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Editorial NOTES

With its June issue THE AMERICAN MERCURY will set up a department of Notes and Queries. Queries will be printed in the order of their receipt and numbered serially. Answers will be printed as they are received from readers, with corresponding numbers. Queries may deal with any subject of general interest. They should be limited to a hundred words. Every answer sent in should refer to the number of the query it answers.

The Editors welcome the following suggestion by Mr. Gordon Dorrance, the Philadelphia publisher, and have submitted it to their Staff Latinist. They will act upon his advice as soon as he becomes sober enough to make it known:

I have been reading THE AMERICAN MERCURY since its first issue, and I have yet to encounter either *pro bono booblico* or *vox boobuli*. Certainly both belong in your glossary.

Mr. J. S. Olsen, a valued cash customer in St. Paul, Minn., suggests that THE AMERICAN MERCURY be extended to 500 pages a month and that the price be raised to \$5 a copy. The Editors have gone into prayer upon the subject, and will announce a decision anon.

The following protest comes from Mr. W. O. Stanley, a Christian reader of Brooklyn:

You have chosen to speak sneeringly of the Ku Klux Klan and of God-fearing men and women, terming them "Baptist dervishes" and "Methodist rainmakers." You speak only for a dangerous minority which has lost the trust and faith which enabled the Pilgrim Fathers to found this great country. In your "Americana" you satirically refer to men who have

Continued on page xx



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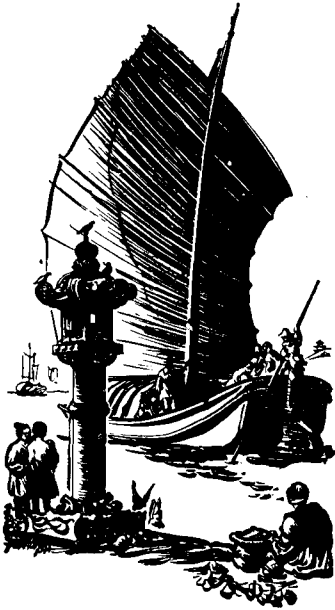
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Editorial NOTES

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set forth their belief in the power of God, and in the high purpose and future of this country. In particular you quote sneeringly an address by a Brooklyn clergyman to the effect that there is a theological difference between Brooklyn and New York. I am proud to say that I agree with him, for whatever the inhabitants of New York may be, the people of Brooklyn are good, decent, respectable people on the whole, who have not yet been tainted by the heresies of which THE AMERICAN MERCURY seems to be so fond.

An antiquary in Seattle sends in the following gloss upon a recent reference, in an article by Mr. Orville A. Welsh, to the town of Port Townsend, Wash.:

Port Townsend was the early port of entry on Puget Sound. It was originally an Indian town of the S'Klallam tribe. The Indians there are called Siwashes, a corruption of the French *sauvage*.

The people of Port Townsend in the early days were all engaged in one of two occupations—ship chandlery and shanghaiing sailors to man the ships.

Once John L. Wilson was a candidate for United States senator before the legislature. One of his followers was Col. Patrick Henry Winston, a fiery and picturesque old character. The member of the house from Port Townsend had voted for the opposition when he was expected to vote for Wilson, and the Wilson camp was in session expressing the collective and individual indignation of those present. Col. Winston arose and summarized the general view by saying:

"Port Townsend was settled by Siwashes, sailors and sons of —, but the Siwashes died and the sailors sailed away."

Since the pre-natal days of THE AMERICAN MERCURY the Editors have been seeking articles upon the higher phases of cookery, perhaps the most subtle and kingly of all the fine arts. So far their success has been almost indistinguishable from complete failure. A few months ago an article by Mr. Burton Kline was printed, but it showed plainly that the author, while full of a laudable enthusiasm for sound vic-

Continued on page xxii

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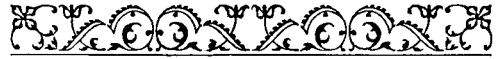
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Editorial NOTES

Continued from page xx

tuals, had no more knowledge of cookery than a chef on a Pullman diner. Ninetenths of the current writers upon the topic in America are female professors of what is called domestic science; that is to say, they know a great deal about calories and vitamins, but nothing whatever about civilized dining. The meals they advocate are excellent for diabetics, but fatal to epicures. If these lines, by any chance, are read by one who is privy to the secrets of the diamond-back terrapin, he is hereby invited to set down his ideas and send them in. There was a fear that Prohibition would ruin the diamond-back, for cooking it is impossible without sherry, but the bootleggers have now saved it. In New York it is cooked *a la* Newburgh—a crime comparable to frying soft crabs in batter. Who knows the true Maryland style, and can describe it tenderly and voluptuously? Cash money is paid for such articles.

