

SR's Check List of the Week's New Books

tween Brunelleschi and Ghiberti over designing the Baptistery doors and the great dome of the cathedral.

All this makes for an interesting and useful introduction to Florence in the Renaissance. But it may be that Mr. Cronin is more interested in philosophical theories than many of his readers will be. And it is certain that his religious beliefs color many of his opinions. Frequently a non-Catholic reader will find himself thinking that while such-and-such a statement may be true for Mr. Cronin, it seems wildly speculative or controversial to him.

An example of this kind of writing is Mr. Cronin's statement about Donatello's celebrated statue of the boy David after he has killed Goliath: "Donatello's David is not just a conqueror; he is one who knows that he has conquered only with God's help." Many would doubt that the graceful, childish figure knows any such thing.

Mr. Cronin can be equally surprising even when religious ideas are not involved, as when he says of Michelangelo's David: "Its giant size is a form of overstatement which here, as so often, disguises a deep-seated lack of self-confidence." Such ideas, and much personal interpretation of artistic symbolism, make *The Florentine Renaissance* a challenging book as well as an informative one.

Mr. Breisach's biography of Caterina Sforza is the first written in English, and the first of any importance since Pier Desiderio Pasolini's *Caterina Sforza* of 1893. It is full of facts not mentioned by Pasolini, and consequently an important contribution to Renaissance history. And for anyone not well acquainted with the cruelty, treachery, and endemic violence of the period, it should be a revelation.

Caterina, a bastard daughter of the great Sforza family, ruled the two small cities of Imola and Forli with arrogant courage and no other virtue. Licentious, vindictive, and furiously proud, she conspired, executed, tortured, and waged war with a masculine enthusiasm that won her the awed admiration of her contemporaries—of those, that is, who did not hate her.

Mr. Breisach has told her grim story with detachment as well as with formidable erudition. His book contrasts with and usefully complements Mr. Cronin's. The one is primarily about art, ideas, and culture; the other about the horrors of war and political intrigue. Both sets of ingredients were vital parts of the complicated whole that was the Italian Renaissance.

LITERARY I. Q. ANSWERS

Column One: 2, 9, 1, 10, 11, 4, 5, 8, 12, 3, 6, 7. Column Three: 10, 6, 12, 1, 7, 5, 4, 9, 3, 8, 2, 11.

Collections

THE AMERICAN JUDAISM READER. Edited by Paul Kresh. Abelard-Schuman. \$6.50.

THE BEST OF HARRY GOLDEN. World. \$8.95.

THE COMPLETE KENNEDY WIT. Edited by Bill Adler. Citadel. \$5.95.

INTRODUCTION TO WILLIAM JAMES. By Andrew J. Reck. Indiana. Hardbound, \$6.50. Paperback, \$2.65.

LETTERS OF COMPOSERS THROUGH SIX CENTURIES. Compiled and edited by Piero Weiss. Chilton. \$13.95.

THE LUCIUS BEEBE READER. Edited by Charles Clegg. Doubleday. \$7.95.

NEW ENGLAND LEGENDS AND FOLKLORE. By Samuel Chamberlain. Edited by Harry Hansen. Hastings House. \$6.95.

PLUM PIE. By P. G. Wodehouse. Simon & Schuster. \$4.95.

RED-DIRT MARIJUANA AND OTHER TASTES. By Terry Southern. New American Library. \$5.50.

THE RULE OF THE DOOR AND OTHER FANCIFUL REGULATIONS. By Lloyd Biggle, Jr. Doubleday. \$3.95.

THE SPIRIT OF THE CLASSICAL WORLD: The Spirit of Western Civilization. Edited by Wade C. Stephens. Putnam. \$6.95.

Crime, Suspense

THE CONFESSIONS OF ARSENE LUPIN. By Maurice Leblanc. Walker. \$3.95. (Reissue.)

DEAD BY THE LIGHT OF THE MOON. By Tobias Wells. Doubleday. \$3.95.

DEATH OF A MORAL PERSON. By Alexandra Roudybush. Doubleday. \$3.95.

EXERCISE HOODWINK. By Maurice Procter. Harper & Row. \$4.50.

JUSTICE ON THE ROCKS. By Bill Knox. Doubleday. \$3.95.

THE RELUCTANT MEDIUM. By L. P. Davies. Doubleday. \$3.95.

Current Affairs

ACCESSORIES AFTER THE FACT: The Warren Commission, the Authorities, and the Report. By Sylvia Meagher. Bobbs-Merrill. \$8.50.

