Reading Tastes In U.S. Shifting

If a nation be judged by the books it reads, the United States seems to be showing a new seriousness in its outlook and keener attention to being well-informed.

In the past five years adult book circulation has increased 80 per cent. Furthermore, the reading emphasis has shifted away from western and mysteries toward art, music, and political affairs. And special interest is being shown in science and technology.

Despite Ernest Hemingway's continuing supremacy as author of the most sought-after fiction, circulation growth in the nation's libraries is far greater in non-fiction.

All of this comes to light in the first annual reading-interest survey by the American Library Association since the 1940's.

Some of the librarians responding to the 200-library questionnaire attributed circulation gains to population increases in their particular areas.

"For persons concerned with raising the educational and cultural levels of our citizens this is an encouraging portrait of the American reader," says David H. Clift, executive director of the ALA.

"It is important to know, too, that librarians also contend that the growing awareness on the part of the American citizens of the need to be informed is due to the widespread publicity given to world events through our mass communications media."

The survey turns up a variety of footnotes to the reading habits of the nation.

Historical, psychological, political and sociological novels are most popular. But interest in the historical is waning.

Africa and the Soviet Union are winning prime interest in the area of foreign affairs. Slightly less but still "great interest" is shown in the United Nations and South America.

In domestic affairs, education attracts most reader attention. In politics, 27 per cent of the librarians report a growing interest in conservatism.

NILE STYLE — Modern cocktail dress, done in beige lace over matching silk organdy, updates the elegance that was Cleopatra's.

Here's Your Chance For A Bargain — Unique Photo Collection Up For Grabs

By TOM A. CULLEN
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

LONDON — Anybody looking for 36,000 original Victorian photographs, including the first photo ever taken? They are free for the asking to any city in America which will provide them with a suitable home.

The offer comes from German-born Helmut Gernsheim, who started the collection. But interested Americans will have to act quickly, Gernsheim warned, because the West German cities of Munich and Cologne have made bids for the collection.

For 10 years Gernsheim, a small, dapper man with a goatee beard, has tried to interest the British in establishing a museum of photographic art, using his collection as a nucleus. But there have been no takers here.

Now, disgusted with British indifference, Gernsheim is offering his collection abroad. In addition to photographs, it includes books, letters, manuscripts and cameras. It is difficult to place a value on his collection. Gernsheim tells me, because photographs are only now beginning to appear at auction sales. He estimates its worth at $560,000.

Disposal of the collection is a matter of some urgency for Gernsheim, for it has now grown to the point where he can no longer cope with it. Indeed, Gernsheim and his wife literally are being crowded out of their London apartment by photographs.

Every nook and cranny, including even the bathroom, was crammed with items such as photograph albums, cameras or books on photography.

When Gernsheim wanted to show one of his more valuable photos he had to climb a ladder into the loft above the kitchen where negatives are filed in cardboard boxes reaching the ceiling.

Gernsheim's prize exhibit is the first photograph ever taken. This is a view of a courtyard taken by the French inventor Nicephore Niepce in 1826. Niepce called the new process "heliography," meaning sun-writing, but could find no backers when he came to London to market his invention.

Discovery of the Niepce photograph, incidentally, represents eight years of detective work on the part of Gernsheim.