The following eloquent passages, apparently inspired by a recent paragraph in Clinical Notes, have come in anonymously:

There is in the Catholic Church a training in art, in symbolism that is to be got nowhere else. The daily drama, colorful, actionful, meaningful, of the Holy Mass, is a training in art, in pageantry, in painting. It is only poverty that makes some of the Catholics put up their terrible yellow, red and blue crudities of the Holy Family. They must have color, and these are handed out. Every Catholic child has lived an imaginative life in the Catacombs, where the Catholic religion lived and bloomed next to its pagan enemies. What a thrill to read of Pancratius! What if error may be occasionally mixed with it? The joy of living in times long past, the delight of visiting among colorful noble tragedies, are the possessions of every Catholic child. The sisters in a convent school are figures of noble self-forgetfulness, of mysterious spiritual romance. The stations of the cross are playthings of souls touched with sorrow. The triumphant victory of the Resurrection enacted at Easter time amid the triumphant boomings and joyous soprano singing of young

Continued on page xxiv

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Editorial NOTES

Continued from page xxii

boys is an unequalled soul experience. The dolorous silencing of the organ on Good Friday, the voluntary humiliation of the washing of feet reenacted by the priest, the melancholy dirges of Jeremiah, prototyping the Christ, the Old Testament scenes of the Tenebrae in Holy Week—what is there in Protestantism or even in Judaism to equal these? Perhaps Jesus would be surprised to come back and witness some of the services! The fact remains that an emotional need is satisfied by the colorful romancing, the soul adventuring.

Have you a grief that tears at your heart? Look at the symbols of grief worse than yours around about you, borne for your sake, nobly, without counting the cost. It's *der Kuss der ganzen Welt*. It is universal in its message. Death? We cherish our dead. We even take the bones of our dead, the only remaining things of souls who dared and were brave, and we boldly wrap them in sheaths of glimmering silk and satin and put them beneath an altar, and dare to look at them and remember that we too shall be gone with only a few bones remaining. Our spirits cherish the spirits of those gone ahead, and in our sorrows we are glad.

Friends who encounter news-stands on which THE AMERICAN MERCURY is not on sale are invited to complain politely to the Circulation Manager. There are, alas, many such stands in the remoter reaches of the Republic, and many will remain through all eternity. It is simply impossible to broadcast so expensive a magazine as the popular magazines are broadcasted. But an effort is made to keep it on all stands which cater to an enlightened and refined clientele. The truly prudent reader subscribes by the year. The cost is \$5 in the United States and its groaning dependencies—a dollar less than the cost of 12 copies, one by one. Moreover, the annual subscriber is sure to get his magazine, and on time. Canadian subscribers must pay \$5.50; the excess goes to their government, *i.e.*, to their public jobholders. The rate for all other countries, Christian and heathen, is \$6. Payment may be made by postal order, or by check on any solvent bank.



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xxvi

**PROGRESS
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LOSS OF BLOOD IN SURGERY

Gatch and Little, of the School of Medicine at the University of Indiana, have measured, by a very ingenious device, the amount of blood lost at various common surgical operations, and report their finds in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. The most bloody routine operation, it appears, is that for the removal of the female breast. The loss of blood ranges from 400 to 710 cubic centimetres—say, from 13 to 24 ounces. Operations on the stomach, the uterus and the thyroid gland also seem to be relatively bloody. But an ordinary appendectomy, as now performed, costs the patient almost no blood at all; the highest loss reported by Gatch and Little is little more than half an ounce, and the average is about a quarter of an ounce. They report that a patient in fairly good condition may lose from 20 to 24 ounces of blood "without any apparent harmful effect," and that "serious effects" do not begin to appear until the loss runs from 27 to 33 ounces.

