

2015

Bet You Missed It

Bruce Strauch

The Citadel, strauchb@citadel.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://docs.lib.purdue.edu/atg>



Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Strauch, Bruce (2015) "Bet You Missed It," *Against the Grain*: Vol. 27: Iss. 4, Article 36.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.7154>

This document has been made available through Purdue e-Pubs, a service of the Purdue University Libraries. Please contact epubs@purdue.edu for additional information.

Bet You Missed It

Press Clippings — In the News — Carefully Selected by Your Crack Staff of News Sleuths

Column Editor: **Bruce Strauch** (The Citadel)

Editor's Note: Hey, are y'all reading this? If you know of an article that should be called to *Against the Grain's* attention ... send an email to <kstrauch@comcast.net>. We're listening! — **KS**

THE BOOK SURVIVES; SORT OF by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

Professor John Sutherland is the Emeritus Lord Northcliffe Professor of Modern English Literature at **University College London**. He believes the Twitter generation will eventually tire of non-stop networking and return to reading actual books.

And perhaps to nudge them in that direction, he has rewritten 25 top novels as 140-character tweets. For ex: "The Great Gatsby, Scott Fitzgerald, 1925 – V.rich, enigmatic Jay Gatsby finds 1st luv Daisy, Tom's wife. But it's selfish D+T's fault ends w/Jay shot. Also 'Gr8' Gatsby was bootlegger."

See — **Hugo Gye**, "Books Will Survive the Twitter Generation," *The Daily Mail*, Aug. 12, 2015.

SOUTHERN EATS by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

For **Charleston Conference** folks in November, the *WSJ* explores the best shrimp 'n grits and chooses – drum roll – (1) Red Drum on Coleman Blvd. in Mt. Pleasant (shiitake slivers, smoked bacon, Anson Mills coarse-ground grits, wild-venison sausage and habanero sauce [chef is from Texas]); (2) Early Bird Diner on Savannah Hwy. (legendary hangover food joint with swampy Bolognese-red blanket of sauce for bacon-studded shrimp); (3) Nana's Seafood & Soul on Line Street (no mushrooms 'cause not traditional); (4) of course, the famous Husk at 76 Queen St. (can come with pig's ears or country ham – woo!); (5) and finally – ta da! – the conference hotel's Swamp Fox restaurant (rarely-seen white lobster-based gravy, orange peppers, scallions and chunks of Tasso ham).

See — **Adam Leith Gollner**, "Charleston's Truest Grits," *The Wall Street Journal*, June 6-7, 2015, p.D7.

LET'S READ ABOUT WOMEN OF THE SOE by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

Special Operations Executive was a British outfit that sent incredibly brave people into Nazi-occupied Europe to arm and organize the resistance. (1) **Judith Pearson**, *The Wolves at the Door* (2009) (American Virginia Hall commanded 2,000 resistance fighters); (2) **Clare Mulley**, *The Spy Who Loved* (2012) (Christine Granville. Polish and fearless.

Everyone fell in love with her.); (3) **Robert Marshall**, *All the King's Men* (1988) (Triple agent Henri Déricourt. Betrayed a lot of women to Gestapo and got away with it.); (4) **Shrabani Basu**, *Spy Princess* (2006) (Noor Khan, daughter of a Sufi mystic. Died in Dachau.); **Sarah Helm**, *A Life in Secrets* (2005) (Vera Atkins trained the women who went off to danger.)

See — **Rick Stroud**, "Five Best," *The Wall Street Journal*, June 13-14, 2015, p.C10. Rick is the author of *Kidnap in Crete: The True Story of the Abduction of a Nazi General*.



SAVING THE BARD by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

None of **Shakespeare's** plays were published during his lifetime because plays were not considered art. He didn't even own them because he had sold them to the theater troupe.

Shakespeare was originally saved for posterity by two of his colleagues, **John Heminges** and **Henry Condell**. After his death, they set upon publishing his dramatic works, and thus were born the **Shakespeare Folios** (folio refers to the dimensions of the book). 240 copies survive of the 750 that were printed.

The second salvation was performed by **Standard Oil** plutocrat **Henry Clay Folger**. A poor boy made good, he was a pioneer of industrial efficiency. Along with golf, he was passionate about **Shakespeare**. His wife **Emily** shared the passion for the Bard and became an expert rare book buyer.

They did not dabble, putting together a collection of 82 First Folios (one-third of the existing ones); 256,000 books; 60,000 manuscripts; 200 oil paintings; 50,000 watercolors plus playbills; theater programs; costumes and musical instruments.

And, as you doubtless know, that became the **Folger Shakespeare Library**.

See — **Howard Schneider**, reviewing **Andrea Mays**, *The Millionaire and the Bard*, *The Wall Street Journal*, May 16-17, 2015, p.C9.

LET'S READ ABOUT CHURCHILL'S WAR CABINET by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

(1) **Robert Rhodes James**, *Anthony Eden* (WWI hero, movie star looks, Prime Minister material. But he suffered from an unfaithful wife; a wayward, spendthrift mother; an adored son killed by the Japanese. "A man who deserved far better.") (1986); (2) **Alan Bullock**, *Ernest Bevin* (1960-83); (3) **A.J.P. Taylor**, *Beaverbrook* (712-page biography begins with "Lord Beaverbrook did not like long books.") (1972); (4) **Peter Clarke**, *The Cripps Version* (A vegetarian, teetotaler, devout Christian and unwavering socialist. **Churchill** said, "He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire.") (2002); (5) **Bernard Donoghue** and **G.W. Jones**, *Herbert Morrison* ("He believed in two great causes: socialism and his own advancement.") (1973).

See — **Jonathan Schneer**, "Five Best," *The Wall Street Journal*, April 25-26, 2015, p.C10.

BOOK STORE OLYMPUS by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

Online *Architectural Digest* takes you to some of the world's greatest bookstores. And they are doozies. **El Ateneo Grand Splendid** in Buenos Aires. **Assouline**, London in a 1922 **Sir Edwin Lutyens** building. **The Last Bookstore**, LA. **Daikanyama T-Site**, Tokyo. **Atlantis Books** in a basement in Santorini, Greece. **Livrararia Lello**, Porto, Portugal, which has been overwhelmed by **J.K. Rowlings** fans. **Livraria Cultura**, Sao Paulo. **Cook & Book**, Brussels. **Saraiva**, Rio de Janeiro. **Boekhandel Selexyz Dominicanen**, Maastricht, Netherlands.

See — archdigest.com/go/bookstores