

cross photographs, diagrams and his own observations and drawings.

**GOOD RUN DOWN**—The football fan has as much to learn about the quarterback as the latter has about making an offense click, and the fan should get a clearer understanding of his complicated struggle from this work.

Backgrounds of the game's great quarterbacks—their shortcomings, their strengths, their tendencies, their personal belongings—comprise the lighter second half of the book. Among those characterized is Buffalo's Jack Kemp.

Olderman, while reminding that the pro quarterback's very existence is complex, nevertheless recognizes his glamour and appreciates his tribulations. So will his readers.

## Dos Passos Lacks Fire In Memoirs

AN INFORMAL MEMOIR, THE BEST TIMES. By John Dos Passos. The New American Library, 240 pp. \$5.

By LUCIAN C. WARREN

JOHN KNOX REVIEW

*BUFFALO*

*NEW YORK COURIER*  
magazine

*JAN. 8, 1967*

date of issue

author's copy

editorial copy

James Bracken Cabell and Edna Ferber.

**THEY FARED WELL**—Certain other names recur over the years: Wilbur Daniel Steel won in 1926 and 1931; Stephen Vincent Benet in 1932, 1937, and 1940, and Flannery O'Connor in 1953, 1957 and 1965.

The introduction is platitudinous and duly (if dully) informative. The recent change of editorship from hand to hand (Paul Engle to Mary Stegner to Richard Poirier) seems rather to have increased the quality of the stories—or, hopefully, the number of people like Updike

## John Updike in recognized writer's repose

... his 'Bulgarian Poetess' made good

and the late Miss O'Connor who will settle for nothing less than the hand-tooled product.

**MANY ARE CLASSICS**—In a day when most interest in contests settles around supermarkets and gas stations, it is rewarding to consider how many of these stories are

classic: "The Devil and Daniel Webster," "Barn Burning," "Shut a Final Door," "In the Zoo," and "Venus, Cupid, Folly and Time," to choose five of the most familiar.

One wishes the O. Henry Contest as long a life as the recent revitalization of the short story will allow.

## Ski Pro Gives Advice

**COME SKI WITH ME.** By Stein Ericksen and Martin Luray. W. W. Norton & Co. 216 pp. \$12.50.

**LAST YEAR AT SUGARBUSH.** By Irene Kampen. W. W. Norton & Co. 216 pp. \$12.50.

By JIM HIGBY

**THE GOLDEN BOY** of Mountains—the biggest mogul of them all—has put his biography, his racing statistics and some of the technique behind his absolutely incomparable style between hard covers. Illustrated with striking photographs, this is a volume the ski buff can't

**STEIN, THOUGH**, has brought a new measure of expertise to his old Scandinavian sport. Now at his ski school at Sugarbush, Vt., he teaches the American technique, which is a modification of the Alpine technique which was a modification of the old Nordic.

Stein is a minor saga in his own time. He is also a thorough professional and his book is a thoroughgoing professional product.

**SO THERE IS** a great deal about the life and times of Stein. There is also much sound advice on ski equipment, physical conditioning and downhill running from snowplow to wedeln.

Mrs. Kampen's "kooky" work is a broad satire on the ski crowd—"confessions of a fallen woman."

Her subjects here are those involved figures of the snow belt, the ski instructors; those poor ones in retard, the ski students, and all the banalities of the fall-line—coming and going. Highly amusing.

## Karl Barth Saying Less, Writing More

**HOW I CHANGED MY MIND.** By Karl Barth. Knox. 96 pp. \$3.

**HERE**, collected for the first time, are the best in self-reflections of the world's greatest living Protestant theologian.

The humanness of this Swiss scholar is revealed at its best.

A student of history, whose keen interest was in the American Civil War, he could also say that losing his voice for a time during a heart attack was "probably punishment for having talked so much during his lifetime."

John D. Godsey, professor of theology at Drew University in New Jersey, has written an introduction and epilogue, tracing Barth's life from birth to 1928, and from 1938 to the present. The book includes 12 photographs.

C.A.V.

## New York Times Best Seller List

FICTION

## Wit of Ages

Illustrated Volume