

TIME AND TIDE - THE INDEPENDENT WEEKLY, London,
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In the German Bookshops

German Publishers on both sides of the Iron Curtain are fast regaining the dominant position they enjoyed in Europe before the advent of the Nazis and the war ... German literature at present boasts no towering genius comparable to the giants of the past and so the endless activity of German publishers has built up a flourishing industry based on the classics and notably on Goethe ... Momme Mommsen's monumental *Die Entstehung von Goethes Werken* (Akademie Verlag, Berlin) that describes in minute detail the creative process underlying each of Goethe's numerous works, with the help of letters and other documents, does not even pretend to be readable, but is a workmanlike compilation of useful source material ...

René Elvin