READING THE FACE

Dallas E. Buzby, of the University of Pennsylvania, has recently experimented on 715 students regarding their interpretations of facial expressions, and reports his findings in the *American Journal of Psychology* as follows:

1. Angry was judged most frequently as pleased, and very frequently as bewildered, quizzical, contemptuous, amazed or disdainful. . . . The dismayed face was judged as attentive with a very high frequency (46%), and quizzical

Continued on page xxviii

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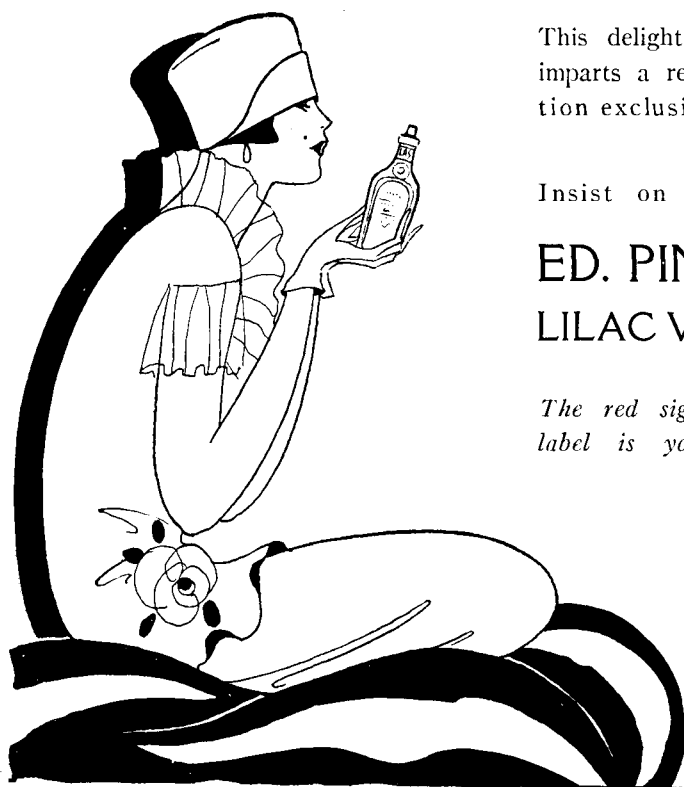
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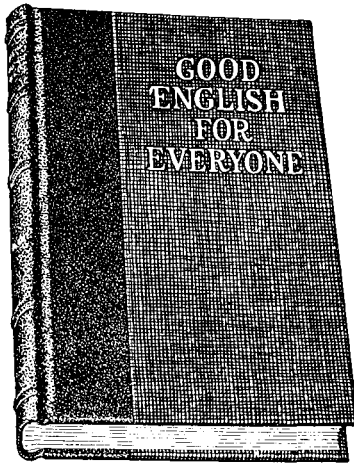
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PROGRESS in KNOWLEDGE

Continued from page xxvi

and bewildered were judged more frequently than the correct dismayed.

2. The percentages of correct judgment were: horrified, 60; disdainful, 37; disgusted, 53; bewildered, 37.

3. An analysis shows that the upper part of the face, and the eye and brow are more important for the correct judgment of facial judgment than the mouth.

4. Women give a slightly greater percentage of correct judgments than men.

SCORE ONE FOR DEMOCRACY!

H. B. Reed, of Grinnell College, recently experimented with 494 students regarding the effect of training on individual differences of ability, and reports his findings in the *Journal of Experimental Psychology*. The practice exercises used were, saying the alphabet backwards, substituting symbols for digits, simple additions, etc. The results point to the conclusion that individual differences are decreased by training—in direct contradiction to the common opinion of psychologists that training increases them. Says Reed:

In the simpler skills, at any rate—those that are taught in the elementary schools, and are important for everyone in making a living and in discharging the duties of citizenship in a democracy—the evidence indicates clearly that equal training makes individuals more equal in spite of differences in native ability.

