

The New—in Review

Alice Miel, Editor

THE MUCH-DISCUSSED pamphlet *Races of Mankind* is now ready to do service in a new form. A 60-frame, 35mm film strip based on the pamphlet was released recently under the title *We Are All Brothers*. Of this material, Eleanor D. Seidler, film consultant of the New York University Film Library, writes:

"The film strip stresses the fact that all peoples are fundamentally the same: that there is no such thing as an Aryan race, no such thing as a Jewish race, that varying levels of intelligence and varying character traits are found in all races. Finally that all men are brothers."

A written commentary and a copy of the pamphlet accompany the film strip.

Another brand new film strip which should be a welcome addition to any school film library is *How to Conquer War*, 169 frames. Mrs. Seidler describes this film as follows: "It shows that society has developed in definite cycles; namely, enlargements of contacts, war, readjustment and peace. It shows the failure of the League of Nations and urges the establishment of a federal world government which will guarantee peace for all time."

A written commentary accompanies this film strip also. Of these companion items, the New York University Film Library (71 Washington Square South, New York 12, N. Y.) is the sole distributor. They are for sale only, the former priced at \$1, the latter at \$5.

HENRY W. HOLMES in *New Hope for Human Unity* pins faith on a world government that looks to the common welfare of humanity and that challenges personal loyalty. Another plank in the author's platform for peace as outlined in this volume—the 1944 Kappa Delta Pi lecture (Macmillan, \$1.50)—is universal compulsory military training conducted by each nation in cooperation with a Union of Nations. Toward attaining human

unity, he makes further specific suggestions such as the systematizing and expediting of international travel by responsible representatives of many business, professional, and social groups. All suggestions are characterized by the need for obtaining unity without sacrificing the individuality of nations.

Mr. Holmes sees education as the final weapon against humanity's three great enemies—prejudice, fanaticism, and reactionary leadership. This small book contains much for all to consider thoughtfully.

LABOR'S WELL-KNOWN friendliness to education is documented in a twenty-page pamphlet *Labor and Education*, available for 5 cents from the publicity department of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, 718 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington 6, D. C. The "Program for Action" advocated in the text includes support of federal aid to education, extension of nursery schools, and year-round use of the school plant for the education of both children and adults.

Among the cartoons that effectively illustrate the pamphlet is one in which on the one side, a silk-hatted gentleman is presenting to a member of the school board his program of "All they need to know": *Say yes, sir, Be prompt, Be patient, Be respectful, Be clean, Be reliable, Remember the good old days, Don't ask questions*. On the other side, a worker presents "All this they need to know": *Scientific attitude, Active citizenship, Resourceful use of leisure time, Rich cultural background, Understanding of other peoples, Experiences in organization, Analysis, Planning, Production, Sharing, Evaluation, Communication*.

WINTER PROGRAMS for NBC's University of the Air provide varied fare. "We Came This Way"—great events and figures in the world fight for freedom—is the 1944-45 course in history. This series continues on Fridays through January. "Music in Amer-

ican Cities" may be heard on Thursdays well into February. New Orleans, Caribbean cities, New York in the middle period, Bogota, and San Francisco are the subjects of programs planned for the remaining time.

On Saturdays is the series "They Live Forever," dramatizations of the world's great novels. This program continues until March with *Vanity Fair*, *Jane Eyre*, *Madame Bovary*, and *The Scarlet Letter* scheduled for presentation.

Handbooks for these three series may be purchased for 25 cents each. For "We Came This Way" and "The World's Great Novels," write to Columbia University Press, 2960 Broadway, New York 27, N. Y. For "Music in American Cities" write to Southern Music Publishing Company, 1619 Broadway, New York 19, N. Y.

Blue Network offerings of especial interest are: 1) the Metropolitan Opera which began its fourteenth consecutive season of Saturday afternoon broadcasts on December 2; 2) a series of thirty concerts by the Boston Symphony Orchestra on Saturday evenings, ending April 28; 3) Greenfield Village Choir, a religious program for and by children, Sunday evenings; 4) "The Sea Hound," an action type of late afternoon show for children, presented Monday through Friday in cooperation with the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs. (The owner-captain of the "Sea Hound" travels from port to port in Latin America.)

On Saturdays the Blue Network presents "The Land of the Lost," a series of comedy-fantasy stories of primary appeal to children. Two children visit a fabulous "land where the lost things go" at the bottom of the sea. Local program announcements should be consulted for exact times of broadcasts.

A MORE REALISTIC approach to study of the Near and Far East marks the newer materials for teachers and children interested in that section of the globe. From the U. S. Office of Education may be obtained free of charge selected references on the Philippines, Thailand, China, and India, all prepared by C. O. Arndt, senior specialist in Far Eastern education. From the same source are available two annotated lists, one of "Available Units, Courses of Study, and Other Curricular Material Dealing with the Far East" (revised, June 1944), the other of

"Pamphlets on the Far East." The contents cover both the elementary and secondary schools.

