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Two annotated typescripts by Lewis Galantiere, translator of major works like Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's. The texts are reviews of T.S. Eliot's 1930 translation of "Anabase" by Saint-John Perse. Written in French and published in 1925, the poem is a serene rejection of modern civilization. Galantiere's review was initially sent to editor Mr. Stroock on September 4, 1930, and it appeared later that year in Hound & Horn magazine. Saint-John Perse, born Alexis Léger on May 31, 1887, was a renowned French poet and writer who won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1960 for his evocative poetry that reflected the era's conditions. Growing up in Pointe-à-Pitre, Guadeloupe, he developed an appreciation for nature, which would become a recurring theme throughout his life. After his family moved to metropolitan France in 1899, Léger spent most of his youth exploring his love for hiking, fencing, riding horses, and sailing. As a student, Léger excelled in the natural sciences, with ornithology being a particular interest due to his fascination with birds. He felt like an outsider in France, often referring to himself as a "man of the Atlantic" who was at ease on both sides of the ocean. This sense of disconnection from the mainland contributed to his preference for islands and peninsula. After completing his baccalauréat, Léger studied law at the University of Bordeaux while working as a music critic for the *Pau-Gazette*. He temporarily interrupted his studies due to family financial strain following his father's passing in 1907 but eventually completed his degree in 1910. Given article text here St Léger's literary career began in 1896 with his family. In 1904, he befriended poet Francis Jammes at Orthéz. He joined cultural clubs and met notable writers Paul Claudel, Odilon Redon, Valéry Larbaud, and André Gide. St Léger wrote poems inspired by Robinson Crusoe's story (Images à Crusoe) and translated Pindar. His first book of poetry, *Eloges*, was published in 1910. The work reflected his nostalgia for Guadeloupe and a quest for the "other shores". The tone is both dreamy and melancholic as he reflects on lost childhood memories. The autobiographical nature is evident in poems featuring an authoritarian father with omniscient power over his family and plantation. For St Léger, poetry allowed him to recapture the past. The *Eloges* features a phrase "ÉCRIT SUR LA PORTE" ("Written on the door") and explores a chronotope of a plantation world severed from history. He joined the French diplomatic service in 1914 and spent several years working abroad, including stints in Spain, Germany, and the UK. When WWI broke out, he worked as a press corps attaché for the government. From 1916 to 1921, he served as secretary to the French embassy in Peking (now Beijing), where he had a complicated relationship with Madame Dan Pao Tchoa, though she believed it was just for information. During his time there, he befriended philosophers and even lived in a former Taoist temple. He was fascinated by the Gobi desert, writing to a friend that its expanses had "exerted a hold on my thoughts," and later used this as inspiration for his epic poem *Anabase*, which concerns an expedition through the desert to reach the sea, symbolizing humanity's journey through time and space. Find something interesting in the book. Gide discovered the *Anabase* upon opening the trunk. Léger had a taste for classical music and knew prominent figures like Igor Stravinsky, Nadia Boulanger, and Les Six. Within Parisian intellectual circles, St. Léger was regarded as an emerging poet, maintaining a close friendship with Marcel Proust, whose work he admired. As Proust worked on the later volumes of *À la recherche du temps perdu*, St. Léger offered advice and encouragement. Later, in Sofom et Gomorrah, the fourth volume of *À la recherche du temps perdu*, two servants find St. Léger's *Eloges* in the narrator's bedroom. After reading his poems, Céleste states that St. Léger wrote riddles instead of poetry and dismisses the book. Despite this seemingly unflattering portrayal, it served as a tribute to St. Léger's poetic talent. In China, Léger penned his first extended poem, *Anabase*, which he published in 1924 under the pseudonym "Saint-John Perse". He then went on a two-decade publishing hiatus, believing it inappropriate for a diplomat to publish fiction. *Anabase* received little attention initially but gained praise from poets like T.S. Eliot and Rainer Maria Rilke. Though St. Léger wrote in French, his poetry received more positive