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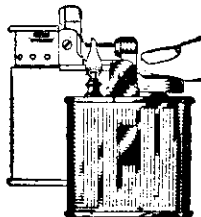
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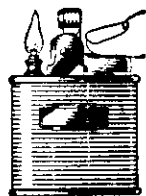
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Windshield up for outdoors, down for indoors, the Ronson Whirlwind lights in any weather.



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Book Reviews

(continued from previous page)

the book. The original spelling of place names may help to preserve historical flavour and interest, but modern spelling could have been used for ordinary words. And the prodigal use of capital letters, although common in Cook's time, makes hard reading for modern eyes.

Closer editing could also have improved the narrative. Many entries are loaded with navigational details which can mean very little to the plain reader for whom the book is primarily intended. Interest is not aroused by entries like the following: "Sunday 24th.—Light Airs next to a Calm all this 24 Hours. At 7 p.m. saw the land from the Mast head bearing S.½ E.; at 11 a.m. saw it again bearing S.S.E. distant 8 Leagues. At Noon Latitude observed 33° 48'S." By far the most interesting passages are those which describe Cook's experiences with the Maoris. Throughout these pages may be seen with increasing clearness the profile of a great man.

The book is well printed and bound, but the dust jacket is unfortunate.

—L.M.H.

THE WASTE OF WAR

THIS WAR BUSINESS, by Arthur Guy Enock; The Bodley Head; English price, 18/-.

"SO you see, my dear Coningsby, the world is governed by very different personages from what is imagined by those who are not behind the scenes," wrote Disraeli over a century ago. The omission of this theme—that many strange faggots go to stoke the fires of war, is the major weakness of this book. (This fact is commented on by Major-General J. C. Fuller in his foreword.) Nevertheless, the terrifying collection of factual material on the cost and waste of war justifies a sprawling publication. The author, a Quaker, seems to have gone through all the available blue-books to assemble his facts—there are tables of naval losses, of casualties, of money costs of the 1914-18 war, and similar ones for the 1939-45 war. The losses and expenditure of each of the countries are listed; for example, in 1939-45, Great Britain lost 4786 merchant ships (21,194,000 tons of shipping); the greatest material damages in this war were suffered by the U.S.S.R. which also had 4,500,000 of its armed forces killed and 6,000,000 civilians dead or missing. There are sections on the huge cost of war pensions, on conscientious objectors, on chemical and bacteriological warfare, on the moral reactions of British scientists to making atom bombs, on political and military authorities who say, "If you prepare thoroughly and efficiently for war, you get war." It is all there, and more.

—W.B.S.

FALL AND RISE

IS GOD IN HISTORY? by Gerald Heard; Faber & Faber. English price, 15/-.

GERALD HEARD believes that the fall of man has been a triple process "correlated with a triple recovery." He discovers evidence of fall and redemption in the evolutionary scheme; in the misuse of appetite through a loss of intuitive knowledge, followed by the growth of tradition and the Prophetic Appeal; and in a decline into false faiths, remedied in part by what he calls the Enlightened Mysteries and "the unification of mythos and history."

Mr. Heard follows his ideas tenaciously, with the help of an imagination

which takes in the cosmic scheme as well as the cyclic movements of history. His scholarship is wide and full; but he uses a thorny diction, full of terms taken from scientific usage and applied somewhat roughly to philosophical thinking. As an intellectual exercise, his work is impressive, and often stimulating. Its fundamental weakness, however, is the approach to the subject; the argument is outwards, from an assumption which in effect is a dogma. If the idea of the Fall is accepted, the reasoning may seem persuasive; but the evidence is fitted to the theory, and the same method could be used with equal plausibility to support an entirely different concept.

—H.

LISTEN FLUENTLY

SIMPLE SPEAKS HIS MIND, by Langston Hughes; Victor Gollancz. English price, 9/6.

THE mind of a Harlem Negro, wise-cracking as he props up a bar, was well worth speaking, and we should all, in his own phrase, "listen fluently." Here are the comedy and fetching turns of phrase of a coloured Damon Runyon. Here too is a serious concern to improve the position of his race and end Jim Crowism: "... Every time I saw a picture in the coloured papers of coloured soldiers receiving medals in the last war, a white officer was always doing the pinning. I have not yet seen a picture in no paper of a coloured officer pinning a medal on a white soldier." I wish all propaganda was as funny as this book.

—David Hall

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

PRACTICAL AIDS TO PUBLIC SPEAKING, by F. R. Worts; Allen and Unwin; English price, 6/-.

The author is lecturer in public speaking to various state departments in Britain.

PHILIP HARBEN'S TELEVISION COOKERY BOOK; Odhams Press, through Whitcombe and Tombs; N.Z. price, 10/6. Information, advice and recipes from an expert whose BBC television programme is popular in England.



DOUGLAS REED, whose latest book, "Far and Wide" is to be reviewed in the ZB Book Review session on March 23 by Russell Palmer. The session will be devoted to books touching on contemporary problems and the other works scheduled for discussion are "The Inhuman Land," by Joseph Czap-ski (reviewed by Harry J. Benda); "This Unsuccessful Age," by Walter Eucken (Professor H. Belshaw); and "The Loyalty of Free Men," by Alan Barth (Randal Burdon).

N.Z. LISTENER, MARCH 14, 1952.