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Notable Books  
Council

# NOTABLE BOOKS

VERTICAL FILE

# OF 1953

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# Notable Books

Anderson, Sherwood      **Letters of Sherwood Anderson:**  
selected and edited with an introduction and notes  
by Howard Mumford Jones in association with Wal-  
ter B. Rideout

A highly satisfactory selection of Anderson's letters, chosen to  
throw light on his methods and purposes as a literary craftsman.

Bartlett, Vernon      **Struggle for Africa**

A clear, authoritative survey of today's Africa, giving a construc-  
tive, impartial picture of that country's problems as a whole.

Bellow, Saul      **The Adventures of Augie March**

A modern picturesque novel in which the author, in quest of a  
worthwhile fate, embarks on a variety of adventures, mostly un-  
orthodox in the U. S. and abroad.

Brown, E. K.      **Willa Cather, a critical biography:**  
completed by Leon Edel

Sympathetic, illuminating, well-documented study of Willa Cather  
as artist and person.

Catton, Bruce      **A stillness at Appomattox**

This final volume in a notable trilogy on the Civil War combines  
sound scholarship with dramatic narration.

Churchill, Winston      **Triumph and tragedy:**  
the Second World War, Vol. 6

With this volume, which covers the decisive period from D-Day  
to July 1945, the author concludes his brilliant narrative of the Second  
World War.

Chute, Marchette      **Ben Jonson of Westminster**

A scholarly and sympathetic portrait of Jonson etched against the  
background of his age.

Cousins, Norman      **Who speaks for man?**

An outstanding commentator on world affairs writes with clarity  
and sincerity of his belief in the need for world citizenship.

Cousteau, Jacques & Dumas, Frederic      **The silent world**

Captain Cousteau's invention of the aqualung made possible the  
exciting undersea adventures which he describes in this fascinating  
book.

Dean, Gordon      **Report on the atom**

A realistic and sensible appraisal of the atomic energy program  
today by a former Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission.

De Voto, Bernard, ed.      **The journals of Lewis and Clark**

A compact, comparatively brief version of the classic seven-volume  
Journals, edited by one of the ablest interpreters of our western  
history.

Durant, William      **The Renaissance:**  
the story of civilization, part 5

Mr. Durant's able pen finds rich materials in the brilliant period of  
Italian Renaissance history for another volume of his highly readable  
story of civilization.

Fisher, Dorothy Canfield      **Vermont tradition:**  
the biography of an outlook on life

This warm and affectionate tribute, revealing the individuality of  
the author's native state, is regional history at its best.

Florinsky, Michael      **Russia: a history and an interpretation.**  
2 vols.

The best history of Russia in English to date, by a distinguished  
Russian scholar now teaching at Columbia University.

Heilbroner, Robert      **The worldly philosophers**

An introduction to the great economic thinkers and their doctrines,  
presenting the subject in an objective, unbiased, thought-provoking  
manner.

Herzog, Maurice      **Annapurna:**  
first conquest of an 8000 meter peak; tr. from the French

A thrilling account of the ascent of the highest mountain climbed  
by man, achieved with suffering, skill and indomitable courage.

Hight, Gilbert      **People, places and books**

A vivid collection of the author's lively and literate radio talks  
about books and reading.

Holmes, Oliver W. & Laski, Harold      **Holmes-Laski letters:**  
the correspondence of Mr. Justice Holmes and Harold  
J. Laski, edited by Mark De Wolfe Howe, with a fore-  
word by Felix Frankfurter, 2 vols.

This unique exchange of letters between the brilliant young social  
reformer and the wise, elderly skeptic is full of witty and pertinent  
comment on men and affairs.

Hulme, Kathryn      **The wild place**

A deeply moving, first-hand account of life in a Polish DP camp in  
Germany, by an UNRRA employee.

Ickes, Harold      **The secret diary of Harold Ickes:**  
the first thousand days, 1933-1936

A humanly interesting and historically important record of the  
early days of the New Deal as recorded daily by FDR's blunt, ex-  
plosive Secretary of the Interior.

Jones, Ernest      **The life and work of Sigmund Freud:**  
vol. 1, the formative years and the great discoveries,  
1856-1900

The first of a proposed three-volume definitive biography, well-  
documented and based on much previously unpublished material.

# f 1953

Kirk, Russell

**The conservative mind,**  
from Burke to Santayana

A brilliant and enlightening study of conservative thought in politics, religion, philosophy and literature from 1790 to 1952.

Kouwenhoven, John

**The Columbia historical portrait  
of New York**

Published in commemoration of Columbia's second centennial and New York's third, this beautiful volume contains over 900 illustrations of New York City, chronologically arranged with descriptive material.

Lamming, George

**In the castle of my skin**

A young West Indian writes, in moving and melodious prose, an autobiographical novel which presents the problems facing young Negroes everywhere.

Latourette, Kenneth

**The history of Christianity**

A well-rounded summary of the entire history of Christianity in all its phases.

