



Library Science
Director's Office
Televised Book Program Films, 1953-1956
18/1/61

Box: 1

Book Talk, Walter Stone

- 1 - Project 513-1, Negative. May 16, 1955.
Experimental version of #2 and #3. Differences: 1) a tape-recorder filmed, shown during interviews on tape of Illinois housewife, graduate student, librarian (see next two entries) 2) review of Antoine St. Exupery's Wind, Sand, and Stars 3) 2nd, 3rd, and 4th endings at end of tape. Experiments with different endings.
- 2 - Project 514-2, print.

Experimental or improved version of #3. Differences: 1) more readings from books 2) taped interviews of housewife, graduate student, librarian without shot of tape recorder. Instead, shots of the book jacket of No Time for Sergeants, Mac Hyman (subject of interviews) and pages of the book 3) reviews of several different books 4) for Exploring Our National Parks and Monuments and other camping books, film of car pulling a camping trailer 5) more extensive treatment of Ruark, Something of Value.
- 3 - 1955, First program.
Reviews of: Robert Ruark, Something of Value (Stone predicts a best-seller); Richard Armour, Light Armour; Cornelia Otis Skinner, Bottoms Up; Betty MacDonald, Onions in the Stew; Pogo Peak-A-Book; Flesch, Why Johnny Can't Read.

Report on five #1 best-sellers, such as The Power of Positive Thinking, The View from Pompey's Head, Lindburg's Gift from the Sea.

Mac Hyman, No Time for Sergeants: Interviews on tape about the book with an Illinois housewife, a Louisville graduate student, and a Chicago librarian. Also, an interview with a native of Arkansas. Shot of the running tape-recorder throughout.
- 4 - September 5, 1955
Reviews of: top best-selling non-fiction, Lindburg's Gift from the Sea; top best-selling fiction, Ruark's Something of Value; Flesch, Why Johnny Can't Read; Dane, The Flower Girls biographies of English prime ministers.

classroom experiences before beginning to read. Stone concludes that Flesch is wrong in attacking the "reading readiness" idea. (Film scenes from Skippy and the Three R's)

Guest: Mr. Roy B. Stokes, an Englishman. Stokes talks about English biographies of Winston Churchill, William Gladstone, Lord Melbourne. Reviews of current biographies. Punch cartoons and photographs shown.

Box: 2

5 - Negative. November 4, 1955. (on spool)

Reviews of: Mackinlay Kantor, Andersonville; Robert Penn Warren, Band of Angels; Thomas Mann, Confessions of Felix Drull, Confidence Man; The Civil War in Pictures; Bebee & Clegg, the American West.

Stills of Mann pictures.

Stills from The Civil War in Pictures.

Pictures of illustrations and the book jacket; The American West. Martin Frobin, University of Illinois professor of speech, gives a dramatic reading of a speech by Indian chief Logan. Frobin discusses oral interpretation. Reads two poems: one by Lew Sarett (drum in background); and one by Walt Whitman (illustrated by pictures from Civil War in Pictures).

Box: 1

6 - November 14, 1955.

Reviews of: a book by Truman; M. Ernst, Utopia, 1976; On the Track of Prehistoric Man; Sanderson, The Living Mammals of the World; Field and Stream Treasury; The Wonderful World of Books.

Guest: Joseph McConnell, University of Illinois. His opinion of Ernst's book, Utopia, 1976 - successful predictions, significant book, but not a great book. Ernst forgets that the United States isn't the whole world.

Some discussion of children's books. Use of stylized figures with background narration.

Box: 2

7 - November 28, 1955.

Stone reads from Dr. Seuss to lead into topic, "Children and Books." To inform about Christmas book buying for children.

Guests: Alice Fedder, University of Illinois library, and Dr. Al Whitney, reading specialist.

Film of little girl coming into library for the first time.

Discussion of Duff, The Longer Flight - book about family reading.

