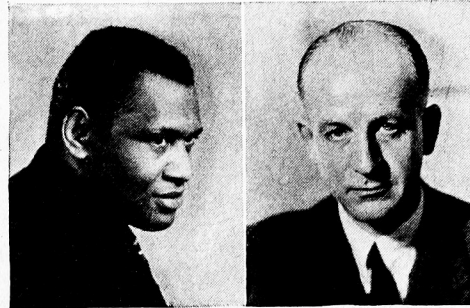
Pending before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor are bills S. 567, concerning federal aid to states in providing more effective kindergarten and nursery school education; S. 939, concerning education of physically handicapped children; S. 1679, providing for the establishment of a college adult education extension program, and S. 1946. The federal aid to education bill, S. 637, is now on the Senate calendar.

Also introduced in the House is a bill "to provide for the promotion of moral, temperance, and character education. . . ." This bill, H. R. 5083, has been referred to the Committee on Education.



DUFFUS

LERNER



ROBESON

WELLES

Board Receives New Members

FOUR new members are joining the Editorial Board of *The American Scholar*. R. L. Duffus, Max Lerner, Paul Robeson, and Sumner Welles were elected to membership at the meeting of the Φ B K Senate, October 27-28.

Duffus, Φ B K Stanford, has been a member of the editorial staff of *The New York Times* since 1937. He is the author of many books.

Max Lerner, Φ B K Yale, has been assistant to the publisher of *PM* since 1943. Former editor of *The Nation*, Lerner is the author of *It is Later Than You Think* and other books.

Paul Robeson, Φ B K Rutgers, is at present playing the title role in the road show of Margaret Webster's *Othello*. Concert singer, actor, and athlete, Robeson has also contributed to many periodicals.

Sumner Welles, undersecretary of state until 1943, has been prominent in American diplomatic affairs since 1915. Welles is Φ B K Harvard.

Wendell Willkie had also accepted a nomination to membership on the Editorial Board before his death in October.

Φ BK Senate Discusses Role of Arts, Sciences

THE Φ B K Senate, meeting October 27-28 at the Princeton Inn, Princeton, N. J., discussed means whereby Φ B K could bolster the liberal arts and sciences in postwar education.

The Senate felt that strong efforts should be made to liberalize the vocational training so heavily emphasized in present-day education. The necessity for coöperation between Φ B K and all groups — both academic and professional — who are attempting to liberalize college curricula was stressed.

It was suggested that Φ B K might collaborate with Sigma Xi, national honorary science society, in sponsoring a conference to discuss the role of the liberal arts and sciences.

Several senators recommended an examination of the possibilities of distributing literature setting forth the practical advantages of the liberal arts to returning veterans and to guidance and counseling groups.

Against Intolerance

To combat a rising tide of intolerance in educational groups, the following resolution, proposed by Guy Stanton Ford, executive secretary of the American Historical Association, was adopted: "The Senate would deplore in colleges holding or applying for charters of Φ B K discriminations affecting the faculties or student bodies in such a way as to limit the spirit of free inquiry and teaching. The Senate relies upon the Committee on Qualifications to interpret in its recommendations the spirit of this expression of the basis of liberal culture."

The senators discussed the problem of the inability of many qualified high school students to go to college. This resolution, proposed by Christian Gauss, dean of Princeton University, was adopted:

"... This waste of potentially superior manpower is so serious that the Senate requests the president of Φ B K to appoint a special committee to undertake

(Continued on page 4)



On Quadricentennials

They may not bother to celebrate us four hundred years from now. We may be too easily forgettable in the onrush of civilization through more dramatic, romantic, or trend-making decades. But if in the 2340's the epoch markers, who are quadricentennially sensitive, commemorate some man or feat or phase that is outstanding and thought-worthy, as we are celebrating the era of Copernicus, just whom or what would they select as meriting an appreciative backward glance?

By Harlow Shapley

Wishful musing and a wild fancy impels me to hope they will commemorate the quadricentennial of this war as the last world war. If so, I believe the causes of our war-making madness will then be as clear to everyone as they are confusing to us. In their diagnosis of the social malady of organized warfare, where our wisest statesmen and scholars are nearly blind, the simplest children of the future may see clearly, much as our children know the solar system that was opaque to the wise contemporaries of Copernicus in the middle of the 16th century.