THE "HEALTHY" YOKEL

Shepard and Diehl, of the Medical School at the University of Minnesota, have lately studied the physical records of 3,478 male students entering the university, and report their findings in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. They divided the students into four classes: those brought up on farms, those from villages of from 50 to 1,000 population, those from towns of from 1,000 to 5,000, those from small cities of from 5,000 to 50,000, and those from

Continued on page xxx

JAZZ JAZZ JAZZ JAZZ JAZZ JAZZ JAZZ JAZZ JAZZ JAZZ JAZZ JAZZ

THE VIRGIN FLAME

By Ernest Pascal

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—Willem Mengelberg

Conductor, The New York Philharmonic Orchestra

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XXX



PROGRESS in KNOWLEDGE

Continued from page xxviii

large cities. Their conclusions are as follows:

1. Students raised in villages have more physical defects than students raised in other communities. Multiple defects are also common in this group.
2. Students raised on farms show more physical defects than those raised in towns or large cities, about the same number as those from small cities and less than those raised in villages.
3. Students raised in towns of from 1,000 to 5,000 population show less physical defects than any others except those from large cities.
4. Students raised in small cities of from 5,000 to 50,000 population are exceeded in total physical defects only by students from villages.
5. Students raised in cities of more than 50,000 population show the lowest number of physical defects.

A CURE FOR SEASICKNESS

Moxey, in the *British Medical Journal*, reports a new and very effective method of treating seasickness. As is well known, this distressing and sometimes dangerous malady is due to disturbances in the inner ear, and various sedative drugs, especially chloral and the bromides, offer relief from it. Unfortunately, it is often difficult to administer them, for the patient rejects them the moment they are swallowed. Moxey, who has had long experience as a ship's surgeon, gets around this difficulty by administering them in a suppository, and with striking success. He says:

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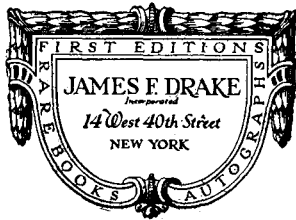
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By Lewis Mumford.

Boni & Liverights

\$2.50

8¼ x 5½; 247 pp.

New York

A well-informed and often profound study of architecture in the America of today, with constant reference to its relation to American life. There are useful bibliographical notes at the end.

GASTON LACHAISE. *Sixteen Reproductions in Collotype of the Sculptor's Work.*

Edited by A. E. Gallatin.

E. P. Dutton & Company

\$10

11 x 7¾; 14 + (42) pp.

New York

The selections are representative, and the collotypes from photographs are well executed. A brief introduction by the editor.

POLYCHROMY. *Architectural and Structural Theory and Practice.*

By Leon V. Solon.

The Architectural Record

\$6

10 x 7; xiv + 157 pp.

New York

A study of the use of color in Greek architecture with many illustrations. An attempt is made to reconstruct the color schemes of familiar monuments and the errors of previous scholars are noted. There is an introduction by Ralph Adams Cram, and a bibliographical appendix.

THE MASTERS OF MODERN ART.

By Walter Pach.

B. W. Huebsch

\$3.50

9¼ x 6; 118 pp.; 36 plates.

New York

An attempt to sketch the history of painting and sculpture since the French Revolution, with stress upon the ultra moderns. The examples chosen for illustration are well selected, and there is a short but useful bibliography.

MUSICAL LAUGHS. *Jokes, Tittle-Tattle and Anecdotes Mostly Humorous, About Musical Celebrities, Gathered During Forty-three Years as Musical Editor of the New York Evening Post.*

By Henry T. Finck.

The Funk & Wagnalls Company

\$1.75

7¼ x 4¾; 333 pp.

New York

A mixture of chestnuts and banalities.

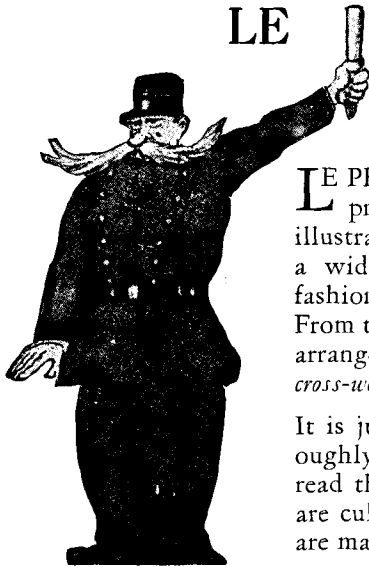
Continued on page xxxiv

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Continued from page xxxii

ORIENTAL FORERUNNERS OF BYZANTINE PAINTING. *First Century Wall Paintings from the Fortress of Dura on the Middle Euphrates.*

By James Henry Breasted. The University of Chicago Press
\$4 11 3/4 x 9; 105 pp.; 23 plates. Chicago

Dura is a ruin that has been uninhabited for 1500 years. The author and his associates spent but a few hours there, but they managed to obtain photographs, with color notes, of two remarkable wall paintings, probably dating from the First and Third Centuries. Since their visit both paintings have been greatly damaged by desert Arabs. Their report is Vol. I of the University of Chicago's Oriental Institute Publications.

