NOTABLE BOOKS
of
1958

A Selected List

Prepared by Notable Books Council
Adult Services Division
American Library Association
The purpose of this list is to call attention to those works issued during the year which through literary excellence, informational value and importance, or skill in exposition, are regarded as exceptionally worthwhile additions to the world of books. It has been published in this form for use by adult readers who wish an informal selective guide in their choice of reading. The list was compiled after a year of careful reading and comparison by the twelve-member Council and 33 participating libraries from all sections of the United States.


BRITTAIN, ROBERT E. Rivers, Man and Myths. Doubleday. Social history revealed through the effect of rivers upon mankind.


CHURCHILL, WINSTON L. S. The Great Democracies. Dodd. Volume 4 of "History of the English Speaking Peoples" covering the period from Waterloo to the Boer War, with a stirring account of the American Civil War.

COWLEY, MALCOLM, ed. Writers at Work. Viking. Interviews with contemporary novelists revealing methods and ideas of their craft.

CUMMINGS, EDWARD E. 95 poems. Harcourt. Wit, wisdom, and sparkle from a distinguished lyric poet.

DEL CASTILLO, MICHEL. Child of Our Time. Knopf. A moving narrative based on the author's childhood amid the horrors of Europe's concentration camps.
A childhood in the Moluccas, recollected in the tranquility of a woman's later years, in vivid, imaginative prose.


DOWDEY, CLIFFORD. *Death of a Nation*. Knopf.
A powerful and detailed account of Lee and his men at Gettysburg and the role of the Confederacy in the battle.

A candid biography in pictures and words, of the controversial artist, by one of America's finest photographers.

DURRELL, LAURENCE. *Bitter Lemons*. Dutton.
A moving and penetrating study of Cyprus today by one of England's leading poets.

Popularized evolution by the head of the Department of Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania.

Skillful portrayal of personal, social and political history of Tudor England.

A probing survey of the expansion and decay of the “big city.”

FREUCHEN, PETER and SALOMONSEN, FINN. *Arctic Year*. Putnam.
A calendar chronicle of every aspect of nature in the far North.

Searching evaluation of the American economic system by a prominent economist.

An allegorical novel about the predicament of modern man.
Gavin, James M. *War and Peace in the Space Age*. Harper.
A sharp appraisal of the dangers and opportunities of U.S. foreign policy and military planning.

More than 750 letters, with reproductions of all the drawings in the correspondence.

Pithy, reflective commentaries on the contemporary American scene by a nonconformist.

Broad and amazing variety of pertinent information on post-Stalin Russia and its leading personalities.

Hays, Hoffman R. *From Ape to Angel*. Knopf.
A thoroughly engaging history of social anthropology.

An illuminating memoir of the formative years of James Joyce.

Jung, Carl G. *Undiscovered Self*. Little.
Forthright warning that modern man is surrendering his individuality and freedom to a mass society.

A modern version of the further adventures of Odysseus translated into distinguished English verse.

A compassionate approach to the solution of the integration problem by the leader of the Montgomery, Alabama bus strike.

The ancient story of Job's suffering forcefully re-enacted in modern poetic drama.

Marek, Kurt W. *The March of Archaeology*. Knopf.
Handsomey illustrated survey of the modern discovery of ancient civilizations.
An account of the author's two months with the reed-dwellers of southern Iraq.

MONTGOMERY, BERNARD LAW, 1ST VISCOUNT. The Memoirs of Field Marshal, the Viscount Montgomery of Alamein. World.
Frank, controversial memoirs of Britain's famous field commander.

MORAES, FRANCIS B. Yonder One World. Macmillan.
A perceptive comparison of the East and West by an Indian journalist.

OVERSTREET, HARRY and OVERSTREET, BONARO W. What We Must Know About Communism. Norton.
Salient facts for the intelligent American citizen.

A powerful novel expressing indictment of the totalitarian way of life in Russia, by a modern Russian poet.

REDDING, J. SAUNDERS. Lonesome Road; the Story of the Negro's Part in America. Doubleday.
History related through biographical sketches of 12 outstanding Negroes.

RENAULT, MARY. The King Must Die. Pantheon Books.
A brilliant recreation of the legend of Theseus.

ROSS, ISHIBEL. First Lady of the South; the Life of Mrs. Jefferson Davis. Harper.
Definitive biography of a lively, intelligent and controversial woman.

The lives, tastes, motives, and methods of some adventurous American art collectors.

A story about intelligent, sensitive people—an Anglo-Jewish family—told with sharp personal insight.

SNOW, EDGAR. Journey to the Beginning. Random House.
An account of the author's many years on the Chinese political front.
SWANBERG, W. A. First Blood; the Story of Fort Sumter. Scribner.
Prelude to the Civil War dramatically documented.

TILLION, GERMAINE. Algeria; the Realities. Knopf.
Thoughtful and sensitive explanation of the Algerian situation.

A warm, introspective autobiography of a poet who is always a poised, serene, practical man.

WAGENKNECHT, EDWARD. The Seven Worlds of Theodore Roosevelt. Longmans.
An admiring but fair and sometimes stern analysis of Theodore Roosevelt.

WHITE, THEODORE H. The Mountain Road. Sloane.
A dramatic fictionalized account of an American demolition team in wartime China and of the psychology of command.

A fresh view of the author as a person and a writer based on recently discovered western journals.