Our most remembered contemporaries at the time of our own quadricentennial may be workers either in statesmanship, economics, religious thought and practice, medicine, or the physical sciences (all of these were practised by Copernicus). Our top glory may be either the inauguration of the World Democracy, the production of life-saving germicides, the revelations of the atomic nucleus, a mathematical theorem, a religious tenet, or it may be the combination of many or all of these and others into a general intangible movement — the New Reformation, or the Era of the Enlightened Common Man.

Probably my evaluations are too high. Every age has thought well of itself, condescended toward the immediate past and over-discounted the immediate future. A less fanciful hope lies in the surmise that posterity may mark this mid-century as the major epoch in the control or prevention of unnecessary disease; or, at least, as a turning point in human health or as the termination of what to posterity may appear to have been an era of needless stupidity. Indeed, the dying out of our muddled dumbness may merit the celebration! So many grandeurs at our finger tips, and not the luck or penetration to grasp the essential, and to expedite the apotheosis of the human mind and body.

"Why, in those culturally primitive days," our quadricentennial historian may record, "the states did not even punish people for illness, and in this respect, they had advanced little beyond the 1540's. They dissipated their re-

sources not only in destructive human wars, but also through fostering poverty and inequality, and by the pampering of mentally disordered persons (a tenth of their population!). They had then no exact science of human personality, endured premature senility, depended on fickle clouds for water, could not communicate with animals, tolerated irrational despiritualized religions, and with the invention of druphinoc and the discovery of panchids * still far in the future, they had not yet even imagined the existence of the world-altering principle of the synlogates †! But could you expect anything better from an earth-bound race, ruled by fifty disparate governments, with their people lagging in spirit and taste behind a gadgetry quite out of hand? Nevertheless, in that decade . . ."

Now, what is it, we wonder, that will nevertheless stand out, and turn the grateful thoughts of sophisticated posterity back four hundred years to these primitive times? Is there a Copernicus among us, whose acts or teachings will be set above the massive and multitudinous thoughts and deeds of our day? Perhaps it will be a group action that is celebrated, or a collaborative thought, the significance of which now escapes us.

The imperishables among our human activities are hard to detect at close range. In 1543 Charles V, as Holy Roman Emperor and the ruler of many states, was fighting a seemingly history-making war with Francis I of France. But little did that monarch realize that his own anniversaries would arouse no interest in days to come, and that he and his work would be as a firefly's fitful flash compared with the enduring light that was set shining by a churchman in Frauenburg, whose hobby was the planets and cosmic thought, and who was, at the time of the sack of Rome, arranging the sunrise of the scientific age in which a civilization would build.

Despite my qualms about our myopia, our obvious inanities, and our social compromises, it may be that our generation will stand out for richness in good soldiers in just those campaigns of science which Nicholas Copernicus set going. Certainly we have changed the habits of mankind and altered, for better or worse, the zest for contemporary living, by our magic with electrons, our probing with radiation up and down the ether spectrum, our chemical syntheses, our surge into the air with birds and into the sea with the fish.

It has not been difficult to select representative modern revolutionaries, whose ideas seem to deflect somewhat the course of contemporary life, much as the revolution of Copernicus gradually turned science from dogma to experiment and logical analysis. Our present-day trend-changers merit the citations we have given them on this Quadricentennial of Copernicus, for contributions such as theirs may be among those that posterity will respect as marking the ideals and progress of our age. The historians of the 24th century may deem some of these revolutionaries as worthy of a commemorative candle or two.

But presumably in that distant time, as now, the attention of mankind will be directed mainly to the forward segment of the time line — again I indulge in a wishful thought — and men will turn to the past then, as we should now, chiefly to discover the ways of avoiding error, and to derive from the spiritual and intellectual nobility of earlier days the brave Copernican inspirations that guide the present and design the future.

* Naturally I haven't the faintest notion of what these strange things are, or how they are to be accomplished. Perhaps the first will develop from sub-atomistics, and the second be synthesized multi-dimensionally from elements of nerve response and space-time corpuscles; but that is just a wild guess.

† Also this one transcends me.