Whitney criticizes Flesch's indictment of reading education, in Why Johnny Can't Read (poster reiterates Whitney's main points). Discussion of book-buying for a child. How to get children to want to read - appeal to their needs. Main points illustrated by posters, book jackets. Reading interests develop in the home - story time important. Film of mother reading to child. Cataloguing of children's interests by ages. Choose the right reading level for the child.

Cut back to little girl in library.

Alice Fedder, librarian at University of Illinois, on illustrations in children's books. Mutual importance of text and illustrations. Wanda Gag, Beatrix Potter, Ernest Shepherd's illustrations for Winnie the Pooh. Pictures of illustrations.

Recommendations for presents.

Film of little girl in library, again. (from "Impressionable Years," United World Films)

Box: 1

8 - 1955. Negative. (on spool)

Topic: Mid 19th century America.

Guests: Professor Donald Jackson, editor, University of Illinois press. Professor Martin Frobin, professor of speech.

Books relevant to the topic reviewed.

Don Jackson edited a book, Black Hawk. Talks about the book and the man.

Records of the period's music. Films of cowboys (from Encyclopedia Britannica Films, The Cattlemen). Dramatic reading by Frobin.

9 - January 12, 1956.

Reviews of: Mackinlay Kantor, Andersonville; Anne Morrow Lindburg, Gift from the Sea; Robert Penn Warren, Band of Angels; Arthur Bestor, The Restoration of Learning; Rudolf Flesch, Why Johnny Can't Read; John Gunther, Inside Africa.

Stone's opinion: Andersonville the top book of the year.

Stone's review of Flesch illustrated by film excerpt of primary school children painting pictures (from Skippy and the Three Rs)

10- January 23, 1956. Negative. (on spool)

Guest: Dick Rider, television supervisor and collector. Discusses pipes, shows different types. Film excerpt of Indians smoking pipes.

11- February 8, 1956. Negative. (on spool)

Topic: "Lincoln"

Guest: Professor Leslie Dunlap, University of Illinois Library.

Discussion of books about Lincoln.

Dunlap discusses the perennial appeal of Lincoln, analyzes best of recent Lincoln books. 1953 - publication of collected works of Lincoln. No need for scholarship to go back further than that. Popular biographies of Lincoln. Photographs of Lincoln. Lincoln sculpture and paintings. Speaks about University of Illinois Library's Lincoln Room. Stills of Lincoln statues.

12- February 13, 1956. Negative. 550'

Guests: Harold Sinclair, novelist, and D.A. Brown, historian. Discussion of The Horse Soldiers, Civil War novel by Sinclair, and Grierson's Raid, historical treatment of same subject by Brown. Stills illustrating Stone's description of the raid.

Sinclair describes how he came to write the book, the process of writing it. The special problems of historical novels. Plans for movie. Plans for new novels. A few side comments from Brown.

Box: 2

13- March 1, 1956.

Topic: Community Planning

Guests: Louis Wetmore, University of Illinois professor of planning, and Vernon Kelly, visitor from MIT, planning expert.

Reviews of: Lewis Mumford, From the Ground Up; and another book about city planning, The City of Man.

Wetmore and Kelly - cooperative presentation about planning and planning problems. Use of maps, models, charts. Transportation problems, shopping centers, zoning, schools, parks, neighborhoods.

Animated film from American Council to improve Our Neighborhoods: Man of Action.

Discussion of the role of planners. How the public can help.

Box: 1

14- March 23, 1956. Negative (on spool)
Topic: "Politics and Elections"

Reviews of: The Golden Kazoo and The Last Hurrah, books about political machinations.

Discussion of Benjamin Franklin, Books about him, biographical details, readings from his letters. Stills illustrating biographical details. Film excerpts of Franklin Institute exhibits, Philadelphia.

15- April 4, 1956. 500'

Guest: Robert Downs, Director of Libraries, University of Illinois former president of American Library Association. Author of Books That Changed the World.

Downs reads from his introduction. What makes a book powerful?

