Annual Book Awards Presented

PRESENTATION of the three Phi Beta Kappa book awards for 1962 was made at the Senate dinner on November 30. The prize winners each received $1,000 for their books.

The winner of the twelfth annual Christian Gauss Award is Wayne C. Booth for *The Rhetoric of Fiction* published by the University of Chicago Press. The presentation was made by William Haller of the Folger Shakespeare Library, a member of the Christian Gauss Award Committee.

In accepting the award, Mr. Booth commented on the pressures which a scholar must resist if he wants to write creative and meaningful books. The first pressure is overwork: the demands on the scholar's time are so great that he has difficulty finding the time to work on his book. Second, the scholar is often pressed by the university administration to publish. As a result the author writes in haste and publishes before he has had time to consider thoroughly what he wants to say and how he wants to say it. Then after the scholar has published his book, he receives pressure from publishers to write more books as quickly as possible. All of these pressures become more immediate and intense if the scholar needs to supplement his income in order to write and has not received financial support from a foundation or society such as the Guggenheim Foundation and Phi Beta Kappa. Mr. Booth is Visiting George M. Pullman Professor of English at the University of Chicago. He is on leave from Earlham College, where he is chairman of the department of English.

The Phi Beta Kappa Science Award went to James L. Dyson for *The World of Ice* published by Knopf. Begun in 1959, the annual award was made by Kirtley F. Mather, professor emeritus of geology at Harvard University, member of the Science Award Committee and a Phi Beta Kappa Senator. From among 35 scientific studies considered by the award committee, Dr. Dyson's book was selected for recommendation to the Senate. *The World of Ice* was also selected by the Library of Science Book Club as one of its two December offerings. A chapter from the book entitled "Ice Beneath the Ground" was published in the December issue of *Science Digest*. Asked

(Continued on back cover)

Senate Votes Resolution On Aid for the Humanities

The Phi Beta Kappa Senate, at its annual meeting in Washington on December 1, voted to support a resolution proposed by the Board of Directors of the American Council of Learned Societies for the establishment of a commission to investigate the current situation in the humanities and to make necessary recommendations at the conclusion of the study. The proposal was presented to the Senate by Whitney J. Oates, Vice-President of the United Chapters and Treasurer of the ACLS Board of Directors.

The text of the Senate resolution reads:

Resolved, that the Senate, on behalf of the United Chapters of Phi Beta Kappa, cooperate in all ways possible with the American Council of Learned Societies and other appropriate and interested organizations in establishing a commission to investigate the current situation in the humanities in the United States and to make such recommendations as, after its investigations, it shall deem desirable.

The establishment of the commission was recommended by the ACLS Board of Directors and action on the proposal was scheduled to be taken at the annual meeting of the Council in January. The main objective of the commission is to enlist federal support for the humanities on a basis comparable to the assistance now provided to science and technology.

Robert C. Lumiansky, a Phi Beta Kappa Senator and Chairman of the ACLS Board of Directors, pointed out during discussion of the proposal that the study will:

1. Get the facts in one volume.
2. Spread interest and enlist wider support after the investigation is carried out.

The commission would be instructed to investigate and report upon, among others, the following subjects:

The present state of scholarship and teaching in the humanistic disciplines; relations between humanistic scholarship and teaching at all levels from the primary school through graduate school; sources of financial support available

(Continued on page 4)

1962 Book Awards Winners

Herbert J. Muller (left) received the Award in History, Philosophy, and Religion. Christian Gauss Award winner is Wayne C. Booth. See back cover for additional photo.
The fact that the training of specialists proceeds as effectively as it does points up the need for American scholars deeply educated in human dimensions so that they may, as Pericles said of Athenian citizens, become "good judges of public policy."

Scholarship and the intellectual life are enjoying widespread popular acclaim in the United States. No longer is the man of action and the man of thought two separate persons and worlds apart. One measure of the change that has taken place is that in the last few decades scholars from colleges and universities in all parts of the country have assumed positions of responsibility and power in the national government, state and local governments, in foundations and private agencies, and to a lesser extent, in business.

Democratic society has not always been as hospitable to scholarship and the intellectual life. More than a century ago, Ralph Waldo Emerson, speaking to Harvard undergraduates, felt obliged to reaffirm the importance and the role of the scholar in America. "Perhaps the time is already come," he said, "... when the sluggard intellect of this continent will look from under its iron lids and fill the postponed expectation of the world with something better than the exertions of mechanical skill." The scholar, he proclaimed, is the world's eye and the world's heart. "And whatsoever new verdict Reason from her inviolable seat pronounces on the passing men and events of to-day, —this he shall hear and promulgate." After reading this brilliant and timeless essay, one is tempted to feel that it is the last word on the scholar in America. But Emerson was keenly aware that the biography of the scholar must be written chapter by chapter as history unfolds.