EDITOR'S NOTE. — "On Quadricentennials" is the foreword to *Nicholas Copernicus, A Tribute of Nations*, edited by Stephen P. Mizwa, secretary of the Kosciuszko Foundation. The volume, to be published in December, 1944, will contain records of Copernican Quadricentennial celebrations.

THE KEY REPORTER

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Recommended Reading

AN AMERICAN PROGRAM. *By Wendell L. Willkie. New York: Simon & Schuster. \$.25, paper; \$1, cloth.*

A great American's final words on the efforts of the United States to achieve lasting peace and security at home.

WHEN JOHNNY COMES MARCHING HOME. *By Dixon Wecter. New York: Houghton Mifflin. \$3.*

Analysis of the aftermath of war.

NO ROAD BACK. *By Walter Mehring. New York: Samuel Curl. \$2.*

First of the German exile's poems to be translated into English.

A SCIENTIFIC THEORY OF CULTURE. *By Bronislaw Malinowski. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press. \$3.*

Posthumous collection of essays supporting the theory that culture is an adjustment to basic human needs and desires.

THE LEANING TOWER. *By Katherine Anne Porter. New York: Harcourt, Brace. \$3.50.*

New collection of short stories.

CLUNY BROWN. *By Margery Sharp. Boston: Little, Brown. \$2.50.*

The romping tale of an English parlor maid.

THE WORLD OF WASHINGTON IRVING. *By Van Wyck Brooks. New York: E. P. Dutton. \$3.75.*

Latest volume in the series on America's literary history, giving a pictorial biography of America in its first 50 years as a republic.

TRY AND STOP ME. *By Bennett Cerf. New York: Simon & Schuster. \$3.*

Three hundred and fifty pages of illustrated anecdotes.

DEMOCRACY REBORN. *By Henry Wallace. New York: Reynal & Hitchcock. \$2.50.*

A decade of the vice-president's speeches and articles.

FOR THE TIME BEING. *By W. H. Auden. New York: Random House. \$2.*

Two long poems, the most recently published of the author's works.

TIME MUST HAVE A STOP. *By Aldous Huxley. New York: Harper. \$2.75.*

A novel of a 17-year-old boy's confusion before life and his resolving a personal credo.

CAESAR AND CHRIST. *By Will Durant. New York: Simon & Schuster. \$5.*

Rise and fall of Rome and the dawn of Christianity told in the third volume of THE STORY OF CIVILIZATION.

THE BEST AMERICAN SHORT STORIES, 1944. *Edited by Martha Foley. New York: Houghton Mifflin. \$3.*

Thirty stories gleaned from magazines included in this annual anthology.

THE ROAD TO SERFDOM. *By Friedrich A. Hayek. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. \$2.75.*

Warning of a world-famous economist that collectivism is leading the free nations to totalitarianism.

STILL TIME TO DIE. *By Jack Belden. New York: Harper. \$3.*

Human side of the war.

GETTYSBURG TO APPOMATTOX. *By Douglas Southall Freeman. New York: Charles Scribner. \$5.*

Final volume of LEE'S LIEUTENANTS: A STUDY IN COMMAND, analyzing the last years of the Confederacy.

THE WINDS OF FEAR. *By Hodding Carter. New York: Farrar & Rinehart. \$2.50.*

A novel attempting to analyze the black and white races as they really are.

Modern Thucydides

THE GRAVEDIGGERS OF FRANCE. *By Pertinax. New York: Doubleday, Doran & Co. 1944. \$6.*

Pertinax introduces his book by calling it the provisional synthesis of a journalist, which may anticipate the balanced judgment of the historian who

will write from the full record. He is entitled to say that. But, having known the author for 25 years, and having seen much of him

while he was composing this work, I believe we must say that this book is itself a very important part of that "full record" which the historians of the future will study. It is provisional in the same sense that Thucydides on the Peloponnesian wars is provisional; it will always remain as the leading contemporary account of great events in which the author was himself enough of an actor to be a privileged observer. The historian who has access to all the memoirs that will be written, and to all the archives that have still to be opened, will be able to add to and correct Pertinax's history. But it will be this history that

he adds to and corrects.