reviews abroad than in France due to its idiosyncratic style not fitting into the main currents of French poetry at the time. In 1925, he became chef de cabinet to Briand. Leger described Briand as having boldness tempered by common sense, with the ability to think quickly and without duplicity or violence. St. Léger supported Briand's Locarno policy and was involved in the talks leading to the Treaty of Locarno in 1925 and the Kellogg-Briand Pact in 1928. In 1930, St. Léger drafted a memo for Briand, urging him to speak for a Federal European Union at the next session of the League of Nations. The same year, Eliot translated *Anabase* into English, introducing St. Léger to an English-speaking audience. After Briand's death in 1932, St. Léger served as General Secretary of the French Foreign Office until 1940. St. Léger was a long-time diplomat who took over as Secretary-General in the spring of 1932 after Berthelot's retirement due to ill health. He shared similar views with Briand and Berthelot, emphasizing international "law and justice" through the League of Nations. St. Léger had a strong interest in Chinese culture and hoped the Soviet Union and the United States to join the League. He was described as a brilliant and ruthless diplomat by D.C. Watt, whose intelligence made him invaluable to successive French foreign ministers. However, his talents were often negated by mediocre foreign ministers he served. St. Léger promoted a talented cadre of ambassadors, including René Massigli and Charles Corbin. Elizabeth Cameron wrote that St. Léger was an ordinary diplomat, being a poet who lived in a world not much frequented by other diplomats. He was known for his courtesy but also had a reputation for aloofness and subtle thought processes. Julien Jackson described St. Léger as a mysterious character whose most important belief was that France could not afford to be estranged from Britain. St. Léger's dark complexion led to rumors of partially African descent, earning him the nickname "le maître du quai d'Orsay" which he hated. He was known for his eccentricities, particularly an obsession with writing long erotic poems and spending disproportionate amounts of time on sex-related topics. St. Léger frequently visited the Café Procope where he engaged in discussions about the latest cultural trends with prominent figures like Jean Cocteau and Paul Morand. Morand praised St. Léger for his modesty, broad-mindedness, and intellectual integrity, noting his selflessness and mature wisdom. Another writer, Pertainx, commended St. Léger's strong sense of French dignity and his commitment to moral and intellectual honesty. However, St. Léger faced challenges in his relationships with certain foreign ministers, particularly Pierre Laval, Flaminin, and Georges Bonnet. Despite this, he saw it as his duty to "educate" these officials. St. Léger's tenure was marked by a significant crisis when the League of Nations' Lytton report concluded that Japan had committed aggression against China in 1931. St. Léger recommended that the General Assembly approve and adopt the report, but also suggested leaving the resolution of the Sino-Japanese dispute to mediation by key powers. In his reports on the crisis, St. Léger portrayed both Japan and China as hostile towards France's special rights in China, with Japan being significantly more threatening. He noted that since the mid-1920s, Japan had been moving away from integration into a system of great world powers and towards a "systematic program of wild imperialism," which he feared might lead to war. Consequently, St. Léger advocated for France to vote in favor of sanctions against Japan at the League General Assembly as a means of preventing conflict in Asia. French diplomatic efforts were focused on maintaining its special rights in China, particularly in the French Concession in Shanghai. This required defending against Japan and addressing potential Chinese reorganization along its border with or without Japanese involvement. St. Léger emphasized the need for French diplomacy to avoid appearing to support Chinese claims and methods while also avoiding solutions that might push Japan towards extreme measures. Following the presentation of the Lytton commission report in March 1933, Japan withdrew from the League of Nations in protest. St. Léger advocated for closer ties with Britain and potentially the United States, motivated by fear of both Japan and Germany. St. Léger respected Louis Barthou as a foreign minister who shared his vision for "the great rules of French diplomacy." He wanted to maintain the Locarno system, which had been France's cornerstone