

THE RE-NOVATED "ELECTRIC BLUE" FLOOR
THOSE CRAZY SALT SHAKER SETS

The American people have long been lovers of expensive and luxurious entertainment. "Anything to make things easier" being our motto, we first invented the automobile to get us places with a minimum of effort and a maximum of speed.

Then came the movies to give us something to do with all that time we have saved. Next we concentrated on innumerable time and labor-saving inventions ranging from the electric dishwasher to a little gadget called a card-shuffler designed to prevent us from straining our finger muscles during those exhausting bridge games.

SOMETHING NEW HAS BEEN ADDED

But at last we no longer need to endure the trials of driving a car because we need not go anywhere for our entertainment--it's right there in the living room. Is it radio? Is it a floor show?? No!! It's that miraculous hear-all, see-all, Snow Box known as TELEVISION!

Thanks to this latest mode of entertainment, we can have right here in the house those rugged, realistic characters of the West that we previously had only been able to hear, "Twinkles" Liberace radiating his winking personality as he plays, the dum--dumdum--dum of Joe Friday, and Norman Vincent Peale with black wiggly lines across his face!

BETWEEN THE ACTS

Commercials, too, have been made more exciting. You may now observe our favorite movie actor take a long drag from "the cigarette least likely to cause lung cancer."

If you feel that your geographical knowledge is limited, this situation may be easily remedied: just tune in the channel which gives the weather report.

After devoting innumerable hours to this sport of lounging in a special television chair, while eating television tidbits out of a television "table tray", one unusually serious-minded fan might toy with the idea of what he has to show for it. One cursory glance in the mirror will reveal the answer: an additional layer of fat on the old bones and two painful eyeballs that closely resemble New Jersey road maps!

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Some years ago the Brown Hotel in Louisville, Ky., adopted the custom of naming a room in the inn for each winner of the Kentucky Derby. There is a Lev Room, a Gallant Fox Room, a Whirlaway Room and so forth. But after the 1946 Derby the management decided to abandon the practice. The winner that year was Assault.

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One of the hardest things to do is be born in a rich family.

In 1937 a book was published by Harpers, the name, "1919." This book was the second in a series called "U.S.A." The first, "The 42nd Parallel", was published in 1930. The work, 1919 along with the other two forming this trilogy, "42nd Parallel" and "The Big Money", is among the most important of this century.

"1919" is in itself a separate and independent reading experience. It was originally published as such. Since it was first published this novel has taken a rightful place among the few modern American classics--books every American should read. But the excitement, the power and its immense vitality are still here. The book is very precocious in its allusions to the future, being, when it was written, the present. Its foresight in predicting the present day world and its troubles. But more than that it is a running history of the first world war, the war to end all wars, through the adventures and relations, and reactions of people involved in it.

In one of the books passages, a reflection of the character of President Wilson, we find this passage:

"On December 4, 1918, Woodrow Wilson, the first president to leave the territory of the United States during his presidency, sailed for France on board the George Washington, the most powerful man in the world.

There is a certain impact in this sort of vividness not to be found elsewhere. The book employs a new experimental type of writing peculiar to Dos Passos. He uses to a certain extent the Stream-of-Conscience-ness type of writing used by James Joyce in his later books. However it is not a difficult and, as in "Finnigans Wake", obscure to the layman.

The book although good, is not in my opinion one of the truly greats. It lacks the permanence necessary. There is a little too much preoccupation with social mores and too little with the actual repercussions of the group. It is however recommended reading.

The book is available in a Cardinal Edition at 35¢ as is the "42nd Parallel." If you would prefer the entire "U.S.A." trilogy, it is available in a Modern Library edition priced at \$2.45.

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Politics is that which some men enter with a bright future and come out of with a terrible past.