

Verbundkatalog Kalliope

In: Common Sense. S. 27, 28

Heil Hitler! A Play of the National Socialist Revolution. By Louis Walinsky.

Mann, Klaus

Dezember

Nutzungsbedingungen

Bei zahlreichen Dokumenten auf monacensia-digital.de sind die Urheberrechte bereits abgelaufen. Sie sind gemeinfrei und dürfen ohne weitere Rücksprache mit der Monacensia weiterverwendet werden.

Bei den Dokumenten, bei denen noch Urheberrechte bestehen, müssen für eine Weiterverwendung stets die Rechteinhaber*innen angefragt werden sowie eine Publikationsgenehmigung der Monacensia eingeholt werden. Das Zitatrecht bleibt hiervon unberührt.

Zur Erteilung einer Publikationserlaubnis wenden Sie sich bitte an:

Monacensia im Hildebrandhaus

Literaturarchiv

Adresse: Maria-Theresia-Straße 23, 81675 München

E-Mail: monacensia.literaturarchiv@muenchen.de

Terms of use

The copyrights for numerous documents on monacensia-digital.de have already expired. They are in the public domain and may be reused without further consultation with Monacensia. In the case of documents for which copyrights still exist, the copyright holders must always be contacted for further use and publication permission must be obtained from the Monacensia. The right to quote under copyright law remains unaffected by this. To obtain permission for publication, please contact:

Monacensia im Hildebrandhaus:

Literaturarchiv

Address: Maria-Theresia-Straße 23, 81675 München

E-Mail: monacensia.literaturarchiv@muenchen.de

ness of the answer which the reader expects from page 1, Freeman has done some extensive ratiocination, which may be why he never allows a fact to speak for itself.

EUNICE CLARK.

RUBBER. A Story of Glory and Greed. By Howard and Ralph Wolf. Covici Friede. \$4.25.

SELDOM has the history of any major industry been told in one volume with the completeness and zest with which Messrs. H. and R. Wolf write of rubber. Once the reader gets past the over-fanciful, unnecessary picture of the discovery of rubber in the first chapter, the whole book is exciting and fascinating. For 500 pages the authors maintain a high level whether recounting the early days of 'wild' rubber in the eighteenth century or the efforts to replace natural by synthetic rubber in the twentieth.

This story of glory and greed, while confined to rubber, exemplifies almost every phase of capitalist development, colony-grabbing for raw materials, the evolution of the trust and the elimination of the small producer, the growth of labor unions and the strangling of business by finance. The raw material was first obtained by thinly-veiled robbery in Brazil and Africa, episodes effectively exposed in the Putumayo and Congo scandals. Discredited and out-of-date, these methods were replaced by the more efficient, imperialist plantations systems of Malaya, Java and Indo-China. Over rubber as over other raw materials rival imperialisms clashed. The British-engineered restriction schemes, although unsuccessful, were threat enough to send American producers searching for their own source of supply—Firestone to Liberia, Ford to Brazil.

The tale of Charles Goodyear, Firestone, Goodrich, Seiberling and others and of the growth of Akron is the standard story of modern industry. It tells of the transition from the small employer-owned factory to the industrial plant of the modern corporation, how the disappearance of old-style competition was replaced by semi-monopoly. The bankers took over the entrepreneur and Wall Street took over the stockholders. Akron "was estimated to house 80 to 120 millionaires as 1920 dawned." In the same way on the workers' side rubber has seen the customary changes.

Particularly interesting is the account of the drive for the synthetic product. "Almost from the moment that the tree milk from the Amazon began to make fortunes, the hunt to duplicate it artificially was on." Every great power, the United States, Germany, England and Russia now has its rubber substitute, which although not cheap enough for tire manufacture, already acts as a limiting factor on the cost of raw rubber.

MICHAEL ROSS.

THE STONES AWAKE. By Carleton Beals. New York. Lippincott. \$2.50.

MR. BEALS is one of the ablest journalists in this country. Through his books and articles on Latin America—especially Mexico, the scene of his present novel—he has revealed himself as a crack reporter, a man who can extract the essence of a country's conflict out of a half hour interview, and a writer who brings to a political fact a real understanding of the motives and traditions that led up to it. Given these qualifications we expect from him, in a book about Mexico, journalism plus.