Since this is a large claim, I hope I may give testimony to support it. Every journalist learns much that he cannot print, that is given to him in confidence and is off the record. Pertinax, who has been for many years the most eminent French journalist writing about foreign affairs, was the recipient of more confidential knowledge from public men and soldiers than any journalist I have ever known. He knew so much from so many sources that what he did not know, or what some public man tried to conceal from him, he could in the end find out. For in public affairs there is almost never any such thing as absolute secrecy, and the more a man knows, the more he is able to know. Now Pertinax is a man whose inquisitiveness amounts to genius, and it made him so well-informed that he became eminent, and then, when he had become eminent, he exercised a power and influence in France, and indeed in Europe, which enabled him to be ever more intimately and definitively informed.

At great labor and trouble he kept notebooks, and his published articles were to them about what the visible part of an iceberg is to the submerged. These notebooks and the recollections which they stimulated are the foundations of this book, and they constitute a written contemporary record by the most experienced and sophisticated observer of recent French diplomacy and its European connections.

Upon this foundation Pertinax has worked in this country ever since he became an exile in 1940. When I say worked, I do not mean merely that he has been writing this book. He has been searching the minds of the Frenchman and others who survived the defeat of France and know some part of the whole story. The labor that has gone into this feat of reporting, and the critical acumen with which he has pieced together the bits of evidence, have made me at least realize, as I watched it, how impossible it is to say where great journalism ends and true scholarship begins.

The result is a masterpiece which journalists will come to look upon as the finest product of their art. Scholars will, I believe, look upon it with gratitude, and with wonder that a work of such proportions, with such deep and intimate knowledge and such critical judgment, could have been produced so near to the event by a man who shared, while he wrote it, the full anguish of his country's fate.

Know of an Opening?

(Editor's note: Member No. 434 is asked to contact THE KEY REPORTER immediately.)

Inquiries should be addressed to Member No. —, care of THE KEY REPORTER.

251. (Miss, N. J.) B.S. St. Lawrence '36; maj., biol.; min., chem. & math.; M.A. Mich. '37. Exp. — 1 yr. research tech. U. of Mich. Hosp.; research assist. 1 yr. dir. of labs., Hartford Retreat; ½ yr. prod. planning & control, Sperry Gyroscope Co.; 1 yr. research biochem. & culture biologist in penicillin fermentation. Wants either coll. teach. or research.

282. (Mrs., N. Y.) B.A. Hunter '39, cum laude; maj., biol. and pre-med. Exp. — 1 yr. coll. chem. lab.; dental assist.; histologist in natural hist. museum; 8 yrs. tutor; med. & lab. assist.; Fr. and Ger. dict., typ., and trans. Wants teach. or lab. assist. in school, or chem. lab. work. N. Y. area preferred.

435. (Miss, N. Y.) B.A. Elmira '41, summa cum laude; maj., Fr. & Eng.; min., phil., Span., soc., hist., Ger. Summer's grad. work in Fr., Middlebury; typ., dict., proof. Exp. — secy. insurance office; steno-clerk in fed. gov't bureau for 2 yrs. Wants trans., interpreting work in Fr., will combine with secy. work.

436. (Miss, N. Y.) B.A. Wells, '44, magna cum laude; maj., Eng.; min., phil. & psych.; proof. Exp. — work in pub. library; rewrite & copy work on newspaper; edit. work 4 yrs. coll.; at present doing reading for 20th Cent. Fox. Wants edit. work, will go anywhere.

437. (Mr., N. Y. C.) B.A. Colorado; M.A. Chicago; LL.B. Harvard Law School '29; admitted N. Y. Bar '30; 4-F. Exp. — 5 yrs. priv. practice, N. Y. C., financial & corporate law, probate, contracts, wage stabilization, some gen. practice; 9 yrs. with R. F. C. & subsidiaries; familiar with gov't procedures. Wants association or partnership with busy lawyer or small firm in N. Y. C. area, or in legal dept. of growing corp.

438. (Miss, N. Y.) B.A. Smith, '40; maj.: Eng. & phil.; sciences: geol. & chem.; langs.: Latin, Fr., learning Norweg.; gen. philology (Columbia); prep. of ms., adver. layout (Columbia). Exp. — 2½ yrs. edit. bk. dept., edit. assist., publish. firm. Wants position with responsibility, edit., N. Y. C.