Emerson was speaking to a young America that the world watched as a bold, precocious, and as yet unproved experiment in democratic self-government. It was a time of confusion and change, like ours today, but for quite different reasons. The power of Puritanism was waning, Jacksonian democracy was in view, and the shift from a pre-occupation with supernature to the conquest of nature had begun. The dream of the heavenly city of the eighteenth-century philosophers was fading as the grimy age of iron appeared. Yet despite an acute depression and a widespread feeling of demoralization, Americans felt a keen sense of the manifest destiny of America. The dusty wagons moving westward through the trackless wilderness symbolized the spirit of the new land: a bold, venturesome, self-reliant spirit bent on subduing and civilizing an entire continent. "This time, like all times," Emerson observed, "is a very good one, if we but know what to do with it."

Pursuit of Excellence

Today the United States is no longer the untried experiment in democratic self-government watched by a half-hopeful, half-skeptical world, but a Goliath to whom the free world looks for moral leadership as well as for military and economic aid. Today America is regarded by half the world as the last best hope of civilized society.

America's power and new responsibilities in the family of nations is revolutionizing American education. Academic excellence is the new shrine to which presidents and foundation heads, editors and pundits pay deference. The laissez-faire days of American education are over. Yet we Americans have a talent for thinking up new slogans and banners while evading the hard work of basic reform which would give meaning and substance to the new catchwords. Despite many hopeful beginnings, the pursuit of excellence is in danger of running aground on the shoals of "breakthroughs," "implementations," "revitalizations," "guidelines," "upgradings," "frames-of-reference," "feed-back," and other educational gobbledygook that have reached many a good project in the past on a tide of rhetoric and public relations. We need fewer exhortations to excellence in general and more concrete programs and new methods that will quicken the imagination, enlarge the vision, and chart the path to a better life.

This is equally true of our struggle to resolve the tough, persistent issues that we now confront. The need for a fresh sense of national purpose has been a major theme of speakers and lecturers for the past several years. Our troubles, we are told, arise from the fact that we no longer understand the goals and aims of our founding fathers. Their panacea is to revitalize, to recapture, to reaffirm the original vision, to rededicate ourselves to the American dream.

Is the "Great National Purpose Hunt" a symptom perhaps of withering illusions? Americans are by temperament sanguine about the future. We are addicted, as H. G. Wells noted in 1906, to "a sort of optimistic fatalism." In the past we have looked upon challenges as opportunities, not as obstacles. The characteristic trait of the American character is self-improvement—a cheerful faith that the future is an open door to unlimited possibilities and that by using their wits and muscles, men can shape their own destinies. Philosophies of despair or resignation were rejected by our forebears as evidences of moral weakness and softness. Blessed with a rich continent and bulwarked by ocean ramparts, democracy was free to develop in unchallenged self-assurance. And capitalism and technology grew prodigiously in an environment relatively free from the restraints of aristocratic privilege or inherited class prejudices.

But something has gone wrong. The golden hope of a Utopia that as recently as the twenties seemed to be just around the corner has faded. The American state of mind today is summed up in the wry humor of the nuclear physicist's definition of the optimist as "someone who still believes that the future is uncertain."

Paradoxically, the record of the Ameri-
can people in recent history does not read like the record of an uncertain people. After the last war we not only cleared away the wreckage and helped our friends and even our former enemies to get back to material prosperity and stability, we also turned our efforts to peoples in countries and territories so unfamiliar and unknown to us that we knew of them only through the movies, the comics, and popular travelogues. But all the while we entertained the false hope that we were dealing with temporary problems that would disappear once we had transmitted our dollars and technical assistance. But the problems grew steadily larger and more complex as crises arose in almost every corner of the world.

We were also confronted at home with problems which our forebears could not have imagined, much less have devised specific solutions to help us, such as inflation, summit diplomacy, nuclear warfare, the disquieting wrangles at the United Nations, the race for the conquest of outer space, desegregation, delinquency, and the unexpected side effects of affluence. Surely, it is now obvious that it is not enough to reanimate the national purpose. The need is to devise and gain acceptance of programs that will carry out that purpose under new and unprecedented circumstances, programs that hold a promise of making sense out of the disordered, chaotic world in which the responsible but perplexed citizen must find his way.