The story centers around a peasant girl, Esperanza, and deals with the turbulent years from 1910—at the end

of the dictatorship of Diaz, with the rebel Madera already on the march—to the present time and the presidency of Cardenas. Through Esperanza we see first the brutalities of the hacienda system bring revolt and disillusion with the rebel leaders, and then more revolt—struggles for education and for land—with always the parallel line of shifts and tricks and murders in the government. Esperanza's husband, who has fought with Madera, is killed idiotically, as an onlooker at a battle in the street. She has jobs and loses them, works for a school in her village and sees it taken away by politicians and the priest, and begins to recognize all the struggles of her people as campaigns in the same war. She has a brief emotional attachment to a religious charlatan, so caricatured that it is impossible to see this section as anything but a crude device to drag in an important aspect of Mexican life. There follow more love, more bloodshed, more disillusion—succeeding each other formlessly, in a perpetual crisis—and Esperanza's final return to the land.

One closes the book with relief, and with a less clear impression of Mexico than of Mr. Beals sitting at a typewriter and pounding out his work at some fabulous amount per hour. There are, of course, valuable observations: for a writer who knows so much of his subject it would be difficult to keep them out. Beyond these, if we are to accept this book as a novel, there is little to say; except that a writer who passes off as emotional experience material that he has obviously rushed through, in thought and in writing, shows extraordinary disrespect for both his public and himself.

ELEANOR CLARK.

HEIL HITLER! A Play of the National Socialist Revolution. By Louis Walinsky. Pilgrim House. \$1.00.

OUT of the tragic events of recent German history, a gifted young American writer—Louis Walinsky—has created a very moving play. The three acts entitled "Heil Hitler" testify to the author's courageous thinking and political intelligence.

Walinsky's drama is really divided into two parts: an "official" one and a "private" one. In the "official" part, appear characters whose names are already history: Field-Marshal General von Hindenburg; his son, Major von Hindenburg; Secretary of State Meissner; General von Schleicher, Adolf Hitler, his devoted disciples, Goebbels, Goering and Frick, and many others. As the center of the "private" part there is a provincial family by the name of Broesike and a young Jew, Kurt Markus. The young Jew loves the "aryan" Fraulein Hilda Broesike, whose brother is an impassioned Nazi, and who in her turn is loved by a friend of her brother's, a brutal S. A. Fuehrer. The S. A. Fuehrer kills the young Jew; the girl Hilda, in revenge, kills the S. A. Fuehrer; in the end the Broesike family is discovered to have Jewish blood and the fervent Nazi, Fritz Broesike, collapses. In the "official" part several of the important political events of 1932 and 1933 are forcefully re-enacted; Hitler's first audience with von Hindenburg; von Papen's intrigues against Chancellor General von Schleicher; the Reichstag fire, the Jewish boycott, etc. The "official" and "private" parts are only loosely tied together.

The play is rather crudely staged; the author was more concerned with achieving powerful, primitive effects than psychological subtleties. The result is no great work of art, but nevertheless a play with which every politically-minded American would do well to become acquainted. Because of the author's very solid and thorough treatment, the occasional small errors in the text are surprising. Several names are misspelled. Among

"Common Sense."

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

JOHN T. FLYNN, outstanding business analyst, is the author of "God's Gold," "Graft in Business" and "Security Speculation." He writes a regular column for the Scripps-Howard newspapers and has contributed many articles to "Common Sense."

WILLIAM E. ZEUCH, now Professor of Economics at Black Mountain College, was the founder of Commonwealth College and former director of cooperatives under the Resettlement Administration.

HARRY A. OVERSTREET, head of the department of Philosophy at New York University and lecturer at the New School for Social Research, is the author of "Influencing Human Behaviour" and "About Ourselves."

ROY V. PEEL is Professor of Government at New York University. He was formerly Chairman of New York's City Fusion Party and has recently returned from a two-year survey of the Scandinavian economies.

NEIL STAEBLER, who lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan, has been in Europe during the past year studying forms of government.

KLAUS MANN, a famous novelist and dramatist in pre-Hitler Germany, is the son of Thomas Mann, Nobel Prize Winner. He is now lecturing in this country.

HERBERT HARRIS, contributor to many national magazines, handled publicity for the New York Office of the Progressive National Committee during the late campaign.

MICHAEL ROSS, formerly economic expert with various New Deal agencies.

WILLIAM P. VOGEL, Jr., is a reporter on the staff of the New York Herald Tribune.