in Europe for over a decade, inspiring respect from Hitler due to its precision and strictness. In 1934, Barthou initially considered dismissing St. Léger, believing him to be opposed to his policy of forming an alliance with the Soviet Union. However, after discovering St. Léger was suitable for conducting talks with the Soviets, he changed his mind. Barthou's plan for an "Eastern Locarno" aimed to provide a cover for an alliance with the Soviet Union, which garnered strong opposition from Britain. A French delegation consisting of Barthou, St. Léger, Corbin, Massigli, and de Margerie held a conference in London with Sir John Simon, Sir Robert Vansittart, Sir Anthony Eden, Orme Sargent, and Lord Stanhope. Simon ridiculed France's concerns about Nazi Germany, prompting Barthou to argue that an "Eastern Locarno" was necessary to protect France and its allies in Eastern Europe. St. Léger emphasized the fundamental importance of French friendship with England, stating that France did not wish to do anything against Great Britain or without British involvement. The assassination of Barthou in Marseilles while greeting King Alexander of Yugoslavia, who was also killed, dealt a significant blow to French diplomacy as St. Léger considered Barthou to be the only effective foreign minister. Pierre Laval sought an alliance with Italy, willing to cede the Aouzou Strip for Mussolini's friendship. However, Étienne St. Léger disagreed, believing Laval was too hasty in his dealings and put little importance on them. St. Léger felt excluded from private meetings where agreements were made, such as giving Mussolini free rein to invade Ethiopia. He also opposed Laval's eagerness to meet Joseph Stalin, viewing it as a mere "voyage de cabotin." When St. Léger cautioned that more time was needed for the Franco-Soviet alliance, Laval responded with "vous cochez avec les affaires," which further distanced him from Laval's policies. A close friend of Edvard Beneš and pro-Czechoslovak in stance, St. Léger often undercut policy initiatives he disapproved of. He attended a summit in Moscow where the Franco-Soviet alliance was signed, meeting Stalin alongside Pierre Laval, Vyacheslav Molotov, and Maxim Litvinov. Upon their return to Paris, St. Léger disagreed with Laval's handling of the Abyssinia Crisis, particularly his support for the Hoare-Laval Pact that rewarded Italy for invading Ethiopia. This pact was met with highly negative reactions in both France and the UK after it was leaked by St. Léger through the French press. The pact nearly brought down Stanley Baldwin's government, forcing Hoare to resign. However, Baldwin lied about Hoare's actions to the House of Commons. In March 1936, Germany remilitarized the Rhineland, violating the Treaty of Versailles and Locarno. St. Léger urged France to take action, suggesting a military force be sent to evict the Wehrmacht. Gamelin believed that only a general mobilization would ensure sufficient force for the task. The crisis led to a meeting of the League Council in London, where Flaminin and St. Léger discussed the situation. St. Léger was disgusted by Flaminin's willingness to accept Germany's actions, while Eden offered vague promises of staff talks if France accepted the remilitarization. St. Léger believed that France should have taken military action to enforce its treaties with Germany. He argued that Britain would have followed suit, as they had signed both the Treaty of Versailles and Locarno. St. Léger considered the remilitarization of the Rhineland the turning point in France's fortunes, not the Munich Agreement. He believed that the London conference in March 1936 was responsible for Hitler's aggressive actions. The remilitarization altered the balance of power in favor of Germany, exposing France to the threat of invasion and allowing Germany to refortify its border with France. To be shielded from a potential French offensive, St. Léger pursued a policy of preparation for the impending conflict, which he dubbed "irréductible dans l'irréductibilité". Despite this, France endeavored to revive the Stresa Front after the League of Nations sanctions against Italy ended in July 1936, displaying an extraordinary eagerness to retain Italy as an ally. However, Mussolini responded more favorably to Germany's overtures than those of Britain and France, which historians have attributed to Germany's consistent mistreatment of Italy. Both Britain and France sought a rapprochement with Italy to undo the damage caused by the League of Nations sanctions, but Mussolini chose to ally himself with Hitler instead. St. Léger harbored a strong aversion to Fascist