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1. Ten of my books:

1. The History of Kentucky
2. The Rampaging Frontier
3. Frontier America
4. The Kentucky (Rivers of America Series)
5. The Emerging South
6. Pills, Petticoats, and Plows
7. The Greening of the South
8. Southern Country Editor
9. Kentucky, Land of Contrasts
10. Indiana University, Mid-West Pioneer (4 vols.).

Books which in some way had some influence on my adventures into the world of learning, reading, and sense of time, place, and style.

1. The King James version of the Scriptures for its marvelous figures, sense of history, images, English Language structure, aside from its other values.
2. Cervantes, Don Quixote. Because of its human foibles, futility, human folk influences, comedy, tragedy, and element of humor in viewing the human comedy.
3. The Greek classic legends with a l of their sidelights on the travails of humanity.
4. Shakespeare's Hamlet is both a basic adventure in the field of human saga, in folklore, in concentrated wisdom, and, most of all, its historical challenges.
5. Gibbon's Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, is at once highly enlightening and boring in its great burden of detail, but nevertheless, revealing and impressive.
7. Generally the English authors of the several ages of English literature- as it has ever been a part of our literary heritage.
8. Ralph Waldo Emerson is a must in understanding much of the earlier American literary scene, but most important as the break away and assertion of American literary independence.
9. Ulrich B. Phillips, Life and Labor in the Old South, not alone for its historical content, but for its polished style of historical writing.
10. Mark Twain, Huckleberry Finn, for its literary, historical, and social nuances , and its landmark contribution to a timed approach to the American scene.

11. Dumas Malone's five volume biography of Thomas Jefferson. for its research, sane interpretation, and marvelous writing style.
12. Marquis James. Biography^{of} Andrew Jackson, This along with John Spencer Bassett Documentary on the age of Jackson- These books opened a new vista into American history, and set a course of investigation which is still very muc in progress.
13. Albert J. Beveridge, John Marshall, is a monumental pioneering work in an area ever intriguing to historians, legalists, and everybody else who seeks to understand the relativity of the United States Supreme Court and the evolution of the applied Constitution.
14. John Steinack, Grapes of Wrath is an unveiling of the tragedy, frustration, and helpness of people caught in a trap of both human and institutional failures. Most of all it revealed a deep seated veing of human fortitude of will, and of a triumph of sorts.
15. I'll Take my Stand, by the Southern Agrarians, for its intimate revelation of involments, social, economic, and literary, of the time when the South crossed over a wide chasm of revolutionary change/
16. Charles A. Beard's Economic Interpretation of the Constitution.
17. Howard W. Odum, Southern Regions.

I tread on treacherous ground when I try to name some Kentuckians who have contributed to Kentucky's history and progress. Nevertheless I can be reasonably certain of the persons listed here.

1. Daniel Boone
2. George Rogers Clark
3. George Nicholas
4. John Bradford
5. Dr. Ephriam McDowell and Jane Todd Crawford
6. George D. Prentice
7. Henry Clay
8. James Guthrie
9. John Grant Crabbe
10. J. C. C. Mayo
11. Henry Watterson
12. Laura Clay
13. Ellen Churchill Semple
14. Harriette Arnow
15. Frank LeRond McVey
15. The Bingham (Robert W., G. Barry, Mary).
16. Melville Amasa Scovell

Kentuckians Who Have been Detrimental
to the State's Reputation and Image.

1. The Mountain Feudists (Hatfields and McCoys, Hargiss Cockrill, Hill-Evans, Howard-White-Baker-Garrard).
2. James W. (Honest Dick) Tate, absconding state treasurer
3. Telton Hall, Feudist. (Letcher Countt).
5. Jeremiah Boyle, Oppressive Union General.
6. Marcellus Jerome Clark, along with Sam ("One Armed") Berrr guerillas.
7. The extremist fundamentalists of various religious and reactionary organizations. (Ku Klux Hransmen, anti-evolutionists, publi education opponents.
8. Venal legisla ors and other public officials.
9. William Goebel and his power grab in the infamous "Election Law," The McCord Railway Bill, the abortive Chinn Textbook Bill.
10. Jim Howard, the accused Goebel assassin.
11. The irresponsible strip miners.
12. J. C. C. C. Mayo and the "Long Form" Deed.
13. Vote buyers and sellers who prostitute the processes of stable democratic government to sy nothing of the will of honorable citizens