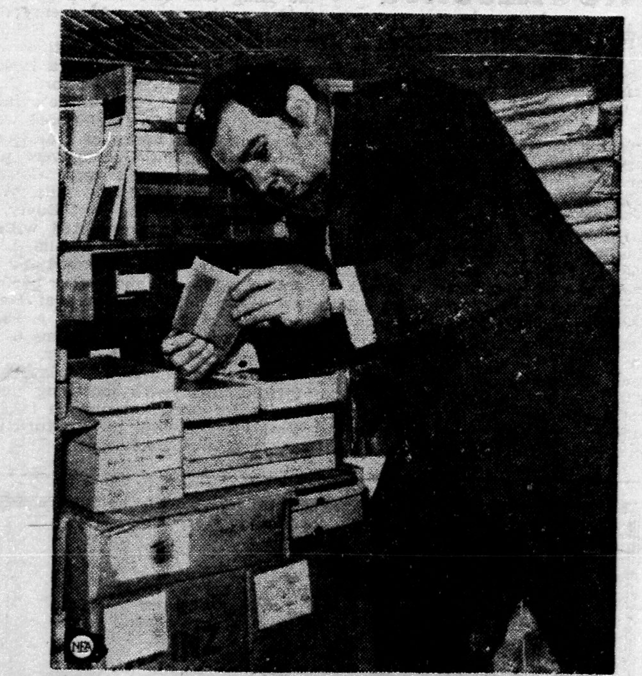
Gernsheim's collection include photos taken during the Indian mutiny and during the Crimean War. Also on hand are American Civil War photos taken by Alexander Gardner, an assistant to Brady.

His collection features such oddities as photographs taken by Lewis Carroll, author of "Alice in Wonderland," and catalogued in purple ink in Carroll's handwriting.

"What I have in mind," said Gernsheim, "is a museum of photography with its own exhibition halls, lecture rooms and libraries for the use of students. Surely there is room for such a museum in America." Gernsheim feels that if his collection is accepted as the nucleus of such a museum both he and his wife should be invited to become its director and curator.

Now age 48, Gernsheim fled to England from Germany in 1937. He spent the war years working as a photographer in Britain, and in 1945 began assembling his collection.

Gernsheim and his wife are the authors of seventeen books on photography, including the "History of Photography," first published by the Oxford University Press in 1954.



COLLECTOR GERNSHEIM AT HOME: His private morgue is bursting out all over.

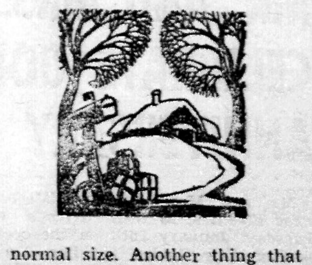
BURSTING WITH JOY—Mrs. Mae Morse has something to be proud of: she has two boys in Broadway shows. Robert, right, is star of "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying," while Richard has top role in "All Kinds of Giants." Enough to make any mother sparkle.

Chronicles of Ginger Farm

Gwendoline P. Clarke

Well, how do you like our winter weather? Coming so suddenly makes it a little hard to take, doesn't it? On Friday we thought bad weather was on the way so we rushed out to do some shopping. Passing cars and trucks splashed muddy water all over my windshield and it was then I found the spray solution had frozen and wouldn't work. I drove along the road trying to see my way between splashes. However, we managed to slither home safe and sound and you can be quite sure we didn't go out again. On Saturday we had our share of freezing rain, icy roads, snow and high winds. About midnight Partner discovered the two down-pipes from the eavestrough were frozen solid, so they had to be disconnected and two other pipes attached to allow the water to run off the roof. When we went to bed freezing rain was still pelting on the windows so I turned on the radio to drown the noise. It was easier getting off to sleep to the sound of soft music than pelting rain. We also each took a flashlight to bed as there was no telling if, and when, the hydro might go off. However, we were lucky — the worst we suffered was flickering lights.

One thing the storm did was take some of our attention away from the meat situation. When we first heard the reports we felt sick the same as most people. But then, because of our experience on the farm, we started to reason things out and we became quite sure reports had been grossly exaggerated. It could be that sick and diseased animals have at times been slaughtered and sold as prime beef — and as such were unfit for human consumption. But we do not believe that DEAD animals were ever so used. The few times we had an animal die on the farm the "Dead Stock" truck was sent for immediately. By the time the truck arrived the poor dead animal couldn't possibly have been used for human consumption as it would be bloated to twice its



normal size. Another thing that hasn't been properly emphasized is that dead animals cannot be properly bled. Live animals must be killed and hung in such a way that all the blood drains out of the carcass. If this is not properly done even a healthy animal can end up unfit for human consumption. The same applies to poultry. Remember the days when the popular way of killing a chicken was to take it to a wood block and chop its head off? Those days are gone for ever. Chickens are now scientifically killed, bled, and hung. You can tell when a chicken has been properly bled by its while flesh.