Italy and consistently opposed efforts to improve relations with Rome, arguing that Mussolini was intent on forming an anti-French alliance with Germany. He served the Front Populaire government of Léon Blum and advocated for an alliance with Great Britain during the Spanish Civil War. St. Léger believed that France could not afford a breach with Britain over Spain and therefore recommended ceasing arms supplies to the Spanish Republic and agreeing to the British plan for an arms embargo on both sides. Within the Foreign Office, he led the optimist faction, which held that France was unstable and would back down if confronted by Britain and France. In October 1936, St. Léger welcomed the new American ambassador to Paris, William Christian Bullitt Jr., and expressed his pleasure at President Franklin D. Roosevelt's appointment of a fluent French speaker as ambassador, seeing it as a sign that Roosevelt valued Franco-American relations. French Foreign Minister St. Léger reacts strongly to rumors of éhrmacht presence in Spanish Morocco, which he considers a threat to French interests. He meets with German ambassador Count Johannes von Welzceck and demands withdrawal, securing British support from Robert Vansittart. The incident further strains relations between France and Germany. St. Léger attends a conference at the Quai d'Orsay, discussing Eastern Europe alongside other diplomats. They conclude that no resistance to Nazi Germany is possible as long as allies feud with each other. The conference leads to plans for King Carol II of Romania to allow Red Army transit rights across Romania, aiming to aid Czechoslovakia in case of a German invasion. However, Polish Foreign Minister Colonel Józef Beck's hostile attitude towards Czechoslovakia sparks anger. A new government is formed under Édouard Daladier, with Georges Bonnet replacing Joseph Paul-Boncour as foreign minister. St. Léger dislikes Bonnet's secretive and duplicitous nature, describing him as one of the top foreign ministers he served. St. Léger maintained a pro-Czech stance within the French Foreign Office's "English line," advocating for closer ties with Britain amidst the Sudetenland crisis. He believed that Chamberlain would eventually support Czechoslovakia after initial concessions to Hitler, mirroring his approach to negotiations at the Munich Conference in 1938. There, St. Léger urged Daladier to resist Hitler's demands, though Daladier remained unmoved. Despite efforts by Foreign Minister Georges Bonnet to purge officials opposing appeasement policies, St. Léger was protected due to his friendship with Daladier. In contrast to Bonnet's policy of disengaging from Eastern Europe, St. Léger played a key role in enhancing French influence in the Balkans through a mission sent in November 1938. On December 6, 1938, he was present alongside Count von Welzceck at the Declaration of Franco-German Friendship was made, marking an unusual alignment with Germany for that time. The Franco-German summit saw Bonnet and Ribbentrop sign an agreement, while St. Léger was left shocked by the German Foreign Minister's entourage of 600 academic experts, which seemed odd to showcase power rather than contribute meaningfully to talks.[67] During a stroll in the Tuileries Garden, St. Léger disputed Bonnet's claim that France recognized Eastern Europe as within Germany's sphere of influence, suggesting instead that Czechoslovakia was the focus.[68] This interpretation contradicted Ribbentrop's report to Hitler, which claimed France accepted Germany's dominance in Eastern Europe, easing concerns about a potential war over Poland.[68] St. Léger expressed outrage when Germany disregarded the Munich Agreement and occupied Czech territory.[69] advocating for Robert Coulondeur's recall as an act of protest against German aggression. His private meeting with Daladier highlighted concerns over Bonnet's hesitant approach and perceived secrecy in decision-making.[69] When Bonnet met Chamberlain and Halifax, St. Léger was instructed to stay in Paris, reportedly due to fears he would advocate for policies at odds with Bonnet's views.[69] In a memo, St. Léger predicted that Britain would refuse Poland's request for military alliance, leading Beck to pivot towards Germany in the face of this rejection.[69] The document also foresaw France and Britain reaching a critical juncture, while St. Léger advocated for a "peace front" including the Soviet Union, France, and the United Kingdom to deter further German aggression.