

political, and critical values of the "modern world," and he writes of them with a poised and entirely unselfconscious candor. The total effect of his volume is one of spiritual stature in the virile meaning of the phrase. He has no reason to feel, as he suggests, that he may to some extent "appear ridiculous to the modern mind." His book, in fact, should be required reading for the modern.

**WHISTLER'S FATHER**, by Albert Parry. \$3.50. *Bobbs-Merrill*. As the book-jacket says, Maj. George Washington Whistler has an outstanding claim to the title of Forgotten Man. His accomplishments as a railway builder have been completely overshadowed by the fame of his son and of the son's picture of his mother, Maj. Whistler was world-famous in his time — the early eighteen hundreds — and built the first Russian railroad, from St. Petersburg to Moscow. This was the most unusual phase of his life, and the author devotes practically the entire book to it. The result is a highly colorful and worthwhile account of a Yankee at Czar Nicholas' Court. The young Whistler and his mother figure prominently, of course.

**MR. CIBBER OF DRURY LANE**, by Richard Hindry Barker. \$3.00. *Columbia U. Press*. Scholarly biography, with much unpublished material, of Colley Cibber, the English actor, playwright, and poet laureate. Cibber lived from 1671-1757, a span which covers some of the most fruitful and lively years in English stage history. Fine for serious stage students.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

**MARXISM: AN AUTOPSY**, by Henry Bamford Parkes. \$3.00. *Houghton Mifflin*. One of the clearest, calmest, most competent criticisms of Marxism that has appeared this generation. Mr. Parkes resorts neither to invective nor weighted logic in dismembering the Marxist doctrine. He differentiates in the first place those elements in the Marxist outlook which are peculiar to Marxism and those which merely share a common heritage of

earlier economic thought. It is essentially the "inoral energy" derived from a belief in freedom which has given the Marxist movement strength, says Mr. Parkes, and not "A metaphysics which declares that the future is determined, a sociology which traces all human ideals and aspirations to a basis in material needs, an economics which is riddled with the most elementary fallacies and with predictions which have not been realized. . . ." The means of Marxism go far astray from the end of freedom which the founding fathers sought "and those means have then been erected into dogmas and themselves given the status of ends." It remains for the progressive movement "to maintain the moral idealism, the enthusiasm for freedom and human development which have characterized the Marxists; but to elaborate an economic program and a political strategy which will not make that enthusiasm futile." Mr. Parkes' own suggestions for a practical program are a combination of different steps which would provide for freedom of individual choice, disappearance of unearned income, job security.

**LAW AND POLITICS**, Occasional papers of Felix Frankfurter. \$3.00. *Harcourt Brace*. Lucid, non-technical essays, bringing alive the Frankfurter social and economic thought — and the thought of a Justice of the Supreme Court may well hold an index to our future.

**MAUD**, Edited and arranged for publication by Richard Lee Strout. \$3.50. *Macmillan*. Selections from a diary kept by a shallow young miss who lived in a steamboating town on the Mississippi in the 1880s. Chief concerns are boy friends, clothes, parties, and run of the home affairs. Wars come and go; lassies go on forever.

**HOW WAR CAME**, by Raymond Gram Swing. \$2.00. *Norton*. A selection from the author's broadcasts during the six months preceding the war: leisurely in pace until August 21, when the Nazi-Soviet pact was announced, and breathless thereafter. Considering the pressure under which these talks

were written, they hold up remarkably well. Much of the speculation scarcely deserves print, having been too well proved or disproved by events. But its inclusion does convey a sense of the bewilderment of the period.

**THE HISTORY OF AN ADVERTISING AGENCY, N. W. Ayer & Son At Work, 1869-1939**, by Ralph M. Hower. \$4.00. *Harvard U. Press*. Detailed and documented study of an advertising agency which is really the history of American advertising. N. W. Ayer, co-operating with the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration, has made possible this fifth work of the Harvard Studies in business history. From its start, when Francis Wayland Ayer, as a penniless youth of 20 in 1868 turned from teaching to solicit advertisements for the *National Baptist*, Prof. Hower has traced the policy, management and economics of the agency.

**FORTY-FIVE MINUTES PAST EIGHT, 1000 and 1 Broadway First Nights**, by Ward Morehouse. \$2.50. *Dial Press*. The author conducts the well known Broadway After Dark department in the *New York Sun*, and has traveled the world at large as well as the world of Broadway. Everywhere he gets close to the people who do the interesting things, and his book adds up to the engaging semi-autobiography of a twentieth-century man of the world. Especially recommended to the celebrity-conscious.

