NOTABLE BOOKS of 1955

Allen, G. W. 
Solitary Singer 
A well-balanced interpretation of Whitman, poet, scholar and human being.

Anderson, Erica 
World of Albert Schweitzer 
A vivid picture record of a great man and the worlds in which he lives.

Barth, Alan 
Government by Investigation 
The importance to good government of legislative investigation and some dangers in abuse of this power, evaluated with fairness.

Bates, Marston 
Prevalence of People 
World population from the broad point of view of the various sciences.

Bishop, J. A. 
The Day Lincoln Was Shot 
An effective "You Are There" account of what happened on the day and night of April 14, 1865.

Bourlière, François 
Mammals of the World, Their Life and Habits 
Outstanding presentation in text and photographs of animals in their natural habitat.

Bowles, Chester 
New Dimensions of Peace 
Informational and comprehensive understanding of the world's most colorful artists.

Bridgeman, William 
The Lonely Sky 
A review of the international scene in Europe and Asia by a competent, practical observer who has vital ideas about United States foreign policies.

Burrows, Millar 
Dead Sea Scrolls 
A scholarly analysis of what many theologians and scientists believe to be one of the great discoveries of our time.

Carson, Rachel 
The Edge of the Sea 
A beautifully written and scientifically correct study of the strange and abundant life between high and low tides.

Chase, Gilbert 
America's Music from the Pilgrims to the Present 
Provocative panorama of our democratic musical heritage.

Chase, M. E. 
Life and Language in the Old Testament 
An invaluable consideration of the Old Testament as a work of literary art and a keen analysis of the mind of an ancient Oriental people.

Clifford, J. L. 
Young Sam Johnson 
What made young Johnson the boy he was and the famous man he became.

Davenport, R. W. 
The Dignity of Man 
About the central conflicts of our time which may be neither economic nor political but philosophical.

De Santillana, George 
The Crime of Galileo 
About Galileo and his inquisitors, who felt that the best way to defend the faith was to become policemen of the mind.

De Voto, Bernard 
The Easy-Chair 
Thoughtful comments by the late editor of The Easy Chair (Harper's Magazine) on important issues in American life.

Fine, Benjamin 
1,000,000 Delinquents 
Personal interviews and case studies on juvenile delinquency. The author documents causes in home, school and community and suggests preventive measures.

Fromm, Erich 
The Sane Society 
A challenge to all who assume that social and economic processes must be sane because they exist.

Goodenough, E. R. 
Toward a Mature Faith 
An original solution for the lost faith and security men are seeking.

Gunther, John 
Inside Africa 
Despite some errors and some superficiality, an important compendium of knowledge about a vital area.

Hachiya, Michihiko 
Hiroshima Diary 
A participant's account of the atom bombing of Hiroshima which is objective and scientific.

Hanson, Lawrence 
Noble Savage 
A richly detailed biography of Gouguin, a successful French stockbroker who became one of the world's most colorful artists.

Herberg, Will 
Protestant, Catholic, Jew 
A critical, sensitive and impartial study of the religious situation in America.

Hoyle, Fred 
Frontiers of Astronomy 
Controversial implications of the new ideas in astronomy.

Irvine, William 
Apes, Angels and Victorians 
A skillful blending of information and humor about Charles Darwin, Thomas Henry Huxley and the impact of Darwin's theory of evolution on the 19th century world.

Jackson, R. H. 
The Supreme Court in the American System of Government 
Acute commentary on the Supreme Court and its unique function in our democracy.

Life Magazine 
The World We Live In 
Superbly illustrated articles about the earth and its natural wonders by the editorial staff of Life and Lincoln Barnett.

Lindbergh, A. M. 
Gift from the Sea 
In poetic prose the author describes her search for inner peace while living in "a world that is too much with us."

Luethy, Herbert 
France against Herself 
A Swiss journalist's well-informed study of France's appalling problems.

MacGowan, Kenneth 
The Living Stage 
A well-written, well-illustrated history of the theatre from its origins with primitive man through its dark and golden ages.

Markandaya, Kamala 
Nectar in a Sieve 
Realistic novel of Indian peasant life which is sad and tender and contains emotional universals the world can understand.

Millar, G. R. 
Crossbowman's Story of the First Exploration of the Amazon 
Fictionized biography of explorer Crelaine and his trip from Peru down the Amazon to the Atlantic.

New York (City) Museum of Modern Art 
The Family of Man 
Excellent reproduction of photographs from an exhibit prepared by Edward Steichen at New York's Museum of Modern Art showing "the universal elements and emotions in the 'everydayness' of life..."
Niebuhr, Reinhold
The Self and the Dramas of History
An analysis of the impact upon western civilization of the tensions between the Hebraic and Hellenic elements of culture.

Oldenburg, Zoe
The Cornerstone
The cornerstone is Christianity on which real and believable characters are able to build in different ways.

Peterson, R. T.
Wild America
Wild America as seen through the highly perceptive observations of American naturalist Peterson and British naturalist James Fisher.

Phillips, Wendell
Qataban and Sheba
Fascinating account of archeological treasure hunting in the ancient kingdoms on the Biblical spice routes of Arabia.

Reischauer, E. O.
Wanted: an Asian Policy
A readable diagnosis of our problems in Asia.

Tenzing Norgay
Tiger of the Snows
In collaboration with James Ramsey Ullman, Tenzing Norgay, the Sherpa, tells his very original version of the successful ascent of Mount Everest in 1953.

Trilling, Lionel
The Opposing Self
Distinguished literary essays with an interconnecting theme, "the idea of the self."

Tunnard, Christopher
American Skyline
An unusually fine presentation of city planning, architectural tradition and industrial progress of the American city.

Van der Post, Laurens
The Dark Eye in Africa
An Afrikaner's stirring discussion of his country's spiritual problems.

Walker, R. L.
China Under Communism
Well-based in research, this analysis of communism's impact upon China is a serious attempt to sift and interpret actual publications of the Peking regime.

Weeks, Edward
The Open Heart
Out of the life and thought of the long-time editor of the Atlantic Monthly comes a philosophy of life beautifully written.

West, Rebecca
A Train of Powder
Six essays on guilt and punishment by a master writer-reporter.

White, Walter
How Far the Promised Land?
America's progress in race relations and a measure of the man who devoted his life to bringing the Negro toward full equality in our society.

This annual compilation is the responsibility of the Public Libraries Division of the American Library Association. The Notable Books Council (of the Division), composed of twelve members, cooperates with a number of participating libraries in the selection of the titles on the list.

Mrs. Florence S. Craig, director of adult education, Cuyahoga County Public Library, Cleveland, Ohio, Chairman of the Council, says:

"The books were chosen for these factors: sincerity and honesty of presentation, factual correctness, literary excellence, contribution to man's understanding of himself and the times in which he lives.

Omitted were new editions, condensations, compilations and titles that were parts of older and larger works.

Fifty-five libraries participated in the project during 1955."