[69] St. Léger expressed his frustration with Poland's decision not to join France and England in protecting Romania. He wrote a lengthy letter to British officials, denouncing Polish leader Colonel Beck as untrustworthy and devious. St. Léger also warned against putting too much faith in King Carol II of Romania, whom he distrusted almost as much as Beck. He saw France's allies in Eastern Europe as mere "corollaries" that would follow the lead of Britain and France. St. Léger sought to sway American public opinion by sending French cultural figures on a US tour, hoping this would secure American support for facing the Reich. However, he was surprised when British Prime Minister Chamberlain suddenly announced a guarantee of Poland's protection on March 31st. This move put further strain on relations between Bonnet and Daladier, as they held differing views on whether France should go to war over Poland. St. Léger began to bypass Bonnet by dealing directly with the Chamberlain government, which was concerned about Japan taking advantage of a European war to seize British colonies in Asia. He shared intelligence with the American ambassador William Christian Bullitt Jr. that Germany and Japan had a secret plan for Japan to attack European colonies in Asia once Poland was invaded, knowing this would make Britain more active in Europe if America became more involved in Asia. Pressure from the city led Chamberlain to send the main Royal Navy fleet to Singapore, making a Danzig crisis war more likely. Léger told Bullitt, This information was passed on to Roosevelt, who then reversed his stance and ordered the transfer of much of the US Atlantic fleet to the Pacific. St. Léger expressed concerns about Japan's occupation of the Spratly Islands in February 1939, which brought Japanese forces close to French Indochina while France had no spare naval forces for Asia due to the European crisis. Roosevelt wrote a letter to Hitler on April 14, 1939, asking him not to attack any more countries. In response, Hitler mocked Roosevelt by reading out polite answers from 34 world leaders to German diplomats' requests that their nations didn't feel threatened by France, excluding the UK, France, Poland, and the Soviet Union. St. Léger told Bullitt that Hitler's speech had bellicose tone, renounced the German-Polish nonaggression pact, and showed no notion of justice, proven by his enslavement of the Czech people. St. Léger predicted that Hitler wanted war over Danzig and wrote asked Bullitt to persuade Roosevelt to ask Congress to amend the American Neutrality acts. On April 29, Bonnet met with the Soviet ambassador Jakob Suritz, who complained about the lack of reciprocity in obligations in Bonnet's draft treaty of an Anglo-Soviet-French alliance. Bonnet blamed St. Léger for being incompetent and unable to write treaties properly, despite having prepared the political accord several weeks before the Polish delegation arrived. A Polish delegation led by General Tadeusz Kasprzycki visited Paris between May 16 and 19 to strengthen the Franco-Polish alliance, work out staff plans in case of a German invasion, and facilitate French arms shipments to Poland. France sought an alliance with Poland and the Soviet Union after Germany left Paris. St. Léger believed Italy would align with Germany, making efforts to bring them back futile. He thought Italian diplomats were secretly meeting with the French Public Works minister Anatole de Monzie, undermining Quai d'Orsay's role in foreign policy. Meanwhile, French ambassador André François-Poncet opposed St. Léger and thought it possible to "detach" Italy from Germany. St. Léger ordered François-Poncet to focus on daily duties, leading to tension between the two. British Ambassador Philipps accused St. Léger of being hostile towards Fascist Italy and believed both he and François-Poncet could work with the Italians. Cameron noted that St. Léger was proven correct about Italy's neutrality during World War II. Bonnet renounced his gentlemanly instincts, stating that his main enemies in the cabinet were Daladier, Reynaud, Campinchi, Sarraut, and Mandel. He also mentioned St. Léger, Coulondeur, and Corbin as disloyal to him within the Quai d'Orsay. On August 3, St. Léger learned that British negotiators would move slowly in Moscow, unlike the French who favored a speedy process. This reflected their differing views on reaching an understanding with Germany. The British saw negotiations alone as sufficient to deter Germany from invading Poland, while the French believed the "peace front" was essential. The French delegation, led by Doumenc, traveled to London and then boarded the City of Exeter to join the British delegation in Moscow. St. Léger was enraged at Colonel Beck's opposition to allowing the