**FREEDOM AND CULTURE**, by John Dewey. \$2.00. *Putnam*. America's premier philosopher considers the problem of freedom and culture in the looming shadows of 1939. "If there is one conclusion to which human experience unmistakably points," he writes, "it is that democratic ends demand democratic methods for their realization. Authoritarian methods now offer themselves to us in new guises. . . . Our first defense is to realize that democracy can be served only by the slow day-by-day adoption and contagious diffusion in every phase of our common life of methods that are identical with the ends to

be reached and that recourse to monistic, wholesale, absolutist procedures is a betrayal of human freedom no matter in what guise it presents itself." Democracy, like science, requires freedom of inquiry, toleration of diverse views, freedom of communication. What Mr. Dewey's statement lacks in vividness it makes up for in precision.

**GIDDY MINDS AND FOREIGN QUARRELS**, by Charles A. Beard. 50¢. *Macmillan*. Dr. Beard unleashes his wrath and scholarship on those who feel America has a mission in "putting down the wicked abroad." He administers a sound thumping to the "brash young tom-tom beaters in journalism, who know no history beyond a few days ago, write books on the 'inside' of this or that" and want to strike up the band. The United States, says he, should stay out of the war, keep its powder dry and its nose clean.

**JUGGERNAUT: THE PATH OF DICTATORSHIP**, by Albert Carr. \$3.00. *Viking*. A provocative, though overly-ambitious, attempt to search out the single key which will explain the enigma of dictatorship. Mr. Carr draws crisp case histories of outstanding political muscle-men from Richelieu to Hitler and divides them into dynasts, revolutionaries, and crisis-men. He sees the crisis-men as dominant in the future unless democracy in all its socialist implications asserts itself.

**FORCES IN AMERICAN CRITICISM**, by Bernard Smith. \$3.00. *Harcourt, Brace*. A curious jumble of critical history, snap judgment, and unverified generalization salted down with a leftist viewpoint. Mr. Smith covers a pretty stretch of ground but his observations are uneven and haphazard. His chapters on Marxist criticism in the United States are perhaps the best validated in the book but even here, either out of ignorance or a desire to conceal, the omissions are striking: there is no analysis of Russian influence reflecting itself in the literary sphere or of the reasons for the alterations this criticism underwent.

# THE OPEN FORUM

## THE FOOTBALL CONTROVERSY

"What Price College Football?" by John Tunis, in the October *MERCURY* aroused much comment in the schools and sports pages of the land. The letters received by Mr. Tunis and *THE MERCURY* are too numerous to print, but we offer here some typical reactions both pro and con:

SIR: I wish to express my appreciation of your article, "What Price College Football?", in the October *MERCURY*. I enjoyed it and agree with most of your classification of institutions. I wish to commend your pressing home the dishonesty that prevails in many college circles, for you have not overstated the case. I wish you would raise the counter-part query in a suitable article, namely, why does the public pass by good sportsmanship and herd in such numbers at contests which are so glaringly lacking in institutional candor?

C. C. WILLIAMS  
*President*  
*Lehigh University*

*Bethlehem,*  
*Pennsylvania.*

SIR: I have just finished reading "What Price College Football?" I want to congratulate you upon the splendid manner in which you have handled this subject, and I predict that you have rendered a distinctive service to American education.

PAUL H. BOWMAN  
*President*  
*Bridgewater College*

*Bridgewater,*  
*Virginia.*

SIR: "What Price College Football?" strikes me as a particularly good job. Having been through the mill I think I can appreciate

some of the care, effort, and expense that you must have put into its preparation. At the risk of being a little profound, I want to express my conviction that you have expounded a moral issue which I wish could be brought to the attention of every high school principal, coach, and pupil (and his parents) in the country.

HOWARD J. SAVAGE  
*Secretary, Carnegie Foundation*  
*for the Advancement of Teaching.*

*New York City.*

SIR: From what I know of college football through experience as a one-time sports writer and from what I have picked up since, I think that John Tunis' statements are essentially correct. I await the reaction with interest.

W. V. MORGENSTERN  
*Director of Press Relations*  
*University of Chicago*

*Chicago.*

SIR: I approve of John R. Tunis' article "What Price College Football?" and of his other attacks on hypocrisy in the higher positions on college faculties. To pull out the weeds would be really a simple problem if the presidents of colleges were honest, industrious, and fearless. In the usual college football squad there are never more than thirty or forty really good players. In most colleges a large percentage of these are bona fide students with means sufficient to make scholarships unnecessary. The actual cases needing investigation and decision are never so numerous that a President cannot find out the necessary facts about his squad in a few hours. It is therefore thorough hypocrisy for such an executive to say, "I am too busy to know; I have to leave that to others whom I