People in his book: Machiavelli, The Prince; Thomas Paine, Common Sense (Excerpt of film about colonial days, stills of title page, picture of Paine); Nicholas Copernicus, A New Design of the Universe (still of his picture); Isaac Newton, Principia Mathematica (still of Newton); Albert Einstein (still of Einstein); Thomas Malthus, Essay on the Principle of Population (still of Malthus).

Downs reads again from his book.

Stone shows line of influence from Machiavelli through Cromwell, Napoleon-Hitler. Stills.

Downs comments on censorship.

Box: 2

- 16- May 16, 1956. Negative. (on spool)
Topic: Golf.

Guest: Don Spaeth (?), golf pro at Champaign Country club.

Stone gives brief history of golf, reviews books about golf. Pictures from the books.

- 17- July 25, 1956
Guest: Edward Heiliger, former director of Benjamin Franklin Library, Mexico City. Now at University of Illinois in Chicago.

Discusses Antiquities of Mexico, rare book over 500 years old. Material taken from mss. in museums in Europe.

Series of Aztec drawings illustrating education of a child: Heiliger shows drawings, interprets speech symbols. Pictures of children enduring ritual ordeals - cactus spines stuck in flesh. Teaching children household tasks. Marriage ceremony.

Heiliger recommends reading for first trip to Mexico. Practical tips, guidebooks.

Excerpt - film of fiesta dance. Heiliger identifies it as a typical dance.

Description and exhibition of a scrape by Heiliger.

Box: 3

- 18- August 23, 1956. Negative. (on spool)
Topic: Adlai Stevenson

Stevenson books, stills of Stevenson pictures, recordings of excerpts from Stevenson campaign speeches.

- 19- Negative. (on spool)

Guest: J. Clement Harrison, head of School of Librarianship, University of Manchester.

Battle of Britain. Use of film excerpt.

Books about England. Stills from book illustrations.

Harrison reports no more food rationing - only coal. Hopes that atomic energy will

help the coal shortage. Nationalized industries. Problems the British face. British colonies in Africa. Optimistic predictions for the future.

Film excerpts of British school children, industries, cities.

20- Negative. (on spool)
Topic: "Children in Trouble"

Guest: Richard S. Lehman, probation officer, Champaign County; president of Illinois State Parole Association.

Review of Irving Shulman, Children of the Dark (book from which the movie Rebel Without a Cause was made). Stone pans it. Reviews of other books about delinquency.

Stills of news pictures of delinquents. Film excerpt about delinquency.

Lehman lays most of blame on parents. Main trends of teenaged crime. Greater percentage of "thrill" crimes. Role of comic books, TV, movies - but the increased pace of living a more important reason. Role of organizations which can help - e.g. Little League, Boy Scouts.

Box: 3

Books in Balance, Walter Stone

1 - Panel: 1) Ruth Weinard, staff writer, News-Gazette
2) Don Jackson, University of Illinois press, book editor
3) Alice Appell, University of Illinois librarian
4) D.A. Brown, author, librarian, specialist on frontier

Panel discussion. Votes for and against different aspects of books recorded on "Ballotron."

Captain Rebel, Frank Yerby - completely panned.

This Hallowed Ground, Bruce Catton - panel liked it.

Guest: Robert Sutton, University of Illinois history professor. Has highest regard for Catton as author and scholar, although not a trained historian.

2 - October 3, 1956

Panelists: 1) Ruth Weinard
2) Don Jackson
3) Alice Appell

4) D.A. Brown

Panel discussion with gadgets ("Ballotron") for rating. Sinclair Lewis, Main Street, rated "very good."

Guest: Dr. George Scouffas, University of Illinois professor of English. Opinion of Lewis as man and writer.

Stills of Lewis, pages, jackets of his books.

Stone reading excerpts from critics.

Opinions of panelists about Grace Lewis' memoir. Scouffas and Jackson pan the book, Brown defends it.

