Books Bring Europe to You

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BOOKS
Bring Europe to You

SO YOU'RE GOING to be a foreign traveller. Well then, you'll have to get a passport, and pack and... But wait a minute. Have you taken time to read about the countries you will visit? Think how much more your trip will mean if you have read some history and geography. People will be more friendly if you understand some of their customs and habits. Your souvenirs can take on new meaning if you have some idea of how they are made and their importance to the country's economy.

Another large group of travellers is of the armchair variety. If your time or your budget prevent European travel, the library is still close at hand.

Just for a start, try some of the following books taken from lists compiled by the Experiment in International Living, a student program in which participants live in European homes.

AUSTRIA
THE REBIRTH OF AUSTRIA. Hiscocks, Richard. Austria since 1945. The chapter on the cultural revival is outstanding.

ENGLAND
THIS LAND OF THE ENGLISH PEOPLE. Street, Alicia. Clear resume of history. Contrasts are made throughout between Britain and America, showing reasons for essential differences.
THIS ENGLAND. Chase, Mary Ellen. Delightful essays on the little things of England that are so essentially a part of English character. Sympathetic, yet shrewd.

FRANCE
THE UNITED STATES AND FRANCE. McKay, Donald C. Sumner Welles states in the introduction: "This book will do much to help the American people better to understand France's problems realistically."

AS FRANCE GOES. Schoenbrun, David. Inside reporting by an American journalist... illuminating picture of the French people, their manners, mores and paradoxical traits of character.
GERMANY
GERMANY, A SHORT HISTORY. Shuster, G. & Bergstrasser, A. Concise history from medieval times to beginning of World War II.
A WATCHER ON THE RHINE. Connell, Brian. A brilliant report on the political, social and economic forces shaping the future of East and West Germany—and all of Europe.

SCANDINAVIA
THE CHALLENGE OF SCANDINAVIA. Shrirer, William. Experimenters to Sweden in 1957 rated this one "excellent."
SKOAL SCANDINAVIA. Streeter, Edward. Very personal, witty account of a journey through Norway, Sweden and Denmark.
THE WELFARE STATE, SWEDEN. Fleisher, Wilfred. A provocative, fascinating account of modern Swedish life.

SWITZERLAND

A SHORT HISTORY OF SWITZERLAND. Bonjour, E., et al. "Lucid, authoritative and unprejudiced—will please every student and serious layman who wants to understand the Swiss and their part in European annals."

A good book to read no matter where you are going in Europe is FIRE IN THE ASHES by Theodore White. Mr. White, who spent many years as a European correspondent, gives an extremely clear journalistic exposition of the dramatic regeneration of Europe after the war.

Any serious traveller, especially those on student exchange programs, should add another group of books—some about the United States. An understanding of our history, education and problems will increase appreciation of what you see in Europe as well as make answering questions much easier.

Reading lists on the United States and the complete list from which these samples were taken may be obtained by writing to the Experiment in International Living, Putney, Vermont.

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