THE NATURE, PRACTICE AND HISTORY OF ART.

By H. Van Buren Magonigle. Charles Scribner's Sons
\$2.50 8 x 5 1/2; 314 pp. New York

An ambitious but somewhat sketchy attempt to cover the whole history of art in the West. The best parts are the early chapters on technic. There is a short bibliography, but the book sorely wants an index. There are 128 half-tone illustrations, most of them very small.

CHARLES FRASER.

By Alice R. Huger Smith and F. F. Sherman
D. E. Huger Smith. \$12.75 9 1/4 x 7 1/4; 58 pp. New York

Fraser was born in 1782 and died in 1860. Most of his miniatures were painted in the South, but he often visited the North. He was a friend to Sully, Malbone and Washington Allston, and Gilbert Stuart admired him extravagantly. The present authors share that admiration. They offer reproductions of 51 of Fraser's miniatures, with notes.

CRITICISM

HISTORY AND LITERATURE OF CHRISTIANITY FROM TERTULLIAN TO BOETHIUS.

By Pierre de Labriolle. Alfred A. Knopf
\$7.50 9 1/4 x 6; 555 pp. New York

A large, learned and very valuable work—the first on such a scale in its field. Dr. de Labriolle is professor of Latin literature and Roman institutions at Poitiers. The book is Vol. V in "The History of Civilization," edited by C. K. Ogden and based upon the French "L'Evolution de l'Humanité." The present translation is by Herbert Wilson. There are chronological tables at the end, and a good index.

Continued on page xxxv



THOSE BARREN LEAVES By Aldous Huxley *author of "Chrome Yellow"*

Brilliant, witty, and keenly provocative is this satire on the manners and morals of present-day society, as displayed at Mrs. Aldwinkle's inimitable "literary" house party.
Laurence Stallings says: "Huxley entertains me more than any other modern."
Edwin Bjorkman, N. Y. Eve. Post, says: "He is the most interesting of the younger writers now coming to the front in England." \$2.50

THE PAINTED VEIL By W. Somerset Maugham *author of "Of Human Bondage"*

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THOMAS CHANDLER HALIBURTON ("Sam Slick"). *A Study in Provincial Toryism.*
By V. L. O. Chittick, Ph.D.

Columbia University Press

\$4

8 x 5½; 695 pp.

New York

The first adequate study of Haliburton as author and politician. The doctrine that he was the father of American humor is neatly disposed of, and there is an attempt at a judicious valuation of his writings. An exhaustive bibliography is appended.

THE SHAKESPEAREAN ENIGMA AND AN ELIZABETHAN MANIA.

By John F. Forbis.

American Library Service

\$4.50

8 x 5¼; 342 pp.

New York

The author attempts to explain Shakespeare's sonnets on the theory that the poet was a drunkard, and that they all deal with his struggles against his weakness.

FOLK-LORE

PAUL BUNYAN.

By Esther Shephard.

The McNeil Press

\$2

7½ x 4¾; 235 pp.

Seattle

The first attempt at a comprehensive presentation of the Paul Bunyan legend. The Bunyan stories were known to all lumbermen in the Northwest until a decade ago. Mrs. Shephard reduces twenty-one of them to print. There are many more.

LEGENDS OF TEXAS.

Edited by J. Frank Dobie.

The Texas Folk-Lore Society

\$2.50

9¼ x 6; 279 pp.

Austin

Some of these legends are folk-lore; others embody actual history. They have been assembled from various sources, and are presented as received from volunteer contributors, and not too critically. A useful pioneer collection. A bibliography is appended.

FOLK-SONGS OF THE SOUTH. *Collected Under the Auspices of the West Virginia Folk-Lore Society.*

Edited by J. H. Cox.

