

The Readers' Alley—

What Makes Sammy Run?

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When we go into bookstores on our daily round for a bit of literary forage, and find the books we have mentioned favorably in this column in exactly the same spot as we left 'em, we begin to think our job is not getting results—that is, you are not reading. Oh, you are saving up to read 'em after summer school? How kind of you. Well, then, we'll go ahead.

From enthusiastic readers, who beat us to the review, we hear nothing but praise of WHAT MAKES SAMMY RUN? by Budd Schulberg. Even the READER'S DIGEST got out a condensed version of this study in ambition before some of you went to register a couple of weeks ago. Sammy Glick, ghetto-born and ruthless, climbs on the gallop from office boy in a newspaper office to the top dollar rung of the Hollywood ladder, in an ascent that is so sudden and inexplicable, that Al Mannheim, dramatic critic, who first wondered why Sammy ran, investigates. And the things he

turns up will make you think twice, for there seems to be many a prototype for Sammy; in fact a Sammy's name was probably on the picture you saw tonight.

After a lot of digging, we turned up another in the iodoforn series, but this time, the smells of Araby aren't sweet. We visited Muscat with DOCTOR IN ARABIA. Paul W. Harrison, M. D., product of Johns Hopkins, chose a post as missionary medico on the Persian Gulf, and we learned about Arabs from him. Operating under the most revolting conditions, he finally brings the natives around to an understanding of modern surgery, wins their friendship, and tells many an exciting yarn. Though he fought every known tropical disease, he wielded his knife most frequently on the curse of strong men—hernia.

Then we turned to AMBASSADOR DODD'S DIARY. Here we saw the daily accumulation of intrigue, hate, double-dealing, brutality, and diplomacy that led up to World War II. Entering the embassy in Berlin shortly after Hitler came to power, Dodd, former professor of history at the University of Chicago, gives a most candid account of the years from 1933 to 1937. He quotes accurately from many a behind-the-scenes conversation, criticizes candidly, rebels at associating diplomatically with the big three of Nazidom. The voices and figures of representatives of all nations are viewed with sharp eyes and ears. At first, we thought we could skip, for one day seemed like another; but, before long, we realized that the specter of war grew imperceptibly, day after day. It was an avalanche that started with a paperhanger's moustache. In shrewd asides, Dodd prophesied many of the events that have come to pass. He knew of the impending pact of the Nazis and Moscow, and forecast just as accurately that the Germans would turn on the Russians as soon as the paper had fulfilled its purpose. This volume and two others, Rauchnigg's REVOLUTION OF NIHILISM, and Gunther's INSIDE EUROPE will make a trilogy that will clarify for every intelligent reader, the background of World War II.

We tapered off with a slender book of delightful and poetic prose. If you liked Richard Llewellyn's HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY, or if you are a fancier of James Stephen's CROCK OF GOLD, you will be enthusiastic over Dylan Thomas' PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST AS A YOUNG DOG. Delicately woven sketches of the author's childhood, adolescence and maturity are quite as fine as Joyce's DUBLINERS or his PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST AS A YOUNG MAN. Besides their absorbing content, the cadenced prose of these sketches will fascinate critical readers.

Farming Stressed As Defense Aid

The 7,000 Pennsylvania youths enrolled in national defense courses should be taught that preparedness is more than just learning to shoulder a gun, according to Russell B. Dickerson, instructor in agricultural education.

"National defense must begin in the heart and mind of every American youth," Mr. Dickerson said. "A defense or part-time student may never go to war in a defense industry but he will need to have a clear conception of his part in making democracy safe for himself and others."

Suggesting that defense courses be planned to give students both manual and mental training, Mr. Dickerson stressed the importance of choosing teachers who know their subjects thoroughly.

He cited the case of a blacksmith with 50 years experience in his work but no teaching experience who was so successful with students that they had to be forced to leave when the class was over. He pointed out that every rural area has similar men in various vocations who can be used to advantage in the present emergency.

