

nal—a gourmet on the gamey side of Euell Gibbons. Her book matches her adventurous background and is an eye-opener as well as an eyebrow-raiser. She says she has tried most of her recipes personally—kangaroo tail soup, baby octopus, etc.—and found them delectable. Her range is from aardvark and abalone to zebra, and includes blackbird pie. An unusual "cookbook" that is really more of a personalized bestiary, soundly researched where not home-tested. Mrs. Medlin suggests where some of the exotics can be caught or bought. 80 photos; culinary bibliography, appendix, etc.

[April]

NIGHT RIDERS IN BLACK FOLK HISTORY. *Gladys-Marie Fry.* University of Tennessee Press, \$9.50

You might think that only specialists would be interested in this scholarly study of a little-known aspect of the lives of blacks in America; but folklorist Fry of the University of Maryland has a style that should win many general readers. Although in the minds of most Americans the KKK has long been thought the most notorious of the "night riders" that terrorized American blacks, Ms. Fry documents a vast amount of evidence to show that the "night rider" phenomenon goes back deeply into the lives of slaves. She was stymied in her interviews because blacks were always reluctant to discuss slavery; but some chance remarks she made about "ghosts" evoked illuminating information—most important about the ways in which white authorities kept both slaves and freed blacks in "their places" by fostering in them a dread of the supernatural. Illustrations; appendices, etc.

[April]

THE NEW YORKERS:

A Profile of an American Metropolis. *Andrew Hacker.* Mason/Charter, \$10

The distinguished political scientist and author of such highly esteemed books as "The End of an American Era" turns now to an urban study which should command widespread attention. Hacker looks at New York and its eight million people—a polyglot mix of nearly every ethnic group suffering today every aspect and phase of the Big City syndrome: inner-city decay, suburban flight, crime, poverty, breakdown and possible bankruptcy. He views all this as "a phenomenon that cannot last." That may be the larger issue: what *does* last? But Hacker's analysis digs into what makes New York and New Yorkers unique. With the help of diagrams and tables, an authentic and objective portrait-profile emerges in totality—the city's political life and structure (keyed to the Lindsay administration), neighborhoods, ethnic-population-employment problems, public safety, schooling, entertainment. Could become a standard. Appendices include tables and valuable census data on the nation's cities.

[May 1]

HOW THE GOOD GUYS FINALLY WON: Notes From an Impeachment Summer.

Jimmy Breslin. Viking, \$6.95
Apart from writing the novels, "The Gang That Couldn't Shoot Straight" and "World Without End, Amen," Breslin was for a long time a gutsy reporter. Last summer, when it became obvious that Nixon's struggle to stave off impeachment was nearing a climax, Breslin spent much time in Washington and in Massachusetts with his friend "Tip" O'Neill, House Majority Leader. O'Neill is one of the chief "good guys," along with Peter Rodino and majority counsel John Doar, in this fresh view-from-the-inside that relates, with some withering understatement as well as typical Breslin gusto, the nuts-and-bolts of Nixon's fall. O'Neill, writes Breslin, predicted impeachment long before the evidence proving a Watergate coverup had been gathered. Rodino's steadiness and Doar's 42 volumes of cover-up data are fascinating stories-within-stories. *National ad-promo.* Author *TV-radio.*

[May 2]

GREEN BEACH.

James Leasor. Morrow, \$8.95
Two purposes lay behind "Green Beach," an Allied raid on the coast of northern France in 1942 with the use of 5000 troops, mostly Canadian: to gain experience for D-Day and to crack the secrets of German radar. In this thoroughly researched, novelistically slanted and tense account, Leasor concentrates on the second aspect of the raid. His principal hero is RAF radar expert Jack Nisenthall, who volunteers for the almost suicidal mission of dismantling a German radar station under the eyes of a bodyguard of 11 men with orders to see that he doesn't fall into enemy hands alive, so vitally important was radar knowledge at this stage of the war. Leasor doesn't quite achieve the vividness of Cornelius Ryan's reportage. His people seem to slip between history and fiction at times; nevertheless, he recounts a dramatic episode with a good deal of panache, and his description of the action now from the Allied viewpoint, now from the German, lends it effective variety. The raid was costly in lives, invaluable for its results. *Bibliography.*

[May 5]

THE ASSASSINATION TAPES.

George O'Toole. Penthouse Press, (909 Third Avenue, New York 10022), \$8.95
O'Toole is a former CIA computer specialist who has great faith in the psychological stress evaluator, a machine that measures vocal cord vibrations and records the stresses that indicate lying. He also believes that the Warren Commission report on the Kennedy assassination is an incomplete and misleading document. So in 1973 he dug into the available tapes of witnesses' testimony, checked them with his PSE, and concluded that many were lying. Then he descended to Dallas to personally interview

any surviving witnesses who would talk, and in some episodes that resemble good detective fiction he got more grist for his PSE mill. Readers who believe that the assassination is still an unsolved crime will find some interesting new material here—as well as a rehash of the old. O'Toole's case is interesting if not always convincing. Illustrated with graphs of the PSE in action. *TV-radio appearances by author.*

[May 9]

IMMACULATE DECEPTION:

A New Look at Women and Childbirth in America. *Suzanne Arms.* San Francisco Book Company/Houghton Mifflin, \$10; paper \$5.95

Despite a title that will be offensive to some, this book provides a valuable analysis of American childbirth techniques and the diverse attitudes toward them held by parents, doctors, nurses and hospital people. Suzanne Arms herself had a traumatic experience while bearing a child. From that perspective she examines childbirth in primitive societies, in American and European hospitals, and in homes. By looking at both sides of the question, she challenges effectively the use of certain drugs and delivery techniques commonly used in this country. Her case for the extended use of midwives and greater parent participation in the whole process of childbirth is soundly presented. Photos.

[May 12]

A MOST EXTRAORDINARY

PAIR: Mary Wollstonecraft and William Godwin. *Jean Detre.* Doubleday, \$10

The letters in this fascinating book are from the actual correspondence between Mary Wollstonecraft and Godwin. All quite brief, they cover the summer of 1796 through August of the next year, shortly before Mary's death while delivering the baby who was to be Mary Godwin Shelley. Interwoven with the letters is Jean Detre's own invention, a "journal" which she feels Mary, an early feminist, *might* have kept much like a diary. From the combination of letters and imaginative "journal" there emerges an absorbing and quite credible narrative which reveals how and why Mary and Godwin, both sturdy individualists, decided against their principles to marry—and how Mary dreaded what news of their marriage would mean to their friends and others. Today's feminists should sympathize keenly with Mary's plight, which was nothing new—including an alcoholic father, demanding sisters, an American lover, Imlay, who fathered her child Fanny and ran. 16 pages of halftones.

[May 15]

SOPHIA.

Donald Zec. McKay, \$8.95

It's a tribute to Sophia Loren that the force and fascination of her personality, as well as her considerable courage, do not pale before the onslaught of this mediocre "intimate biography." Zec is a