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GIDE, ANDRE PAUL GUILLAUME. Travels in the Congo; tr. from the French by Dorothy Bussey. 375p il \$5 Knopf 916.7 Kongo

The travel note-book of a journey thru the Congo undertaken by a distinguished French man of letters who was not only a keen and discriminating observer of native life and scenes, but also a sympathetic and friendly one, who seems to have commanded the affection and respect of the blacks. His journal is simply and beautifully written. It is illustrated from photographs taken by the cinematographer who accompanied M. Gide.

"Aside from the great underlying motive of humanity, one welcomes 'Travels in the Congo' as a revelation of André Gide himself; for in journeying with him, in apprehending through his keenly developed senses, in sharing the emotions, the enthusiasms, the indignations and the affections which Africa aroused in so rare and versatile an intelligence the reader is inevitably the richer." Blair Niles

+ Books (N Y Herald Tribune) p5 My 12 '29 1000w

"It is a tribute to the sincerity of the French Government that they chose a man of Andre Gide's caliber to conduct an investigation into the rumors. Of the widest culture and understanding, a rare specimen in that he is a cosmopolitan Frenchman, a man of absolutely sound balance—in short, one of the six most civilized fellows in his country—Andre Gide was sure to bring back the truth in so far as it was humanly attainable." L. Sherwin

+ N Y Evening Post p10m My 11 '29 800w

"Distinguished in manner, without any imported romanticism, but reflecting the spell of the Dark Continent, vivid, 'Travels in the Congo' is a book to place beside one's set of Conrad."

+ N Y Times p7 My 12 '29 1100w

"Gide's observation is unprejudiced, without romantic distortion of fact; his style, the perfection of simplicity." L. F. Hewlings

+ Outlook 152:106 My 15 '29 460w

It is a depressing picture Gide draws of the native Africa and a serious indictment of both the Belgian and the much-vaunted French colonial systems. Above all he denounces the terrorist police valent in certain sections finds that the natives receive as much kindness as they are to abuse.

This journal of Gide's is the most connected volume possible. It neglects scientific details of terrain, geology and customs for the personal details of native life. Yet what it loses it gains by intimacy and sincerity. Gide's knowledge is not had from almost any scientific work on the Congo the not great.—S. D. G.