Red Army into Poland if Germany invaded. In Moscow, Voroshilov emphasized that transit rights were crucial for the "peace front." On August 22, St. Léger advised the French cabinet to issue a threatening démarche in Warsaw to force Beck to allow the Red Army transit rights, warning that failure could lead to the collapse of the proposed "peace front." The Molotov-Ribbentrop pact shocked French decision-makers in August 1939, leaving them stunned. This sudden turn of events was seen as a "diplomatic Waterloo" for France. Executive leaders had expected a "peace front" to be formed and were caught off guard by the surprise alliance between Germany and the Soviet Union. In response to this unexpected news, French Prime Minister Daladier attempted to salvage the situation by instructing General Doumenc to tell a false story about Colonel Beck granting transit rights. However, hopes for the peace front had been high in France, leading to intense debate over who was responsible for its failure. This led to bitter accusations between Reynaud and St. Léger, with Reynaud blaming St. Léger for not doing enough to secure transit rights from Colonel Beck. The French cabinet meeting on 31 August saw Daladier become enraged at Bonnet's opposition to declaring war, but a crucial letter from Coulondeur was used by St. Léger to sway the majority of the cabinet in favor of Daladier's position. After Germany invaded Poland on September 1, Mussolini proposed a peace conference to stop the war. However, this proposal was seen as an attempt by Bonnet to avoid declaring war on Germany, leading St. Léger to countermand his instructions and advise Corbin to inform Lord Halifax that a time limit should be placed on the conference to prevent Germany from stalling. As France faced a choice between obeying the foreign minister of the secretary-general, Corbin chose the latter. The French cabinet met and Bonnet argued against declaring war, but St. Léger had briefed Daladier beforehand and warned him that Mussolini's conference was merely a trick to keep France and Britain from declaring war while Germany continued its aggression. St. Léger concluded in a memo to Daladier that it would be unacceptable for the Allies to negotiate with Germany while the Reich waged war on Poland, potentially leading the democracies into submission under German force. France found itself facing highly unfavorable terms proposed by the Axis powers. War was inevitable under these circumstances. The French government's policy of avoiding war at all costs became increasingly transparent. Foreign Minister Georges Bonnet attempted to sidestep the declaration of war, using diplomatic language to avoid directly stating France's intention to go to war. However, Daladier eventually lost patience with Bonnet and fired him as Foreign Minister on 13 September 1939, citing significant differences in their foreign policy views. Stéphane Léger de Tournemine, who had been acting as the de facto French foreign minister, continued in this role until May 1940. During a visit to Paris by Sumner Welles, the undersecretary of state, Léger expressed his pessimism about France's chances against three dictators, noting that Great Britain was not yet ready and the United States still maintained neutrality laws. This statement was likely intended to pressure the Roosevelt administration into providing more support to France. Relations between France and Britain were strained throughout 1939-1940, with Daladier expressing his frustration at the British government's inability or unwillingness to take a strong stance. After Daladier's fall from power in March 1940, Léger fell out of favor with the new premier Paul Reynaud due to his close ties to Daladier and opposition from Reynaud's mistress, Comtesse Hélène de Portes. As the Wehrmacht broke through the French lines along the Meuse river on 16 May 1940, panic began to spread in Paris, marking a critical turning point in France's fortunes. Believing the capital would fall within hours, St. Léger oversaw the burning of records at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Reynaud reshuffled his cabinet, appointing Daladier as foreign minister. Portes lobbied to dismiss St. Léger before Daladier's arrival, deeming it worth 70 votes in the chambre des députés. On May 19, St. Léger learned he was fired as secretary-general from reading the morning newspaper. Georges Mandel opposed his sacking, fearing it would send a wrong message. In mid-July 1940, St. Léger began his exile in Washington, DC. The Vichy government dismissed him from the Légion d'honneur and revoked his citizenship, confiscating all assets. His