Certainly there must have been irregularities in the cattle trade and a lot of inferior meat placed on the market but we feel sure the reports are a little more spectacular than they should be. However, it is a good idea to buy meat from a "Canada Approved" carcass. Here and there you can find it stamped on a roast of beef.

Now for another subject. How do you like our "improved" telephone system? I ask this because just recently we have had reason to doubt. As you know, we now have direct dialling to many places. So what happens? Here is an instance. Last week I put a call through to Hespeler. To do so I had to use no less than 13 digits! So many figures are confusing, to say the least. Then we have a new type of party-line — generally two to a line but the rings come through on only one receiving set. That, I suppose, is an improvement, but it has its drawsbacks. On the old type party-line all the rings were heard so everyone on the line knew when the phone was in use. Now the only way we know is by hearing voices when we pick up the receiver. Just recently a young mother left word at her doctor's office for him to call as her baby was very sick. She waited and waited. After an hour and a half she decided to call again. When she picked up the receiver she found the other party busily engaged in conversation! Later the doctor told her he had tried to get through several times but the line was always busy. Isn't there some way in which such a situation could be avoided? Couldn't the telephone people invent a set that would show a red light when the line was in use?

My personal problem is our extension phone. Partner and I have reached the stage when we both require "forty winks" after lunch. Often we just get nicely snoozing when ding-a-ling goes the phone. Apparently there is no way of disconnecting the extension without throwing the line out of commission. So I guess the only solution is a portable phone, to be plugged in and out as required, leaving the main phone as is, in the kitchen, with its bell toned down to almost a whisper.

Modern conveniences! What a problem they are!!

Mother Of A Great Inventor

The legend has come down to us, through Edison and his family, that it was because of the inadequacy of the teacher, and in the interests of the boy's education, that his mother decided to keep him at home and instruct him privately . . . The remarkable mother gave the boy the sympathetic understanding that bred confidence. She avoided forcing or prodding and made an effort to engage his interest by reading him works of good literature and history that she had learned to love — and she was said to have been a fine reader.

Instead of being bored by these works of serious literature, he grew fascinated and at nine was inspired to read such books himself. While immature and ill-disciplined in some respects, he was advanced in others and soon became a very rapid reader.

Nancy Edison also sensed, or discovered by chance, the real direction of her son's interests; for one day she brought forth an elementary book of physical science, R. G. Parker's **School of Natural Philosophy**, which described and illustrated various scientific experiments that could be performed at home. Now his mother found that the boy had truly caught fire. This was "the first book in science I read when a boy, nine years old, the first I could understand" he later said.

Here, learning became a "game" that he loved. He read and tested out every experiment in Parker; then his mother obtained for him an old **Dictionary of Science**, and he went to work on that.

He was now ten and formed a boyish passion for chemistry, gathering together whole collections of chemicals in bottles or jars, which he ranged on shelves in his room. All his pocket money went for chemicals purchased at the pharmacist's and for scraps of metal and wire.

Thus his mother had accomplished that which all truly great teachers do for their pupils: she brought him to the stage of learning things for himself, learning that which most amused and interested him.

"My mother was the making of me," he said afterward. "She understood me; she let me follow my bent." — From "Edison: A Biography," by Matthew Josephson.

Modern Etiquette

By Anne Ashley

Q. Is it considered in good taste for a divorcee to insert an announcement in the newspapers of her engagement to a second mate?

A. There is nothing exactly improper about this. Usually, however, such an engagement is announced merely by word-of-mouth to friends.

