

Personality Plus!

By John O'Connell

Following a change of jobs this time and I can't say it is an unpleasant experience. Day in and day out the all sorts of books: economics, political, fiction, psychology, and what-have-you.

Not missing any of the activities that go with youth, you feel a great deal better, suddenly the seriousness of political and diplomatic battles clear away and you realize that money matters in a sense still mean something to many people, the ordinary

Naturally, there is some serious theme running through the volume. Few advice books do carry any other message. But it is not the theme of financial success; it is the theme of personal conduct, or success as a person.

I Chose Freedom By Victor Kravchenko

This is the fourteenth installment of "I Chose Freedom," by Victor Kravchenko, former Soviet subject.

CHAPTER XXVI Profits to America The idea of my going to the United States began to take shape in January, 1943, and in passport for the journey was actually issued in July. During those six months I felt like a rare beetle in a pin in a huge laboratory where legions of entomologists, zoologists, chemists and other scientists studied the specimen from every possible angle. I was prodded and tapped for hidden flaws.

Having satisfied himself that my new-found's suit was, when I did not know in person, was not a menace to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Khrushchev provided me with a series of printed questionnaires to carry home and fill out by tomorrow. I must make no changes, omissions or omissions of words, he warned. Fumbling was premature evidence of a guilty conscience. I followed orders without deviation.

When I turned in the questionnaire, I was ordered to collect letters of reference and statements of my political and business activities. I addressed my self first to Comrade Khrushchev, chief of the Party Committee of the Council of People's Commissars of the R.S.F.S.R. I made the announcement by telephone and the spokesman said: "I have received your letter."



The late Wendell Willkie's meeting with Josef Stalin during his trip to Moscow, which forms part of today's chapter of "I Chose Freedom," by Victor Kravchenko. Kravchenko says Willkie was naive in his reaction to Soviet opinion.

CHAPTER XXVII Stalin's Subjects Abroad Vancouver. My head was in a whirl. My thoughts were playing leapfrog. I was free. Who was it once said that only those who have been slaves can understand freedom? It seemed to me, walking through the main streets with a group of my shipmates, that I had never before seen so many relaxed, untrapped, happy people in one place at one time.

When I was asked to make a speech to the workers of the shipyard, I was told to read them carefully right there, then return them and sign a form attesting that I was familiar with their contents. The pamphlets outlined rules of conduct for Party members abroad and, more particularly, the penalties for their violation. The gist of what I read will remain with me forever as a memory of the life of the non-Soviet world.

When I went home I carried the little red book, the foreign Soviet passport, in my breast pocket. Circumstances made it the most coveted piece of paper imaginable. I kept locking it in a safe at home. Next day I returned to Party headquarters. It was now late end of June. I was being "washed and re-washed," as the Soviet phrase has it.

CHAPTER XXVIII The late Wendell Willkie's meeting with Josef Stalin during his trip to Moscow, which forms part of today's chapter of "I Chose Freedom," by Victor Kravchenko. Kravchenko says Willkie was naive in his reaction to Soviet opinion.

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Library Signpost Cues and Clues

By Rev. Benedict Ekmann

Among the novels being widely read this summer, 1) Britannia Mewa, by Margery Sharp, is rated as generally unobjectionable for adults;

2) Them and Now, by W. Somerset Maugham, is objectionable; 3) Space Machine, by Ruth Moore, is unobjectionable until near the end where two or three pages strike a discordant note; 4) The Entomologist, by Dorothy Macardie, is unobjectionable and recommended to adults;

5) The Unsettled, by Constance Robertson, because of particularly offensive blasphemy and of a seamy sequence in the plot, is limited to adults; 6) Saging Waters, by Ann Bridge, is recommended to adults, many of whom may find its talkativeness hard going;

7) The Romance of Casanova, by Richard Aldington, is objectionable; 8) The Light of Stars, by Evelyn Voce Wise; 9) The Flight and the Song, by L. H. Anderson and S.M.C.; 10) The Unbroken Heart, by Robert Speaight; (Adults only); 11) Delta Wedding, by Edvard Vajda; (Adults only); 12) The Russian Shores, by G. B. Stern; (Only traits will appreciate the far-trails and content).

Made O'Brien's new novel For One Sweet Grape will be reviewed soon in this column. It is a historical novel of Spain in the time of Philip II and St. Teresa. Although written in beautiful style and in the best taste, its moral implications could be wrongly grasped by readers who are not prepared to read as closely as the finely-striated texture serves; and therefore, recommendation must be limited only to serious adults. More of this next week.

Back in 1935, Evelyn Waugh wrote a biography of Edmund Campion. About a thousand copies found their way to America. One of these I bought at that time for the Rochester Catholic Evidence Library. Taking advantage of the current interest in Waugh, his American publishers have reprinted it over here and it has just been issued. It has been well received by even the secular reviewers. The review in Time magazine was especially good; I may be permitted to quote the last paragraph here: "In the mind of Campion's biographer (Waugh), the natural grace clearly beats a relation to a kind of deity. It would be interesting to know how Catholic critics might rate it to the gale and polish, unique in modern writing, of a handful of Bent and Bridgman head revisited. To judge by Bradishhead, at any rate. Eve-

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Table with columns for names and addresses of winners in the fishing contest.