apartment was looted by the Wehrmacht, who burned several unpublished poems. Found inside was a copy of the Treaty of Versailles with mocking comments. St. Léger declined to support General Charles de Gaulle's movement and instead wrote long poems in exile. St. Léger's US sojourn was marked by his efforts to stay on good terms with both Welles and Bullitt, despite their animosity towards each other. He remained in America long after the war ended, becoming known as le grand absent in France. To persuade St. Léger to return home, a prestigious literary magazine devoted an entire issue to him in 1950. The publication featured articles from notable writers like André Gide and Stephen Spender, highlighting his influence on their work. During his American exile, St. Léger's poetry increasingly focused on nature themes, as seen in poems like *Pluies*, *Neiges*, *Vents*, *Amers*, and *Chronique*. He befriended US Attorney General Francis Biddle and author Katherine Garrison Chapin, and was admired by the Swedish poet Erik Lindegren, who likened him to the "Linneus of modern poetry". St Léger's connections extended to UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld, who visited Beijing in 1955 to negotiate the release of American pilots. Hammarskjöld's visit inspired him to think of *Anabase*, a poem that he greatly admired, and which led him to inquire about meeting St. Léger. After his return from Beijing, Hammarskjöld wrote that reading *Anabase* after seeing northern China was "a new poem - an overwhelming one in its synthesis of the soul of that part of the world. St. Léger granted permission to Blomdahl to set his poems to music, with French lyrics, due to their internal metrics being best rendered in that language. However, he specified that the *Anabase* should be thought of as outside space and time, ruled by the absolute. St. Léger first met Hammarskjöld in New York on November 30, 1955, where he gave him a copy of his poetry entitled "To Dag Hammarskjöld, the Magician." Hammarskjöld was impressed by St. Léger's remarkable nature and used his influence to campaign for St. Léger's Nobel Prize in literature. The British diplomat Brian Urquhart noted that Hammarskjöld was an intellectual, aesthete, and man of action who relied on a few carefully selected friends, including St. Léger, for advice and support. Hammarskjöld had difficult relations with Nikita Khrushchev and Charles de Gaulle but found solace in St. Léger's Francophile perspective. He often sought moral support from St. Léger regarding his views on the newly independent nations of Africa and Asia. In 1957, Hammarskjöld was gifted a villa at Giens, Provence, France, where he split his time between France and the United States. In 1958, he married Dorothy Milburn Russell. He received the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1960, with American poet Wallace Fowlie praising St. Léger for his ability to convey unique stories through his poetry. After receiving the Nobel Prize, Saint-John Perse wrote several long poems, including *Chronique*, *Oiseaux*, and *Chant pour un équinoxe*, as well as shorter works like *Nocturne* and *Sécheresse*. In collaboration with master printmaker Aldo Crommelynk, he created a series of etchings and aquatints called *L'Ordre des Oiseaux*, which was published with the text of Perse's *Oiseaux*. Before his death, Perse donated his library, manuscripts, and private papers to Fondation Saint-John Perse, a research centre dedicated to his life and work. He passed away in his villa in Giens and is buried nearby. Throughout his career, Perse's poetry was translated into numerous languages, with notable translators including T.S. Eliot, Roger Little, Denis Devlin, and Wallace Fowlie. In recognition of his literary contributions, a 40-cent postage stamp was issued with Saint-John Perse's image on it. The Saint-John Perse high school in Pau is named after him. Several notable critics and scholars have written about Perse's work over the years, including Paul Rosenfeld, Édouard Roditi, and Archibald MacLeish. Their reviews were published in various literary magazines and journals between 1936 and 1957. Some of these reviews were also included in books such as "Modern Poetry and the Christian Tradition" (1952) and "A Guide to Contemporary French Literature" (1957). These writings demonstrate Perse's impact on the literary world and his reputation as a significant figure in 20th-century poetry. In 1957 and 1958, several literary critics wrote reviews and essays about Saint-John Perse's poetry. These included Anonymous' "Saint-John Perse, Poet of the Far Shore" in the *Times Literary Supplement*, Paul West's "The Revival of Epic" in *The Twentieth Century*, and W.H. Auden's "A Song of Life's Power to Renew" in the *New York Times Book Review*. In 1958, several notable critics also wrote about Perse's work, including Jacques Guicharnaud's "Vowels of the Sea: Amers" in *Yale French Studies*, Martin Tummel's "The Epic of Saint-John Perse" in *The Commonweal*, and Melvin Maddocks' "Perse as Cosmologist" in the *Christian Science Monitor*. In 1959, more critics weighed in on Perse's work, including H.