

**THE AMERICAN CREDO: A
CONTRIBUTION TOWARD
THE INTERPRETATION OF
THE NATIONAL MIND**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649407484

The American Credo: A Contribution toward the Interpretation of the National Mind by
George Jean Nathan & H. L. Mencken

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

GEORGE JEAN NATHAN & H. L. MENCKEN

**THE AMERICAN CREDO: A
CONTRIBUTION TOWARD
THE INTERPRETATION OF
THE NATIONAL MIND**

BY H. L. MENCKEN AND GEORGE JEAN NATHAN

HELIOGABALUS: A BUFFOONERY

BY H. L. MENCKEN

BY GEORGE JEAN NATHAN

THE PHILOSOPHY OF FRIEDRICH
NIETZSCHE

A BOOK OF BURLESQUES

IN DEFENSE OF WOMEN

A BOOK OF PREFACES

PREJUDICES: FIRST SERIES

“ SECOND ”

THE AMERICAN LANGUAGE

ANOTHER BOOK ON THE THEATRE

MR. GEORGE JEAN NATHAN
PRESENTS

A BOOK WITHOUT A TITLE

THE POPULAR THEATRE

COMEDIANS ALL

THE THEATRE, THE DRAMA,
THE GIRLS,

THE CRITIC AND THE DRAMA

THE AMERICAN CREDO

A Contribution Toward the Interpretation
of the National Mind

Revised and Enlarged Edition

BY
GEORGE JEAN NATHAN
and H. L. MENCKEN

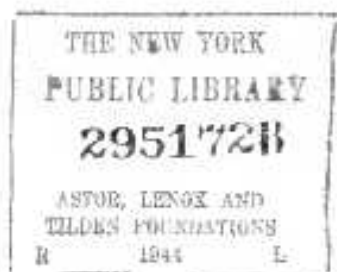


NEW YORK
ALFRED · A · KNOFF
1921

R. E. F.

COPYRIGHT, 1920, BY
ALFRED A. KNOFF, Inc.

COPYRIGHT, 1921, BY
ALFRED A. KNOFF, Inc.



PRINTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Planson 37 May 1935 Bellings Sound

PREFACES

PREFACE TO THE REVISED AND ENLARGED EDITION

This edition embodies a number of changes, some of omission and some of addition. The imperfections of the original work were obvious to us when we sent it forth, and we are very grateful to those scholars at home and abroad who have contributed so generously to its improvement. In particular, we owe a large debt to Mr. Aubrey Donaldson, M. A., Reader in Comparative Mythology at Oxford, and to Prof. Dr. Gustav Simmelmeyer, of the University of Zürich. Dr. Simmelmeyer printed a long and very learned review of the work in the *Schweizerisches Archiv für Volkskunde*, and it was instrumental in establishing pleasant contacts with distinguished folk-lorists in various European countries, notably Dr. Arnold Letkow of Berlin, Prof. Ledoux of the Sorbonne, Dr. Enrico Forelli of Turin, and Prof. Mendoza of Salamanca, editor of the well-known *Biblioteca de las tradiciones españolas*. Prof. Mendoza was good enough to say that the book showed a revolu-

THE AMERICAN CREDO

tionary point of departure in the study of the origin and growth of myths, and to propose that a series of volumes upon the same plan be undertaken by European savants, each dealing with his own country. This proposal has met with a response in Sweden, where Dr. Gothemann, lecturer upon Oral Literatures at Upsala, has undertaken a Swedish work of like character, and in Germany, where various articles dealing with German popular beliefs in the same manner have been printed in the *Beiträge zur Volks- und Völkerkunde*, chiefly from the able pens of Prof. Kuno Goertz and Baron Hereward von Albrechtsein. We are also informed that a Bulgarian ethnologist has undertaken a collection, and that a monograph upon Italian folk-history, by Prof. Forelli, is soon to be published in the *Archivio per lo studio delle tradizioni popolari* of Palermo.

From observers nearer home we have received a great deal of aid. In fact, it would fill several pages merely to print the names of those who have kindly favoured us with additions to our collection, and with criticisms of the matter already printed. In the case of the latter we have found it necessary to make few changes. The first edition was in-