For the responsible citizen is indeed “the man who feels left behind,” in Gerald Johnson’s phrase. He is honest enough to know that he does not comprehend all the facts of this dangerous and complicated era. Yet he is called on to deal with and solve what he does not understand. Accused of apathy, he is more bewildered than confused. In science there is only one Einstein or Heisenberg and the voice of authority speaks clearly. But the ordinary citizen is asked to judge issues concerning missiles and anti-missiles, nuclear fall-out, disarmament, and the race for outer space. He fares little better if he turns from the mysteries of science to the incredible entanglements of cold war politics.

**Onrush of Change**

Even the more familiar world of domestic issues is filled with complex problems. As the technological revolution in automation and electronics proceeds, human labor becomes increasingly unecomonical and obsolete. Once regarded as an automatic escalator to Utopia, progress is now looked upon as a mixture of good and bad, bringing impediments as well as improvements. The explosive growth of our cities is governed by commercial expedients rather than by civic, aesthetic, and human needs. Costly superexpressways slash through blighted urban centers, dividing communities into haphazard islands and increasing the jam of commuters. The contrast between private opulence and public squalor becomes more glaring. The wealthiest nation on earth doesn’t know whether it can afford the highest standard of education for its children—at a time when it can afford nothing less.

In one respect we are all left behind by the onrush of change, whether we are intellectuals, specialists, or merely the man next door. Knowledge is indeed power, as Francis Bacon said, but there is so much more knowledge than even the most versatile minds can comprehend, and it multiplies by leaps and bounds. Bacon also noted that “knowledge hath in it somewhat of the serpent.” The perilous state of the world cannot be attributed so much to a lack of knowledge as to the threat of a perverse use of it.

**We cannot shape the future to our heart’s desire for it is filled with dread dilemmas that we would gladly avoid if we could.**

The power of knowledge to destroy is even more impressive than its power to create.

Expertise cannot help us here for the experts themselves cannot agree. We shall have to rely on education, on common sense, and informed judgment to find a way out. But it is not enough to rest the case with a clamorous appeal for intelligent and competent leaders. Intelligent followers are indispensable in a democratic society; for the locus of power in such a society rests in the final analysis on the consensus of informed, mature people possessed of the good sense to recognize the right course and the courage to follow it, whatever the difficulties.

It means that we must re-examine the aims of education. The margin for error has all but vanished. The community has too great a stake to be content with half measures, or with education conceived in purely selfish terms. Emerson’s definition of the scholar is modern and to the point. He is not the man dwelling in the ivory tower hoarding his erudition, nor merely a specialist or a professional or the pedant dealing doggedly with the picayune or with minutiae: he is man thinking, man become whole, responsible and universal in his interests.

One of the unfinished tasks of reform in higher education is how to equip the individual citizen with the resources to cope with the problems and uncertainties peculiar to our time. The growing separation between scientific and humanistic education is one prong of our problem. The widely-discussed thesis of Sir Charles Snow’s Rede Lecture, “The Two Cultures and the Scientific Revolution,” points up the twofold aim in liberal education of providing humanistic training for scientists and scientific literacy for humanists. Today there is considerable emphasis on imparting breadth and wholeness in the education of specialists. But the pressing demands of the military-industrial complex offers a new temptation to cater to valid but narrow vocational needs and special skills at the expense of the total formative influences that should be brought to bear on the mind and character of our youth and our nation as a whole.

As to the other side of the coin, Sir Charles stresses the tendency among literary intellectuals to dismiss the towering edifice of scientific thought with a shrug or to regard it as a menace. It is

(Continued on back cover)
Mississippi Assn. Adopts Resolution

On October 17, 1962, the Oxford and University Association of Phi Beta Kappa at the University of Mississippi adopted the following resolution:

As teachers and as members of the Phi Beta Kappa Association at the University of Mississippi, we believe in the right of every student at the University to pursue knowledge and truth and to obtain the education of his choice without interference from within or without. Individual freedom and a respect for human dignity are the lifeblood of a university. If these principles are abandoned, the institution loses its integrity, and the degrees it confers become a mockery.

We call upon the people of Mississippi and upon all members of the University community to preserve the integrity of the University of Mississippi and to venerate the purpose for which it was founded: "a community of free men and women devoted to the preservation, increase, and application of knowledge." We commend those who have acted responsibly in the present crisis, and we call upon those who are unwilling to accept their responsibilities to reconsider their attitudes. We support "drastic disciplinary action," including possible dismissal of students, for those whose behavior discredits the University, the state, and the nation.