DWIGHT MACDONALD is a former Editor of Fortune Magazine.

Eyes On Wisconsin

A short while ago, the first unemployment insurance benefit check ever issued in the United States was handed to a jobless workman in Madison, and Wisconsin again demonstrated its position of leadership in social and labor legislation.

A short while ago, too, farm, labor and Progressive party leaders met in Madison and outlined plans for the establishing of a great national third party to function actively in the next national campaign. Thus does Wisconsin play a leading part in legislative and political matters and attract the interested attention of the nation. In 1936 it is more than ever true that the eyes of the nation are on Wisconsin.

Carrying Wisconsin's message of liberalism throughout the nation and making journalistic history in the weekly newspaper field is **THE PROGRESSIVE**, successor to the old La Follette's monthly magazine, published at Madison, Wis. No paid advertising appears in *The Progressive*. No advertisers' threats distort or suppress news.

The Progressive is not limited in scope to Wisconsin. Its field is national, and in it you will find the facts about what is going on in the liberal and labor movement throughout the nation.

A special trial subscription offer makes it easy for you to become a reader. For only 20 cents you can receive the next 10 issues of this unique, different publication.

Send 20 cents today to

THE PROGRESSIVE

Dept. L, Madison, Wis.

them, famous names like "Goering" (Walinsky has it "Goehring.") Where German songs are cited, the quotations are not always correct. The Nazi Headquarters in Berlin was never the Hotel Eden, as Walinsky says, but the Hotel Kaiserhof. These are trivial slips which it would have been well to avoid, for they can furnish the Nazis with a pretext for declaring the play inaccurate and exaggerated in essentials, whereas in all essentials it speaks the truth and only the truth.

KLAUS MANN.

THE NATIONALIZATION OF BUSINESS: 1878-1898.
By Ida M. Tarbell. Macmillan. \$4.00.

MANY years ago Ida Tarbell wrote her celebrated and excellent *History of the Standard Oil Company*. Since then, her work has been scarcely second-rate. Her life of Judge Gary was as sycophantic and dull as any official biography. Nor will the present volume help such reputation as she may still have. It tells the story of the years when American capitalism was in its heyday: a period which began with the ingenious technological devices of Edison, Bell, Captain Bill Jones and others and which culminated in the ingenious financial devices of Rockefeller, Morgan, Moore, John W. Gates and the other creators of the "trust." The theme is a rich one but the author hardly skims the surface. Her book is a hodgepodge of miscellaneous information, fished out here and there from obvious sources and patched together with scissors and paste. Those who have any knowledge of the period will find it banal and superficial. As an introduction for the layman it is wretchedly written and organized. The author's general perspective seems to consist in a vague belief in capitalism and a dim feeling that the past has "lessons" for the future.

DWIGHT MACDONALD.

CALEB CATLUM'S AMERICA. By Vincent McHugh. Stackpole Sons. \$2.50.

"YOU, sir, are the country," said Thomas Jefferson to Caleb Catlum, as he gave the raw-boned young man, with the red-maned head and the checked-thousand-mile shirt a copy of the declaration of independence as a token of his appreciation. This is rather a true statement, as readers of Mr. McHugh's galloping satire will find out, for Caleb is considerably a composite of American history.

If you don't bite the allegory, the chances are it will not bite you. Caleb was born of a fabulous tribe of Catlums along about 1798, and he is still a young man when he tells his story to Mr. McHugh in New England last summer. He studied printing, science and thrift with Ben Franklin, flat-boated on the Mississippi with the loud-mouthed haulers that Mark Twain wrote about, toured the country with John Henry and Paul Bunyan and trimmed Jim Fisk in Wall Street, to say nothing of sailing with the whaling fleet and riding the pony express with Buffalo Bill. He grew up with the country, and along with the numerous tribe of Catlums of Catlumville he watched the advance of the Traders with a gloomy and jaundiced eye.

Catlumville, like Caleb, also jumps about the country. When he was born it was a village up in York State; later, about the time Caleb went with the Lewis and Clarke expedition as chief scout, it hoveled into Kaintuck, and after that it advanced into the Missouri frontier. Before the Catlums were driven out of the country by the Traders, Catlumville was one of the leading settlements of California.

Caleb is a big boisterous American lout, braggart and wenching man. He uses the outlandish word with a kind

COMMON SENSE