Lincoln, Abraham

**Collected works,**

8 vols. edited by Roy P. Basler

An all-inclusive collection of the writings and speeches of Lincoln, containing many new and important items, published after vast research over a period of years.

Lindbergh, Charles A.

**The Spirit of St. Louis**

Beautifully and sensitively written account of the author's epic flight from New York to Paris in 1927 and of the incidents that led to the fulfillment of a young aviator's dream.

Malraux, Andre

**The voices of silence**

An important contribution to art history by a major voice in the literary world.

Maritain, Jacques

**Creative intuition in art and poetry**

Some of today's writing on the interrelation of poetry and the arts; by the distinguished French artist-philosopher.

Maurois, Andre

**Elia, the life of George Sand**

Written with deep psychological insight, this expert and sympathetic biography of a dynamic French novelist is also a lively picture of her times.

May, Rollo

**Man's search for himself**

A sensitive study of modern man written by a psychotherapist who believes that modern man, lacking goals, suffers from a sense of futility.

Meigs, Cornelia, ed. **A critical history of children's literature;**  
a survey of children's books in English from earliest  
times to the present

A genuine contribution in its field; of special interest to parents, teachers and librarians.

Michener, James

**The bridges at Toko-ri**

A vividly told short novel of the war in Korea with brilliant descriptions of jet flying and aircraft carrier operations.

Paton, Alan

**Too late the phalarope**

In lyrical, poetic prose, the story of Pieter Van Vlaanderen unfolds—his great goodness, his secret despair, his fall from grace, and his final salvation.

Randall, Ruth

**Mary Lincoln: biography of a marriage**

Based on a thorough study of both old and new Lincoln material, this sympathetic biography gives a new perspective on Mary Todd and Abraham Lincoln.

Raverat, Gwendolen

**Period piece**

Childhood in Cambridge, 1895-1905, is charmingly portrayed in this volume of reminiscences by the granddaughter of Charles Darwin.

Richter, Conrad

**The light in the forest**

This brief, beautifully written novel of pioneer America reveals the growth of a boy's spirit with its longing for liberty and freedom.

Rommel, Erwin

**The Rommel papers,**

ed. by B. H. Liddell Hart

An account of Rommel's part in World War II, rich in military information and insight into the character of the author.

Ruggles, Eleanor

**Prince of players: Edwin Booth**

An engrossing and perceptive biography of the great American actor, against the background of his times.

Sandburg, Carl

**Always the young strangers**

Memorable American autobiography by the well-loved poet and biographer, recapturing the atmosphere of the prairie home of his youth.

Sneider, Vern

**A pail of oysters**

The heart-warming, heart-rending story of three courageous young Formosans caught in the treacherous web of present day politics on that unhappy island.

Stevens, Leslie

**Russian assignment**

This vivid and absorbing personal record, by an American embassy attache in Moscow, is a valuable contribution to the understanding of Russia today.

Tharp, Louise

**Until victory: Horace Mann and  
Mary Peabody**

Readers of "The Peabody Sisters" will enjoy this excellent biography of one of them and of her husband, the famous 19th century American educator.

Thomas, Dylan

**Collected poems, 1934-1953**

An especially worthwhile collection of verse by the talented Welsh poet.

Tolstoy, Alexandra

**Tolstoy: a life of my father**

An intimate portrait of the great Russian novelist by his youngest daughter, showing him to be a thinker and idealist as well as a writer.

Uris, Leon

**Battle cry**

A superb story of a Marine regiment in the Pacific theater during World War II.

Wechsler, James

**The age of suspicion**

Case history of a journalist, in search of a truly liberal political philosophy, which points out both the dangers of Communism and of so-called McCarthyism in America.

Wheeler-Bennett, John W.

**The nemesis of power:**

The German army in politics, 1918-1945

A study of Germany's military-dominated politics, pointing out historical proof of the danger inherent in German re-armament today.

White, Theodore

**Fire in the ashes: Europe in mid-century**

A challenging book which reviews the state of Europe today and calls for a reaffirmation of American ideals in our world responsibilities.

Wright, Frank L.

**The future of architecture**

Past and present as well as future of architecture, as seen by Frank Lloyd Wright.

Young, Jefferson

**A good man**

A memorable first novel about a Negro tenant farmer's struggle for dignity in an off corner of the fast changing South.

The Public Libraries Division gratefully acknowledges the excellent work done by The Notable Books Committee under the chairmanship of Mary E. Dollard of the Cleveland Public Library, in cooperation with the many participating public libraries throughout the country.

As in the past, this list has come into being with the broad purpose in mind of providing recommendations for good reading from the books published in this year just past. Certainly other lists could have been prepared for other purposes, but these titles are considered by public librarians to be genuinely meritorious in terms of literary excellence, factual correctness and in the sincerity and honesty of presentation. In addition, they represent well deserving contributions to literature, or outstandingly useful titles to aid in individual growth, development and understanding.