These objectives are in keeping with the goals of Phi Beta Kappa. We call upon all who respect education to respect these goals and to assist the needs of the University and of themselves, and to help build a greater University.

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Senate Resolution (Continued)

for research in the humanities and for curriculum development in humanistic disciplines; the adequacy or inadequacy of research materials for humanistic scholarship; present and potential importance of new techniques in humanistic teaching and scholarship.

The commission would also be asked to consider relations between the humanities and other areas of scholarship and creativity, particularly the social sciences and the creative arts. On the basis of its findings, the commission would be asked to recommend steps which might be taken to improve problems and deficiencies that were discovered.

Speaking in support of the resolution, Senator Bentley H. Glass of Johns Hopkins University said: "We must put our resources into the development and improvement of the things we are trying to defend—American intellectual freedom, for example—as well as the means to defend these things."

The ACLS Board and its committee feel that a study of the humanities, comparable to Vannevar Bush's report, Science—The Endless Frontier, which resulted in the establishment of the National Science Foundation, is needed.

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Winter 1962-63:

American Students and the "Political Revival" • Kenneth Keniston

The Sense of Coexistence • David Felix

On the Science-Humanities Controversy • Gerald W. Johnson

The Parchment Barriers • Edmond Cahn

Suspended Youth • Benjamin DeMott

A Reappraisal of Edith Wharton • Diana Trilling

Petra: The Excavation of the Main Theater • Philip C. Hammond

Recognition of the disparity between the money and support given to the natural sciences and to the humanities is widespread and has led recently to an interest in improving this lopsided situation. During the 1960-61 federal fiscal year, for example, approximately 14 billion dollars from current operating funds were expended by the federal government, industries, and universities and other nonprofit agencies for research and development of the natural sciences. Nine billion dollars were provided by the federal government. Of this amount, 2 billion dollars were used by the government in its own laboratories, 6 billion were provided to industry, and the remainder allocated to universities and other nonprofit research groups.

The disparity has also been noted by some members of Congress who have called for federal support of the humanities. Last year, for example, Congressman John E. Fogarty (D.-R.I.) introduced a bill (H.R. 12560) calling for the establishment of a National Institute of the Arts and Humanities within the United States Office of Education. (The bill has been referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.) Congressman Fogarty's efforts have been particularly encouraging to the ACLS Board in its effort to formulate a program for cooperation between the government and scholars and teachers in humanistic disciplines.

In adopting the resolution, the Senate felt that the support of the United Chapters will be of help in whatever action may be taken on the ACLS proposal.

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The World of Ice. By James L. Dyson.
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Main Currents in Modern Economics. By Ben B. Seligman. Free Press. $11.75.

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Keynesian Economics in the Stream of Economic Thought. By Harlan L. McCracken. Louisiana. $5.

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The Awakening of Southern Italy. By Margaret Carlyle. Oxford. $3.40.

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The superlative and greatly praised first volume of Mr. Edel's biography of James (The Untried Years) in 1953 must be repeated with enthusiasm for the second and third volumes of what will be a magnificent, solidly based, four-volume study of perhaps the greatest American novelist. Excerpts from James's letters, reminiscences, and fiction ensure the excitement of imaginative and moral insights. Mr. Edel, who organizes and writes admirably, lays down important critical guidelines; and the many critiques of the novels and stories must be tested against his readings.


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Reason and Analysis. By Brand Blanshard. Open Court. $8.

The first volume (though published second) of what is to be a three-volume sequence. The second volume (published first) is Reason and Goodness; Reason and Belief is to come. Although this is not a "popular" book, it can be understood by the lay reader who wants to know about the history of rationalism and the attacks on it. One can make his way through such topics as logical positivism, logical atomism, and linguistic philosophy.


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American Drama Since World War II. By Gerald Weales. Harcourt, Brace & World. $5.75.

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This happy young archaeologist's narrative of visits to and journeys in the Marquesas Islands which yield a history of culture—while its legatees continue to meet the deepening inroads of an overseas power culture.

Lost Tribes and Sunken Continents. By Robert Wauchopche. Chicago. $3.95.

This book answers the need for a popular yet scientific account of the myths and anthropological evidence on the origin of the American Indian.


This is the story of Greek archaeological discoveries from the earliest Bronze to the imperial Roman centuries. A particular delight are the site mappings and reconstruction drawings.

Also Recommended:


Navaho Witchcraft. By Clyde Kluckhohn. Beacon. $4.95.


JOHN COURNOS


Primitive Art. By Douglas Fraser. Double-day. $7.50.

