

A TREASURY OF THE
WORLD'S
GREAT
SPEECHES

SELECTED AND EDITED BY
HOUSTON PETERSON

*A comprehensive
anthology of "literature
on fire" from Biblical times
to the present, each speech
prefaced with its dramatic and
biographical setting and
placed in its full historical
perspective.*

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REVISED AND ENLARGED EDITION

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S I M O N A N D S C H U S T E R

N E W Y O R K

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About the Editor

Houston Peterson spent seven years of arduous work collecting these speeches, editing them, and fitting them into a remarkable historic pattern. But his whole life has been a preparation for the task. When he was a little boy in California, his father took him to hear such oratorical luminaries as Hiram Johnson, Theodore Roosevelt, and the first Bob La Follette. On finishing grammar school in 1911, he won a city-wide oratorical contest with an impassioned comparison of Julius Caesar and Theodore Roosevelt. He claims that he has been talking ever since—but he has done a lot of listening, too.

He took his doctorate in philosophy at Columbia University, taught there a number of years, and subsequently became Professor of Philosophy at Rutgers University, where he taught from 1929–1963.

For eight years—from 1938–1946—he ran the famous Cooper Union Forum, presiding at over five hundred meetings. He is much in demand as a lecturer throughout the country.

Dr. Peterson's published books include *Huxley: Prophet of Science*, *Havelock Ellis: Philosopher of Love*, *The Melody of Chaos*, and *The Lonely Debate*. Besides the present volume, he has edited *The Book of Sonnet Sequences*, *Poet to Poet* (with William S. Lynch), *Great Teachers*, and the *Pocket Book of Essays*.

