

Essays by Muste Published

Editor's note: "Selected Essays" by A.J. Muste, published in March by Bobbs-Merrill, was recently reviewed in the New York Times Book Review by Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr, professor emeritus at Union Theological Seminary, and by Dr. D. Van Dykstra in Hobart College's Alumni Magazine. Excerpts from both reviews are given below to highlight words quoted from Rev. Muste's "Essays." Also included are excerpts from "The Philosophy of A.J. Muste" which appeared in Saturday Review on April 8. It was written by Van Hentoff, who also edited the essays. Dr. Van Hentoff says Muste's contribution is not only a very valuable one but he has been a prophet in that we have not only won the war, we are now in a more advanced stage of it. If we want to win the war, we must use the force of our own lives. "THE ONLY TRUE GOD is not the God of impersonal historical or economic forces which automatically regenerate society... The true God is the God of love who can and does redeem men. This God is revealed in Jesus Christ. The true church is the ecclesia of those redeemed by infinite love. It must seek to redeem the world and must assert that it is the channel of the grace of God without which there is no salvation, and that if it is content with the keys of the kingdom of heaven, but it can rightfully claim no victory in the degree that it uses violence except that which love which will not be gained by force and which is not really force for sinners and this itself is the community of love."—A.J. Muste.

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