Two fine books on the same theme, both of which are generously illustrated. The colored masks in the Fraser volume are particularly impressive.


Western music from its beginning to the present is described learnedly and readily in this immense tome, with chronological tables, recommended music, bibliography, and index. Invaluable for reference.


The greatest vigor of Britain's painting and sculpture is clearly revealed in handsome reproductions, with text supplied by one who is a notable figure in the arts.


The World of Opera. By Wallace Brockway and Herbert Weinstock. Pantheon. $10.

Two indispensable books in their respective fields, both readable and useful for reference.


A superb pictorial and textual reconstruction of the famous playhouse—of vivid interest to architects and drama lovers.


An absorbing book on one of the oldest arts, from its origins to the present. Should not be overlooked by the student of the theater.

Hogarth. By Frederick Antal. Basic. $15.

Admirers of the great English artist will revel in this immense volume by a distinguished critic, who not only provides a thoroughgoing critical text but also the life of the painter in relation to his time. It contains wonderful reproductions, both oils and engravings.

The Man Verdi. By Frank Walker. Knopf. $10.75.

This immense volume, suitably illustrated, may be regarded as a definitive biography of the great Italian composer.

Also Recommended:


Scholar and Troubled Citizen
(Continued from page 3)

to show on television and in the movies, the picture of a person to whom freedom evidently means the absence of restraint or a lack of self-discipline.

In the main, freedom will ultimately be preserved or lost in the nation's schools and colleges. No amount of innovation in technical skills or increase in military might and productivity can compensate for the lack of disciplined minds or serious commitment to the costs as well as the benefits of freedom. The proper use and enjoyment of freedom cannot be expected to emerge as a by-product of vocational programs, or specialized scholarship, or crash programs given over to indoctrination in values.

Responsibility of Scholars

Our first task as scholars in Emerson's sense is to look behind the slogans and catch-words, behind the official sacred cows of liberals and conservatives in order to weigh them unemotionally on the scales of the realities which we cannot escape. As scholars in a democratic society we are not merely the obedient servants of the state, but its trustees and critics as well, and if need be, its loyal opposition. Colleges and universities must give society what it needs, not what it wants. Our scholars must accept and promulgate the hard lesson of the classical conception of liberty under law: liberty is not a possession that can be enjoyed without a price, nor can it be preserved without risk and hazard. To enjoy private rights without accepting public responsibilities is to live a contradiction. Individualism cannot survive except as individuals discharge their corporate or civic responsibilities.

Annual Book Awards Presented
(Continued from page 1)

why he chose to write about ice, Dr. Dyson said: "My main reason . . . was to attempt to explain a part of the natural world which, though so close to everyone, is misunderstood by many. There were times when I was really excited about the book, and these were the times when I hoped, even believed, that the book might contribute in some measure to the establishment of national parks or other preserves featuring the hardiwork of the great ice sheets of past ages." A member of the award committee spoke of the book in these terms: The World of Ice is a truly comprehensive account of ice in the many varied forms in which it occurs in nature and the effects it now has and has had upon both plant and animal life on this planet. . . . The initiate to the truly wonderful world of ice will be intrigued by such items as the accounts of the small wingless glacier fleas and the ice worms which spend their entire life cycles in the snow and ice of glaciers. But it is the profound role which glaciers play in the life of man that gets major attention." Dr. Dyson is professor and head of the department of geology at Lafayette College.

Herbert J. Muller, professor of English at the University of Indiana, received the third annual Award in History, Philosophy, and Religion for Freedom in the Ancient World, published by Harper and Brothers. Presentation of the award was made by Irving Dilliard, writer and lecturer, a member of the award committee, and a Phi Beta Kappa Senator. The award-winning book is the first of a projected three-volume History of Freedom. The second volume, Freedom in the Western World, will be published early this year. Dr. Muller mentioned that his interest in man's beginnings and evolutionary growth "arose spontaneously, or accidentally, when I was Visiting Professor at Istanbul in 1946-47. While there I traveled a lot through the region of the ancient Greco-Roman world, visiting sites of ancient cities." His book The Loom of History which discusses the cities of the ancient world won the Indiana Author's Day Award for the most distinguished book of 1958 by a Hoosier.

A member of the selection committee which chose Dr. Muller's book said: "This volume, . . . carries the narrative from the beginning of civilization to the decline of the Byzantine Empire. The author's purpose is to trace the development of freedom as an emergent in the history of civilization and culture as a whole, in relation not only to government, but to mores, technology, commerce, art, and religion as well."

This year's competition was open to qualified entries published between July 1, 1961, and June 30, 1962.