People Who have had the most Influence

1. Both my Mother and Father.
 - a. My father held to high moral and personal conduct standards. He invented the term "work Ethic."
 - My mother was a college trained school teacher who had a bright mind and was dedicated to the cause of education.
2. I would have to say an almost nameless group of teachers in the Choctaw County Agricultural High School, Weir, Mississippi.
3. I could not over estimate the influence Professor Arthur P. Hudson, Professor English, University of Mississippi. He was demanding, thorough, a fine classroom teacher, and throughout his life an abiding friend.
2. Charles Sackett Sydnor, Professor and Head of the Department of history at Ole Miss. It was from him I got my first insight into the study of history. He too was a lifelong friend, sometime advisor, and always a solid scholarly example and challenge.
3. William Kenneth Boyd, my major professor at Duke University. a superb classroom teacher, a diligent builder of the great Duke Library, and a sometimes "catchable" dissertation director, but always dedicated by word and action to the profession of historian in the sense of teaching, book and documentary collection, research and writing.
4. Three University of Kentucky history colleagues, Eljery Hall, Paul H. Clyde, Robert G. Lunde were important personal influences. Neither Hall nor Lunde were publishing scholars, Clyde was.

5. Frank LeRond McVey, President of the University of Kentucky, 1918-1939, was indeed an impressive academic administrator in a state which gave higher education too meager support. McVey had a clear concept of what a university should be, of the role of the scholar, of freedom of teaching, research, writing, and of serving the third university function of public service. In the end I had an almost father-son relationship with him. We shared our dreams.
6. As a member from the outset I became associated with fair large bodies of his orians, many of them first rate scholars, and collectively they offered stiff challenges, and extended generous encouragement.
7. No man who is married can failed to profit enormously from the influences of a bright and critical wife. A wife is far more incisive than are the frankest professional colleagues. I have been blessed with two intelligent and perceptive wives.
8. In a final analysis who knows how many persona' and professional bear upon one's life? Many, of course. How mant times have casual remarks, or a chance observation borne decisively on the course of one's life? In my case, many.

Dislikes about Kentucky

To begin with Kentucky is no different from other states. It has its plusses and minuses, some time in overfull measure. I thoroughly abhor the political corruption which has so often stained the democratic process in Kentucky's history. Every vote "bought", every private driveway paved at public expense, every mean and selfish act of a public school board, failure of the courts, and criminal act by a public official has soiled Kentucky's image and diluted its integrity. One has only to examine the electoral statistics of past elections to see how much Kentuckians lack faith in their governing process.

There has ever run through Kentucky history the not so subtle impact of provincialism. Often this this has been a costly thing. Communities have been set against communities, there have been failures in the creation and operation of regional institutions which would be of more substantial quality because of provincial and narrow sectional bickering. On the broader state-wide scale sectionalism has often generated a shortsightedness which has kept many Kentucky public institutions in a state of mediocrity, or has involved a wasteful uses of limited financial and other resources. Kentucky, obviously, will not live in an isolated cultural, social, economic, transportation, industrial, and and communication world in the next century, this pattern of change is already in place. Sectionalism of the provincial Kentucky type will have no place in the next century in the broader needs and functions of state society.

What I dislike about Kentucky

It is highly frustrating to see Kentuckians fail to live up to the potentials of their land and place. They have at once a passion for the past and too often have revealed a shortsighted indifference to their potentials. Too often they have been slow if not actually resistant to changes, changes which are exerted largely by local native inertia, and, paradoxically, by outside forces which may too often have been of an exploitative nature. Never at any moment have Kentuckians been fully alerted to the fact its human population is as much a resource as are the land and its forest and mineral resources, all demanding effective processing. Throughout most of this century we have seen education falter for lack of financial support, a consistent and concerned plan, venal and even, sometimes, shameful prostitution of the educational program. This has been especially true in areas where the school systems have had jobs to offer, and jobs instead of competent education have become the focus.

It is painful to see the very bosom of the the state desecrated with trash in myriad forms, to see sloven domestic premises, pollution of streams, erosion on the hills, and ravenous log and lumber exploiters rob that forest twenty years ahead of profitable harvest time.

Surely, in the most human terms, the persistent violence which has stained Kentucky history over the centuries cannot but be the shameful mark of Cain. Far too long, and far too often, the Kentucky image has dripped with the blood of violence.