"Regardless of how long the defense program continues or what the war may mean to this country, there will still be the need to train young men to farm," Mr. Dickerson said. "Many who would leave the farm can be induced to remain if they are taught to farm with machinery. Others who are not farmers at heart may find suitable jobs in industry after part-time training."

Cadets Active At ROTC Camp

"The Yardbird," weekly mimeographed news sheet of the ROTC Infantry Training Camp at Fort George G. Meade furnishes some information about the Penn State boys, taking their six weeks of camp training as members of Company C.

Jimmy McAdams is up to his old tricks in the entertainment business and was in charge of a talent night broadcast over WWDC in Washington last week. . . . Jimmy's singing was also a hit at a recent camp dance.

Clair Hess, regular performer on the Lion mat team, was one of two cadets giving wrestling instruction in preparation for the ROTC wrestling tournament. . . . Elmer Gross, basketball co-captain next year, pitches and Ralph Cupelli catches for the first platoon's softball team.

A gold medal for rifle marksmanship went to Mike Wolfe who took top place among the ROTC boys with a score of 232. . . . Wolfe was third in pistol shooting with 89.3 per cent though standings weren't final.

First in pistol marksmanship was Art Beward who never took a lesson. . . . he set a mark of 91.8 per cent for the other cadets to try to beat.

With the automatic rifle, Bob Jeffrey holds the camp record of 86 points out of a possible 90. . . . among his closest competitors was Ed Callin. . . . as further proof that Penn State boys can shoot, Ernest Kristof had a score of 127 with the machine gun to pace the rest of the camp at the time.

Incidentally, co-editor of "The Yardbird" is Charles York. Kenneth Moist is a member of the production staff.

This doesn't concern Penn State but it shows that all the mistakes aren't made with and by basic ROTC students. . . . at a recent parade Company B was awarded highest company honors and an orange guidon streamer. . . . after the parade the officers in charge checked up and found that a mistake had been made and that Company A should have been given the coveted bit of cloth. . . . everything's all right, however, for Company A gladly formed again to receive the streamer which was apologetically removed from Company B's guidon.

Don Peebles And Band At 2nd Dance Tonight

Don Peebles and his dance band will be featured at the second dance of the summer session in Recreation Hall at 9 o'clock tonight.

The young maestro hails from Harrisburg where he and his outfit have been playing during the past two years. He will offer a varied repertoire of both sweet and swing tunes.

Admission will be 35 cents per person with matriculation cards required. Refreshments will be available.

66 Pa. Counties Represented Here

Students enrolled in the main summer session reside in 66 of the 67 counties in the Commonwealth, 31 other states, the District of Columbia, and four foreign countries.

A total of 2401 students are now registered in the six-week session which started on June 30 and will last until August 8.

Forest County is the only county in Pennsylvania without a representative at Penn State this summer. Of the total enrollment, 318 students reside in other states and foreign countries. England, Puerto Rico, Turkey, and Hong Kong are represented.

Tourneys Begin For Men, Women

Thirty-two contestants have entered the man's summer session tennis tournament with the first round scheduled to be completed by Monday afternoon.

Three first round matches were run off by yesterday. George Calender defeated Purson Smith, 6-4, 6-1; Bob Scheirer defeated Ray Smith, 6-0, 6-0; and C. Mentzer defeated R. Sackett, 6-3, 6-2.

A six-team softball league has been organized and the teams will swing into action today, Prof. Arthur F. Davis announced.

In the women's division, Prof. Marie Haidt announced that three tournaments are now under way, tennis, ping pong, and bowling. A total of 45 contestants have entered, bowling leading with 28, while tennis and ping pong have 12 and five entered, respectively.

The entry charts are posted in White Hall and contestants should consult them periodically to keep the tournaments running on schedule. Results should be reported to Miss Haidt.

Approximately 1,750 prehistoric skeletons and more than 48,000 artifacts have been recovered in Kentucky through a University of Kentucky WPA project.

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