Q. When eating a fried egg whose yolk is rather "runny," is it all right to put a small piece of bread on the end of the fork and use this to dip up the yolk?

A. Not only is this proper but very practical, too.

Q. When a family has guests who are of a different faith, should they omit the usual procedure of saying grace before dinner?

A. It is perfectly correct for a family to follow its regular custom, and the guests sit with bowed heads until the prayer has been spoken.

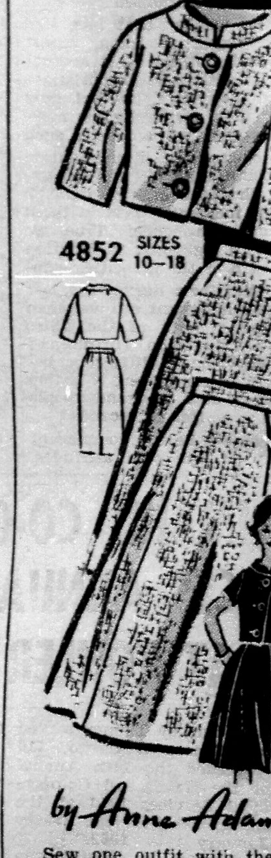
Q. I thanked each guest personally for gifts received at a birthday party in my honor. Am I supposed also to write "thank you" notes to each of these persons?

A. This is not necessary.

An inferiority complex could be a good thing if the right persons had it.

Two-Skirt Pattern

PRINTED PATTERN



Sew one outfit with the slim skirt and one with the gored skirt. Vary the sleeve lengths and mix match. Ring collared jacket is new and smart. **Easy** Sew in wool, cotton, tweed.

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[illegible] air view of homes and trailers destroyed by tornado in Crestview, Fla.

Holy Men of India Make Predictions

Not for 80 years had India suffered such cold. Bitter winds howled down from the Himalayas over the northern states of Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, and Bihar. In "eleven days of terror" the temperature reached freezing point, an all-time record low in semitropical New Delhi, while in the zoo, attendants pumped alcohol into elephants to ward off pneumonia. In many cities, bonfires built in the streets kept the thinly clad poor and homeless alive. Even so, many hundreds of schoolchildren collapsed in classrooms, and 800 persons died of the cold.

Awed by the wintry blast, millions of Hindus turned to their holy men for an explanation and were promptly warned of more trouble throughout January and, thereafter, a worldwide natural calamity between 5:43 p.m. on Feb. 3 and 6:24 p.m. on Feb. 4 During those hours there will be a solar eclipse (not visible in North America and Europe) while eight planets are meeting under the astrological sign of Capricorn. This combination is known as **Maha Koot Yoga** and — even without the eclipse—is considered most inauspicious.

Hopeful of forestalling a catastrophe in early 1962, His Holiness Shri Jagsdguru Vidyamanya Teerath, a high Hindu priest, convened a **yajna** (a deeply devout period of sacrifices and prayers) on the banks of the holy river Jamna, 6 miles from New Delhi. He had invited 1,000 pandits (learned ones) of the Brahman caste. Sitting cross-legged before pit-fires, the holy men fed the flames with logs, incense, ghee, and flowers. Rising at 4:30 a.m., they bathed in the icy river and had their first meal at 3 in the afternoon. Every Brahman recited prayers 108 times a day and burned camphor in the fires 108 times a day. Four hundred priests recited more than 10 million verses of Vedic lore and one group of 70 recited all of the hymns in the ten-volume **Rig Veda.**

For this the holy men were forgiven their sins for 100 generations to come. But what about that threatened disaster due in February?

The pandit's leader offered hope.

After prolonged study, it had been concluded that such auspicious planets as Jupiter, Venus, and Mercury would not be quite close enough to collide with the malefic influence of that old devil Mars. A little closer though, and — poof!

EXECUTIVE — A person who can take two hours for lunch without anybody missing him.