Information on "Education in China Today" is to be found in Leaflet No. 69 of the U. S. Office of Education. Order from the Supt. of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. Price, 5 cents.

Picture maps of China, Japan, India, and the Philippines are available from the Friendship Press, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y., for 50 cents each.

In addition to their 50-cent picture portfolios of the everyday life of a family in China, in India, and in Russia, the East and West Association (40 East Forty-ninth Street, New York 17, N. Y.) now has ready for distribution a number of pamphlets and reading lists. Each of the trio of study outlines—"The People of India," "The People of the U.S.S.R.," and "The People of China"—deals with these questions: who they are, how they live, what they like, and why they are fighting. The pamphlet on China is 30 cents, the other two, 40 cents. General bibliographies on China, India, and the Near East sell for 20 cents each. One on the Philippines is 15 cents, one on the U.S.S.R., 25 cents. Book lists on China, on Russia, and on India for boys and girls are 10 cents each.

DETAILED PLANS for a community cultural study are included in *Arts and Our Town*, a new publication of the Association of the Junior Leagues of America, Inc. (Waldorf-Astoria, New York, N. Y., 50 cents). The booklet contains instructions to the study committee and gives outlines for securing data on the community in general and on the twenty-four fields to be covered, such as museum, library, various kinds of theaters, schools and clubs, and other institutions and groups that might provide opportunities for participation in the arts. Educators engaged in surveying their communities with learners and school patrons will find this study plan invaluable.

HOCUS-POCUS and gadgets are not the stock-in-trade of Grace M. Fernald. Her book *Remedial Techniques in Basic School Subjects* (McGraw-Hill, 1943, \$2.75) outlines simple procedures which any teacher could use in the classroom to help the pupils who

have not learned to read, spell, and figure through conventional teaching methods. The essentials of the technique in remedial reading, for example, consist in 1) the discovery of some means by which the child can learn to write words correctly, 2) the motivating of such writing, 3) the reading by the child of the printed copy of what he has written, and 4) extensive reading of materials other than his own compositions.

Many of the procedures recommended for improving reading, spelling, and arithmetic would be appropriate for all children. For example, children should use words in context; they should write words as units, not copy letter by letter.

Conditions to be avoided, according to Mrs. Fernald, are calling attention to emotionally loaded situations, using methods by which an individual cannot learn, subjecting the child to conditions which cause him embarrassment, and directing the child's attention to what he is unable to do rather than to his progress. This is good advice to apply in any situation.

EVIDENCE THAT some important changes of view with regard to supervision have taken place in the last ten years can be gathered from a comparison between the 1934 edition of Henry J. Otto's *Elementary School Organization and Administration* and the second edition published this year (D. Appleton-Century, \$3.75). Other "trends of the thirties" are reflected in this comprehensive revision. Changes in chapter titles in themselves are significant. Chapter III "The Curriculum" and Chapter VIII "Organization for Professional Leadership" have undergone the greatest changes. There is new material also on elementary school problems in rural areas. Treatment of the matter of grouping is much improved in the new edition. Throughout the book the author makes the improvement of instruction central in importance and treats improvement of the organization and administration of the elementary school as a means toward that end.

WAR AGAINST inflation cannot end. To help teachers continue to do their share in that war of education versus greed or apathy, the Information Division of the Office of

Price Administration has issued an up-to-date "School Teacher's Information Kit" on rationing-price control. The kit offers "factual data to use in presenting the subject of citizenship in a wartime economy." Among the materials incorporated are specific suggestions on how elementary schools and how high schools can contribute to the home front economy in wartime.

THE EDUCATIONAL POLICIES Commission has issued three new pamphlets to accompany their successful publication of last year, *Education and the People's Peace*. One, *Let's Talk About Education and the People's Peace* is a handbook for teachers, speakers, and discussion leaders interested in furthering adult education. It was prepared by Paul Sheats. A second, *Learning About Education and the Peace* was written by Harry L. Bard for high school social studies teachers. The third, *Let's Look at Education and the People's Peace* is for the cartoon-minded of all ages. Drawings are by Bob Stailey. Order from the Commission, 1201 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C., 10 cents each.

THE PAMPHLET listing for 1944-45 of the Association for Family Living (209 South State Street, Chicago 4, Ill.) contains inexpensive materials that have been found to be both sound and usable. They are available from the Association at cost plus postage. New items in the listing include "Psychological Adjustment of Returned Service Men and Their Families" by Griffith; "A Mother Answers a Morals S.O.S." by Gladys Shultz; and "Present Day Problems in Counseling" by James S. Plant. These pamphlets may be ordered for 5 cents each.

"THANK YOU for scraping the smugness off my liberalism," writes one reader of *South Today*, a semi-annual publication edited by Lillian Smith and Paula Snelling (Clayton, Ga., \$1 a year, 50 cents a copy). This magazine ranks high among sources for improving one's understanding of other people. For educators, the issue for spring-summer 1944, which is devoted to the subject "The Earth: a Common Ground for Children," will have special interest.

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