An invasion of flies onto the set, harassing the panelists.

3 - Negative. (on spool)

Panelists: 1) Ruth Weinard
2) Don Jackson
3) Alice Appell
4) Louis Crane, graduate student in speech, University of Illinois, filling in for D.A. Brown. Gives information about herself.

Guest: Mr. Herbert Lassiter, Negro president of Student Senate, University of Illinois.

Books: Caleb, My Son, Lucy Daniels (North Carolina). Lassiter thinks it tries to justify "Uncle Tom" attitude in the South. Panelists' opinions. Segregation, Robert Penn Warren. Panelists' opinions. Self-interview about the problem by Warren dramatized by Dick Rider.

4 - (on spool)

Panelists: 1) Ruth Weinard
2) Don Jackson
3) Alice Appell
4) D.A. Brown

Guest: Professor P.K. Banerjea, Hindu, in United States at University of Illinois to study. Tells about family, trip from India. Discusses the book The Year of Love, novel set in India, by Margaret Wimbeck (Wanbeck?), and family life in India. Banerjea complains that although the book is set in the present, the attitudes are those of a hundred years ago.

Stills about India, the book jacket to illustrate discussion of the novel. Also discussed: John O'Hara, A Family Party.

Flies on the set.

5 - Negative. (on spool)

Panelists: Ruth Weinard
Don Jackson
Alice Appell
D.A. Brown

Discussion of The Lady and the Vote, showings of illustrations from it.

Discussion of Profiles in Courage, John F. Kennedy.

Guest: Thomas Page, professor of political science, University of Illinois. Worked with state legislative commission designing a new Civil Service system for Illinois. His comments on Kennedy's book - interesting, but better journalism than scholarship. Panelists generally rated the book higher than Page.

6 - Books in Balaine

Walter Stone with Robert M. Sutton (History) on Bruce Catton's Civil War books. 1000'

7 - Many Faces of Argonne. color ca. 900'

Argonne National Laboratory. From Library School Learning Resources Lab.

Box: 2

Free Channels, C. Walter Stone

"Free Channels: The Library Story"

1 - First program in series.

"Acres of Papers" and Dr. Icko Iben, newspaper librarian and archivist, University of Illinois.

Film of the Illinois Historical library in Springfield, Illinois and Dr. Harry Pratt, Mrs. Pratt, Miss Margaret Flint.

1) oldest copy of Illinois Herald, first Illinois paper; 2) copy of the Alton Observer; 3) copy of Chicago Times.

Basement of University of Illinois library, newspaper Archives: 1) collection of North American Foreign language papers - e.g. Syrian Eagle; 2) National papers - e.g. Washington Post, New York Times, New Orleans Times - Picayune.

Illinois Times published in Champaign. Files not complete.

Iben quotes President Edmund James about the importance of collecting complete files of Illinois newspapers.

Importance of microfilming. Problem of losing papers. Finding new sources of old papers.

Box: 3

2 - January 12, 1954. Actually broadcast WCIA.

Program sponsored by Rantoul Public Library. Mrs. John J. Gordon, librarian. Movies of the new (1952) library in Rantoul.

Topic: treasury of folklore preserved in square-dancing. Stone introduces guest, Allen Sapora, professor of Physical Education, University of Illinois. Also, eight University of Illinois students, squaredancers.

Short history of squaredancing by professor Sapora. Demonstration of Midwestern "chanting" style of squaredancing calls. Advice on beginning squaredance groups, clothes, records, etc.

Student demonstration of fundamental squaredancing technique.

Final demonstration of music, "chanting" call, dancing all together.

3 - Children and Books (1953). University of Illinois. Kinescope, 12 min., b/w.

The topic of selecting picture books for children is developed through explanation and illustration of the four important attributes of simplicity, interesting subject matter, storytelling facilities, and artistic quality that are necessary to effectively done picture books.

4 - "Library Report to the People of Evansville - Answer" 200' #22