TORNADIC PILEDRIVER — These rafters from a wrecked building were driven four feet into the ground by a tornado striking Berwick, Pa.

BLASTS OUT—Bob Goalby, defending champion, blasts out of a sand trap on the approach to the 11th green during the Los Angeles Open Golf Tournament.

Checking Up On Bank Robberies

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has been playing "cops and robbers" with bank bandits all over the United States.

The increase in bank robberies, particularly in suburban areas, has had the FBI on the armed run for the past year.

The Bureau has just concluded a series of law enforcement conferences throughout the country devoted to this one problem.

Two recent local bank robberies serve as illustrations. In one, two armed bandits, one wearing a false rubber nose, held up a savings and loan association, escaping with some $8,000.

"This is a holdup," they warned employees, as one of the bandits leaped over the gate to the teller's counter, scooping up money from the open safe and from the counters.

The other robbery, in a small town in nearby Maryland, was carried out by one gunman who carried a revolver, wore a stocking cap mask, a coat with large pockets and spoke in a bass voice.

He made his getaway with some $10,000. The two robberies occurred within 25 minutes of each other.

This new wave of bank robberies is due, in part, according to authorities at the FBI, to a trend of the times — a trend toward more branch banks and more savings and loan associations in the outlying areas.

These institutions have followed the shopping centers. Many are located in them. They are smaller, located in areas where traffic is less congested, where a getaway is easier and in buildings which are less fortress-like than the mid-city bank.

Many of today's bank bandits are "amateurs" the FBI finds. Time was when one of the best clues to the identity of a professional bank robber "was his particular method of operation," FBI Director, J. Edgar Hoover said.

For instance, in the 1930's, there was a group of gangs operating in the Midwest. They were often identified by their special method of separating cash from the bank. Some wore a certain type of mask, carried a special type of sacks for the money, always stole cars for the getaway and sometimes scattered nails along their trail.

Others were "trade-marked" by the particular way in which they leaped over the counter. Some gangs were known for the time of day when they carried out the robbery, often at noon-time when many of the employees were at lunch.

There are some identifying signs today, but not as many, mainly, FBI authorities explain, because of the entry of the amateur. But with some of these the signature is becoming clearer as the bandit finds one approach successful and uses it again.

The amateur is marked by what is known as the "demand-note" type of robbery. This occurs when the robber quietly passes a note to the teller stating the bandit has a gun in his pocket and demands that the teller turn over the money quietly.

If the operation is pulled off the robbery may occur so quickly the teller at the next counter may be completely unaware of what has taken place, writes Josephine Ripley in the Christian Science Monitor.

Despite the record number of 895 federal crimes against banking institutions in fiscal 1961, bank robbery is still one of the poorest paying jobs in the world, says Mr. Hoover.

A recent survey by the FBI of bank robberies showed that out of 125 typical cases only eight robberies netted more than $10,000, while in 30 cases the bandits obtained no loot at all.

One way in which the FBI is working to curb this new outbreak of crime is through educating bank employees in methods of detection. This has been done in many instances by having someone impersonate a would-be robber by loitering in the lobby, acting in a suspicious manner, getting change at a teller's cage, having a paper notarized, or making inquiry about a loan.

Bank employees are later quizzed on the incident, asked to describe the man.

There are demonstrations to illustrate the technique of the "note bandit." The FBI often springs a surprise "gimmick" by having a telephone call put through to the teller as the scene is being enacted, with the voice at the other end saying: "While you are answering the phone, my confederate has taken everything in reach from your cage."

The voice was that of a policeman, but the method is frequently that of the sneak thief in diverting the attention of the teller while he gathers in reachable cash.

The most important thing for bank employees and any bystanders to do in such an emergency, according to the FBI, is to record in memory as many details as possible, particularly the height of the robber, his probable age, his clothing and mannerisms.