-J. Kaplan's "Saint-John Perse: The Recreation of the World" in *The Reporter*, Raymond Mortimer's "Mr Eliot and Mr Perse: Two Fine Poets in tandem" in *Sunday Times*, and Charles Guenther's "Prince Among the Prophets" in *Poetry*. The 1960s saw a continued stream of critical attention to Perse's work, with reviews and essays published in *The New Republic*, *The Observer*, *Accent*, and other literary journals. Critics such as Joseph Henry McMahon, Stanley Burnshaw, and Octavio Paz wrote about Perse's poetry during this time. In the later 1960s and early 1970s, scholars continued to study and write about Perse's work, including Anthony Curtis, Amos Wilder, and R.W. Baldwin. Saint-John Perse's works have been extensively studied by scholars such as Roger Little, M. Owen de Jaham, and Kathleen Raine, among others, in publications like *Proceedings of the Pacific Northwest Conference on Foreign Languages, Encounter, The Arlington Quarterly Review, Yale French Studies*, and *Conradiana*, from 1966 to 1977. 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Pierre Lastenet, Marie-Noëlle Little, Carol Rigolot, and others published books on Saint-John Perse between 2001 and 2007. These works include "Saint-John Perse and the Sacred", "The Poet and the Diplomat", "Forged Genealogies", and "Orphan Narratives". Some of these authors also wrote about Patrick Chamouseau, Archibald MacLeish, Elisabeth Bishop, and Faulkner in their works. Joseph Acquisto and Harris Feinsod published articles on Saint-John Perse's work between 2005 and 2007. Peter Poiana and Jeffrey Meyers also contributed to the discussion about Saint-John Perse's life and work. "A comprehensive bibliography of references for Saint-John Perse's life and works, covering various scholarly studies, biographical accounts, and literary analyses published between 1953 and 2014." Or "This collection of citations presents a range of sources on the French poet Alexis Léger, including academic books, journals, and critical studies that explore his poetry, colonialism, and post-WWI work." This bibliography includes references to various books and articles on French history, particularly those related to World War II. It spans from the interwar period (1919-1939) to the post-war era, covering topics such as France's diplomatic struggles with Germany, the rise of nationalism, and the impact of the war on French society. Some notable authors include Anthony Adamthwaite, Martin Alexander, Marguerite Bastid-Bruguière, John Cairns, Elizabeth Cameron, Richard Carswell, Michael Carley, David Ellison, Pierre Fuller, Jean-Baptiste Duroselle, Norman A. Graebner, and Julien Jackson. Books like "France and the Coming of the Second World War" (1977) and "The French Defeat of 1940 Reassessments" (1998) provide insights into France's role in the lead-up to World War II, while others like "So Close to Greatness: The Biography of William C. Bullitt" (1987) focus on American diplomatic efforts. Other works, such as "A Reader's Guide to Proust's In Search of Lost Time" (2010), explore literary and cultural themes related to French identity during this period. A collection of correspondence between Dag Hammarskjöld and Alexis Léger has been published by University Press, along with several other books that explore the origins of World War II. Valérie Loichot's "Orphan Narratives" examines the postplantation literature of authors like Faulkner, Glessant, Morrison, and Saint-John Perse, while Robert Payne's "The Life and Death of Adolf Hitler" provides a comprehensive biography of the Nazi leader. Additionally, Barry Sullivan's essay "More than meets the eye: the Ethiopian War and the Origins of the Second World War" explores the connection between the two wars, as does Telford Taylor's book "Munich The Price of Peace". Martin Thomas' essay "France and the Czechoslovak Crisis" also sheds light on the crisis that led to the outbreak of war. Other works include Martin York's analysis of the cultural representation of France and Germany in the New York Times, as well as Donald Cameron Watt's examination of the immediate origins of World War II.