439. (Mr., Kans.) B.A., Chicago; B.F.A., Art Inst. Chicago '36; M.A. '39; all Ph.D. course work, Ohio St.; add'l art train. under well-known ptrns., '24-'30; com'l art exper. '26-'32; exhibits since '32. Travel in midw. & east. states, with study in museums. Exp. — 5 yrs. as art direct. & instruct. in Chicago art school; 4 yrs. museum direct. & art dept. head in midw. univ. Wants teach. studio courses, or head sub div. in progressive art dept. of lge. inst. Age 40.

440. (Mr., N. J.) B.S.S.A., Lehigh '29; LL.B. Fordham '32. Honorable discharge from army. Exp. — 8 yrs. gen. practice law; 2½ yrs. claims examiner and assist. man. casualty ins. co. Wants position law or ins., N. Y. C. or northern N. J.

441. (Miss, Ohio) B.A. Western Reserve, '41; maj., classics; min., Fr. & Ger.; 6 yrs. grad. work in Eng. Exp. — summer sess. teach. Latin; 3 yrs. bus. exp. with utility co., dict. & typ. exp. Wants teach., personnel, or bus. work using lang. or writing, in Ohio or East.

442. (Mr., Ohio) Ph.D. in field of coll. & univ. ad. Exp. — 8 yrs. coll. teach.; 15 yrs. coll. ad. Wants ad. work in Christian coll. or jr. coll., with modern, forward-looking prog.

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Personal secretary & research assistant by publisher of newspapers, 35 yrs. or under, coll. grad., shorthand, preferably newspaper experienced. Must be man of good health & personality, not afraid of work, willing to travel, experience as pilot an advantage. An all-yr.-round permanent job at good salary, expenses pd. traveling. Decision made in 3 wks. Write C-54.

NAM-NEA Groups Expand

THE nationwide series of conferences between educators and business leaders, initiated by the National Association of Manufacturers and the National Education Association, has swelled to the proportions of a national movement.

When the education-industry collaboration movement was inaugurated, 88 local discussion groups were organized. At present, the number, more than doubled, has spread to over 200 sections.

The groups are providing a vehicle for educators and businessmen all across the country to discover, state, and discuss aspects of common problems.

Hunter Calls Φ B K's

All Φ B K graduates of Hunter College are asked to contact Miss Ruth Lewinson, president of the Associate Alumnae of Hunter College, at 18 East 41st Street, New York 17, New York, as soon as possible.

Free School Opens

Practical evidence of inter-American good will is offered in the opening of the School of Pan-American Agriculture as a free educational institution for Middle American youth.

Inaugurated on Columbus Day in Zamorano, Honduras, the school will foster the study of tropical agriculture through the donation of the United Fruit Company, which founded and will maintain the school.

Students must be properly qualified as to aptitude for admittance to the school, which offers free tuition, books, board, lodging, clothing, and medical care to boys to whom such technical training in modern agriculture might not otherwise be available.

(Continued from page 1)

a study of this problem to ascertain the degree of its seriousness, its causes, and possible remedies. It further suggests that the chapters and graduate associations of the society can be encouraged to study local conditions of this sort."

Elections

The Senate elected David A. Morse, of Union College, as senator to fill the unexpired term of the late Dave Hennen Morris. George H. Chase, dean of Harvard University, and Dorothy Kenyon, New York attorney, were elected to the Executive Committee of the United Chapters; Christian Gauss and H. T. Parlin, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences of the University of Texas, to the Committee on Qualifications; David A. Robertson, president of Goucher College, to the Committee on the Mary Isabel Sibley Fellowship; Arthur T. Vanderbilt, dean of New York University Law School, to the Committee on Chapter By-Laws; George M. Day, secretary of the Φ B K Alumni in Southern California, E. P. Richardson, secretary of the Φ B K Association in Detroit, Harris A. Reynolds, president of the Greater Boston Association, and Robert E. Kenyon, of the Chicago Association, to the Committee on Associations; and R. L. Duffus, Max Lerner, Paul Robeson, and Sumner Welles to the Editorial Board of *The American Scholar*.

The Senate reaffirmed the recommendation of the Committee on Qualifications to suspend for the duration its activities in investigating colleges desiring chapters. The Committee on the History stated that plans were being made for the publication of the Φ B K history. The next Senate meeting will be held in Princeton at approximately the same date in 1945. No date was set for the next Council meeting.



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