CRISIS IN PRINT: Desegregation and the Press in Tennessee. By Hugh Davis Graham. Vanderbilt. \$7.50.

FLYING SAUCERS—HERE AND NOW! By Frank Edwards. Lyle Stuart. \$5.95.

GOALS FOR URBAN AMERICA. Edited by Brian J. L. Berry and Jack Meltzer. Prentice-Hall. \$4.95.

SOUNDS OF THE STRUGGLE. By C. Eric Lincoln. Morrow. \$5.

TO SEEK A NEWER WORLD. By Robert F. Kennedy. Doubleday. \$4.95.

Fiction

ANYTHING GOES. By Bine Strange Petersen. Grove. \$3.50.

THE DEVIL AND HENRY RAFTIN. By Howard Singer. Funk & Wagnalls. \$5.95.

OH, YOU WRETCH! HARRY MILES. By John M. Schwarz. Grove. \$3.95.

TOO MANY MAGICIANS. By Randall Garrett. Doubleday. \$4.95.

THE TRAVELS OF MAUDIE TIPSTAFF. By Margaret Forster. Stein & Day. \$5.95.

Government, Politics

THE CRAFT OF DIPLOMACY. By Sir Douglas Busk. Praeger. \$6.95.

HONESTY AND COMPETITION: False-Advertising Law and Policy Under FTC Administration. By George J. Alexander. Syracuse. \$10.

History

ACROSS THE PACIFIC: An Inner History of American-East Asian Relations. By Akira Iriye. Harcourt, Brace & World. \$8.50.

THE AGE OF COURTS AND KINGS: Manners and Morals 1558-1715. By Philippe Erlanger. Harper & Row. \$9.95.

AMERICA BEFORE THE REVOLUTION 1725-1775. Edited by Alden T. Vaughan. Prentice-Hall. Hardbound, \$4.95. Paperback, \$1.95.

THE ANCIEN REGIME. By C. B. A. Behrens. Harcourt, Brace & World. \$5.50.

THE CHINA WHITE PAPER, 1949. Introduction by Lyman P. Van Slyke. Stanford. Two vols. Paperback, \$5.95.

THE EMERGENCE OF THE NEW SOUTH 1913-1945. By George Brown Tindall. Louisiana State. \$12.50.

THE GILDED AGE. Edited by Ari Hoogenboom and Olive Hoogenboom. Prentice-Hall. Hardbound, \$4.95. Paperback, \$1.95.

ISRAEL ON THE ROAD TO THE SINAI 1949-1956. (With a Sequel on the Six-Day War). By Ernest Stock. Cornell. \$6.50.

THE MAKING OF A WORKERS' REVOLUTION. By Allan Wildman. Chicago. \$7.95.

THE MEXICANS: The Making of a Nation. By Victor Alba. Praeger. \$6.95.

THE NUREMBERG PARTY RALLIES: 1923-39. By Hamilton T. Burden. Praeger. \$5.95.

ROMANTICISM AND REVOLT: Europe 1815-1848. By J. L. Talmon. Harcourt, Brace & World. \$5.50.

A SHORT GUIDE TO CLAUSEWITZ ON WAR. Edited by Roger Ashley Leonard. Putnam. \$5.95.

STRIKE A BLOW AND DIE: A Narrative of Race Relations in Colonial Africa by George Simeon Mwase. Edited by Robert I. Rotberg. Harvard. \$4.95.

TRAPS FOR THE YOUNG. By Anthony Comstock. Edited by Robert Bremner. Harvard. \$4.95.

WEST OF THE WEST: Witnesses to the California Experience, 1542-1906. By Robert Kirsch and William S. Murphy. Dutton. \$10.

International Affairs

COLOMBIA: The Political Dimensions of Change. By Robert H. Dix. Yale. \$10.

THE EAST IS RED: The View Inside China. By Maslyn Williams. Morrow. \$5.50.

FORMOSA, CHINA, AND THE UNITED NATIONS. By Lung-chu Chen and Harold D. Lasswell. St. Martin's. \$8.95.

MAXIMIE WEYGAND AND CIVIL-MILITARY RELATIONS IN MODERN FRANCE. By Philip Charles Farwell Bankwitz. Harvard. \$10.

REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT AND EUROPEAN INTEGRATION. By Willard N. Hogan. Nebraska. \$5.95.

TANZANIA: Party Transformation and Economic Development. By Henry Bienen. Princeton. \$11.50.

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