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Documentary film

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Paul Rotha : Documentary film before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Documentary film:

Excerpt from Documentary FilmJuncture becomes a matter for desperate choice. The film may be used for propaganda and, so focused are we on purposes these days, that all is propaganda. But which? If the film lends its dramatic aid to any one of these powers which have religious mania in them and drive men mad, it is propaganda of the devil. If the film is devoted to saying how men live and should live and where the creative forces that fulfil men's honest needs reside, then it is propaganda that has its roots in a continuing reality and is capable of beauty. Some will take the path of partisan excitement. We shall have pretty pictures of pennants ying and guns pop ping and rhetoric, the jingling harness of expression, will be the keynote of their films. Others will resist this defeat. The best work the documentary film has done has been to describe the work of workmen, the work of scientists and organisers in peace time pur suits, and the great work of social reconstruction which is going on even while the maniac armies march over us. These others will attempt to maintain this progress, so that, perhaps, when the armies have passed, a hand ful of grain will be left to cast into the battered ground. They will insist that the propagation of ideas must not depart from the deeper needs of public education; and, keeping their roots in this continuing reality, they can not fail, sometimes, to be poets.About the PublisherForgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at www.forgottenbooks.comThis book is a reproduction of an important historical work. Forgotten Books uses state-of-

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