In almost all the tests conducted witnesses tended to underestimate the "bandit's" height and to overestimate his age.

WHAT'S DOIN' — Totin' authentic pistols, these Houston Colt 45s, National League baseball club officials hold a unique ground-breaking ceremony. They pump the ground full of lead to officially launch construction on a stadium.

Red or Dead? Says Who?

The expression "Red or Dead" has a fair measure of rhyme but precious little reason.

To suggest that the only alternatives open to adult Americans are mass death in nuclear war or capitulation to Soviet domination is to confess a belief that under conditions of peace one doesn't believe that we can win the ideological and economic battle with the Communist system.

. . . Given the productive capacity, the revolutionary economy, and the intellectual flexibility of the American system, it seems to us that in any competition with the Soviet Union, time, wealth, and a big head start put us far out in advance . . .

What should our attitude toward the Communists be? First, let's face up to the fact that if we don't have to admire them we do have to live with them. Sensible men will make this situation as satisfactory as possible.

Let us look to our strength, both material and spiritual, with confidence and maturity. Let us welcome competition with the Communist bloc with a whole heart, assured if we're the better men we think we are, we'll win. For make no mistake about it: in nuclear war neither we nor the Russians would win. . . .

Let's get off the defensive, and concentrate on living rather than planning for death. We are a young and powerful nation. Thanks to enlightened people in our society we're still free. And in matters of revolution, we're still way out ahead.—Winchester (Mass.) Star.

How Can I?

By Roberts Lee

Q. How can I remove decalcomania transfers from painted surfaces without damaging the paint?

A. Trying dousing the decals with hot vinegar, give the vinegar a few minutes to soak in, and then the decals can usually be removed or wiped off with no harm done.

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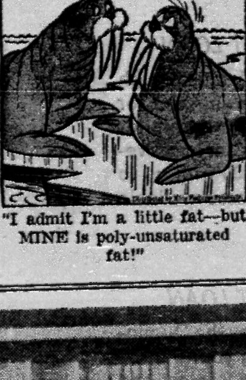

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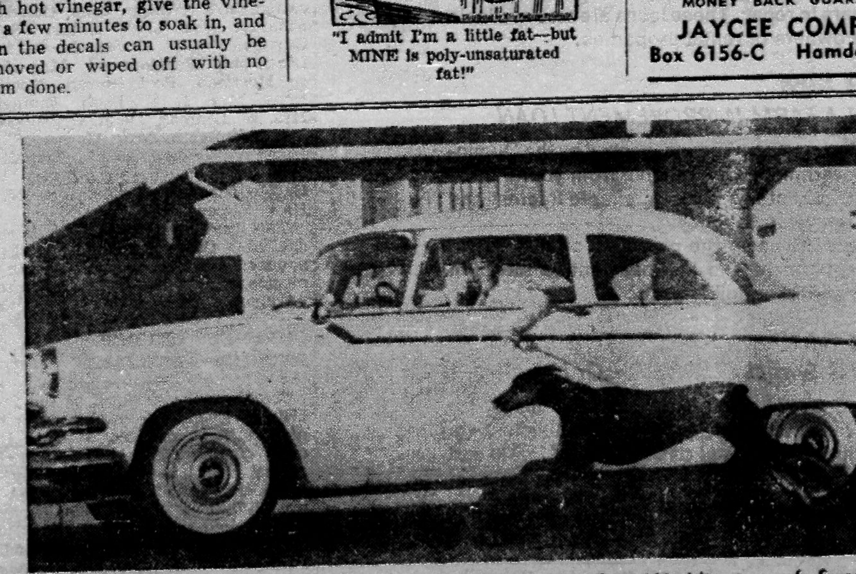

RUNNING STORY—Walking the dog is no problem for Pat Waddington of Sunnyvale. She gets into her car, holding the lead and drives at about 20 miles per hour, while the dog runs alongside. Her big Doberman "Whisper" runs about three miles a day.