The Harvard University Press

\$5

9½ x 6; 545 pp.

Cambridge

A model of sound research and careful editing. Though practically all of the songs presented were gathered in West Virginia they cover a wide range and include most of the more familiar ballads. Prof. Cox's notes are always shrewd and valuable. There are interesting accounts, with portraits, of some of the surviving ballad singers of the mountains.

Continued on page xxxviii

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ROLL AND GO. Songs of American Sailormen.

Ed. by Joanna C. Colcord. The Bobbs-Merrill Co.
 \$3 9 1/4 x 6 1/2; 118 pp. *Indianapolis*

Miss Colcord was born at sea and became familiar in childhood with most of the chanteys she presents. She departs from the usual arrangement of collections of folk-songs, to the case of the general reader. The music is given in all cases, and there are some interesting pictures of old sailing-ships.

REFERENCE BOOKS

A CONCISE ETYMOLOGICAL DICTIONARY OF MODERN ENGLISH.

By Ernest Weekley. E. P. Dutton & Company
 \$3 8 x 5; 983 pp. *New York*

An abridgment of Weekley's Etymological Dictionary of Modern English, published in 1921. The work of abridgment has been done discreetly, and the new volume is very learned and useful. Many new terms have been added, e.g., *moron, hormone, vitamine.*

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE WRITINGS OF CARL VAN VECHTEN.

By Scott Cunningham. The Centaur Book Shop
 \$2.50 7 3/4 x 4 1/2; 52 pp. *Philadelphia*

Sixteen titles are in the list of books. Lists of contributions to books and periodicals, and one of critical articles upon Mr. Van Vechten's work are appended, and at the front there are an "overture" by him and a biographical note by the bibliographer. The portraits include a caricature by Covarrubias and a photograph of the author in childhood.

REPRINTS

LIFE OF JESUS.

By Ernest Renan. Little, Brown & Company
 \$2.50 7 3/4 x 5 3/4; 481 pp. *Boston*

This translation was made by Joseph Henry Allen in 1895. It is here reprinted unchanged. The book is stoutly bound and suitable for library use.

RED. Papers on Musical Subjects.

By Carl Van Vechten. Alfred A. Knopf
 \$2.50 7 1/4 x 5 1/4; 205 pp. *New York*

Mr. Van Vechten, announcing his retirement from music criticism, here gathers such of his scattered critical papers as he desires to preserve. Twelve of them come from books now out of print; three more have never appeared between covers.

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great literature when I read it, to buy or borrow *HARVEST IN POLAND* without delay.

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racy, the prophecies begin to come true. To Oxford, to Paris—not the Paris of tourists but the real Paris that tourists talk of in whispers and never find—to Breslau, and finally across Europe to Hare Castle in Poland goes Emmanuel Lee, drawn by a force as relentless and strong as the invisible demon that exerts it. And here in Poland demons actually appear: Zwan, the dwarf, half-demon, half-saint; Bethlehem, the Giant whose soul belongs to Lucifer; the Grandmother, relic of an Amazon; Sebastyan, too effeminate to deserve the name of man; and to offset these: Weronika, the one sane woman in a whirlpool of madness; Prince Julian, striving to save Emmanuel from an inexorable fate; Karol, weak in flesh but sanely human. The climax comes when the Giant repents of his bargain with Lucifer and attempts to win Emmanuel to the service of his master, offering him up as a scapegoat in his stead. During one terrible night he is seduced by temptations and horrors, lovely and unspeakably evil. The end is as mysteriously sudden and final as death, but to Emmanuel Lee it brings life.

Alfred A. Knopf

HARVEST IN POLAND. By GEOFFREY DENNIS,
Author of "Mary Lee." \$2.50 net.



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Drawing by WASHINGTON IRVING
of a "pretty Norman lass on a donkey"

Washington Irving, Esquire

AMERICA can boast of few more fascinating characters in its history than that of Washington Irving, Minister to Spain, lawyer at the trial of Aaron Burr, officer in the War of 1812, friend of Sir Walter Scott, secret collaborator of John Howard Payne in playwriting, amateur actor in Saxony, diplomat, adviser of Presidents, and world famous author of *KNICKERBOCKER'S HISTORY*, *RIP VAN WINKLE* and others of America's finest classics. It is remarkable that up to this time no adequate biography has appeared of this great figure.

