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April 17, 1961

Dear Editor:

Philip Van Doren Stern, NEA's consultant for the Civil War Centennial, tells the story of the beginnings of the Civil War from John Brown's Raid to the surrender of Fort Sumter in PROLOGUE TO SUMTER. The book, an original paperback, just published by Fawcett for 75¢, is edited by Dr. Stern.

The record of those fateful 546 days has been woven by him into a continuous narrative through the writings of those who lived through the cold-war tensions between the North and South. The book covers some of the same ground as Dr. Stern's newspaper articles for the NEA: The Lincoln Election, The Firing on the Star of the West, The Beginnings of the Confederacy, etc.

I believe that your readers of Dr. Stern's features may be interested in hearing about PROLOGUE TO SUMTER. If you would like to have a copy of the book for review, we will be pleased to send you one.

Sincerely,

Sanford Beldon Publicity Director

SB/bb