

Davis' letters, but in most cases these impart a contemporaneous flair to his narrative. The author is persuasive in his treatment of Davis' role in the 1860 campaign and in the disputed contest of 1876, and the light he casts on these episodes will be of value to the historians who will treat them hereafter. His discussion, for example, of the circumstances surrounding the appointment of Indiana's Caleb Smith to Lincoln's cabinet, an appointment which Davis regarded as a "great mistake," is illuminating and definitive. This is a first-rate biography.

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The War: A Concise History, 1939-1945. By Louis L. Snyder. (New York: Julian Messner, Inc., 1960. Pp. xxiii, 579. Illustrations, maps, appendices, index. \$7.95.)

"Dawn, September 1, 1939.

"There was no declaration of war. Across the western borders of Poland poured the first waves of Hitler's mighty war machine." This is the opening of Professor Snyder's swiftly moving, very readable history of World War II. In a subsequent treaty with Soviet Russia, Hitler divided the spoils. "The agonies of hell now descended upon the hapless Poles, prostrate before the conquerors. . . . In a single month Poland had been crushed in one of the speediest campaigns in military history. Thus began the terrible blood bath of World War II" (p. 9). In five pages the author thus gives a dramatic account of the war in Poland. Then he goes back to give forty-three pages to what are the usual historical introductions to World War II: underlying causes after World War I; crises in Asia, Africa, and Europe, 1931-1938; immediate causes, 1939. Oftentimes the writer uses this flash-back approach.

He also plays frequently with one-sentence paragraphs. *Sitzkrieg*, Sit-down War, Bore War, War of Words, Phony War." That is the opening paragraph of the fifteen-page chapter on the collapse of France. "All France degenerated into panic, terror, hysteria, confusion" (p. 99). There is a paragraph which tells what happened. "The entire proceedings took exactly 27 minutes" (p. 107). France had signed the armistice on June 21, 1940. Take another example, a paragraph of one sentence. "It was 8:10 a.m., Hawaiian time, 1:40 p.m., Eastern Standard time, Sunday, December 7, 1941." Then a new paragraph begins: "A young boy was scooting along on his bike from Honolulu to Pearl Harbor. . . . carrying an urgent communication from Washington" (p. 195). Then in the next thirty-four pages are sketched background and a description of Japan's progress throughout the Far East to the Battle of the Coral Sea in May 9, 1942, when another one-sentence paragraph closes the account. "The Battle of the Coral Sea was the Japanese high-water mark" (p. 227).

Aside from the author's dramatic account of the war, the book's value is further enhanced by thirty-two pages containing sixty-four generally well-chosen pictures, ranging from Chamberlain at Berchtesgaden in September, 1938, to Japan's surrender in September, 1945, and covering events in Poland, Holland, England, France, Italy, Africa,

Hawaii, Far East, Germany, and Japan. Strange to say, though many are available, there are no pictures of the Russian fronts. The terribleness of the war for Russia is well described by the author. By December, 1941, Germany admitted the loss by death of 162,314 soldiers in Russia. Five pages are given to the Stalingrad defense. "It was unadulterated slaughter. Thousands died each day. It became impossible to bury the dead or even to count them" (p. 303). The Russians "lost more men at the Stalingrad than the United States lost in combat in all theatres of the entire war. Stalingrad was one of the great turning points not only of the war but of world history" (p. 307). But no pictures from Russia!

There is, however, a copy of General MacArthur's well-publicized "I Shall Return" picture, showing him and others landing through the water while others look on smiling. The landing at Leyte is well described. "This was invasion in force: 600 warships, 250,000 men, the U.S. Seventh and Third Fleets, the U.S. Sixth Army." Said General MacArthur, "I have returned. By the grace of Almighty God our forces stand again on Philippine soil. . . ." But the writer points out that "in the classrooms at Annapolis it was attributed in large part . . . to the United States Navy" (p. 456). Six pages are given to the Battle for Leyte Gulf, "the greatest sea engagement ever fought. Engaged were 166 American and approximately 70 Japanese warships, 1,280 American and 716 Japanese warplanes" (p. 457).

Space does not permit much detail. The author aims to present the story of the war in concise form. He does it well. He aims to eliminate much military detail in favor of a comprehensive picture of broad military developments. The space allotted to the various campaigns indicates that he does this well. On points where there are differences of opinion—Pearl Harbor, Battle of Leyte, Hitler versus his generals in Russia, and so on—he seeks to give both sides of the arguments and does well. He aims to make his story dramatic. His pictures of Rotterdam, battered London, Leningrad's defense, D-Day, Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Nazi concentration camps, and Mussolini's and Hitler's deaths reveal his ability to do so.

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Franklin D. Roosevelt's World Order. By Willard Range. (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1959. Pp. xiii, 219. Notes, index. \$4.50.)

Willard Range, a member of the University of Georgia's Political Science Department, states that his book is a case study of the international thinking of a twentieth-century political practitioner. The study, he says, attempts to answer—and it does—three questions: (1) What was Roosevelt's explanation for the breakdown of the world order of his time? (2) In Roosevelt's view, what were the implications of that breakdown for the United States? (3) What kind of world order did Roosevelt want to replace the former order?

Three short initial chapters deal with the first two questions; the remainder of the book discusses Roosevelt's world order. In discussing