George S. Hellman, for years an ardent admirer of Washington Irving, has had access to material hitherto unavailable and has drawn it into a vivid, scholarly and entertaining volume, entitled *WASHINGTON IRVING, ESQUIRE: AMBASSADOR AT LARGE FROM THE NEW WORLD TO THE OLD*.

The interest of this new volume can be best shown by the headings of some of the chapters: "The Deacon's Son" shows the effect of Irving's

father upon the life of the young boy; "First Taste of Europe" is full of the gay happenings of the twenty-one-year old Irving, who left Italy without seeing Florence or Venice, in order to rush to Paris. "Love Affairs" takes up the pathetic episode of Matilda Hoffman and in addition relates the stories of Emily Foster, the English girl whom Irving loved; of Mary Fairlie, one of the fascinating belles of old New York; of a flirtatious Danish countess; of the widow of Percy Bysshe Shelley; of Jean Renwick, the beloved of Robert Burns; and of others loved or in love with the attractive young Irving. "Merry Youth and First Fame" has to do with the period when *KNICKERBOCKER'S HISTORY OF NEW YORK* made him the most widely read author in America. "Light and Shadow" deals with the days when Irving became bankrupt and took to writing as a steady profession. Then follow chapters on his wanderings in France, Germany and Spain; his work as a dramatist and poet; his adventures among the American Indians; his interest and achievements in the field of legends and ghost stories; his brilliant diplomacy as an unofficial ambassador from the New World to the Old; his relation to the general development of American journalism; etc.

Mr. Hellman brings much more than scholarship to his task of depicting Irving. He brings a wide sympathy, a generous philosophy, imagination and humor. As a result *WASHINGTON IRVING, ESQUIRE* is not the usual formal biography but a delightful and intimate book concerning that magnetic personality who was our first great man of letters.

The volume is illustrated with old engravings, facsimiles of Irving's letters and manuscripts and sketches by Irving himself.

WASHINGTON IRVING, ESQUIRE. By GEORGE S. HELLMAN.
Illustrated. \$4.00 net.



Woodcut by ALLEN
LEWIS for "PAUL BUNYAN"

THE AMERICAN MERCURY

The BORZOI BROADSIDE for APRIL 1925



LADISLAS REYMONT

From a sketch in *The Literary Review*

Spring

REYMONT's great Nobel Prize novel, *THE PEASANTS*, reaches tremendous heights with the publication of the third volume, *SPRING*. Now the little Polish village is in the grip of hard times. Winter supplies of fodder and potatoes are running low and the new crops are not in the ground yet. The wound that old Boryna received in his fight against the foresters of the Manor is sapping his life away and Yagna, his young wife, beautiful and full of the overflowing vitality of youth, yields to the call of life and to younger lovers.

But Spring is the festival season. Mothers with marriageable daughters—and the daughters themselves—begin to set new traps for the young bachelors. Scenes of comedy, passion, tragedy follow close upon one another. The speed of the story becomes greater and greater until the whole village is vitally involved in the throbbing and poignant drama that life among a simple people presents to this great novelist. And from each page of the book comes the smell of the newly turned furrows, all the disturbing sweet odors of Spring.

Rupert Hughes, writing of the whole great novel in the *International Book Review*, said: "Poles are generally agreed that Reymont is their greatest living novelist and that his work *THE PEASANTS* is their greatest contribution to literature since Sienkiewicz swept the world with his *Quo Vadis*? It is gripping drama, with interludes of beauty, of horror, of greed, piety, gaiety." Another reviewer in the same magazine wrote of it, "A classic, a thing of perfection in its kind, and deserves to remain a living part of the tree of the world's literature."

SPRING, VOLUME III OF *THE PEASANTS*. By LADISLAS REYMONT. *AUTUMN* and *WINTER* are already available. *SUMMER*, the final volume, will be published in June. \$2.50 net each.

A Romance of the Tropical Forests

By JOHN GALSWORTHY

[THE quotation below is taken from John Galsworthy's introduction to *GREEN MANSIONS* by W. H. Hudson. This introduction was written in 1915, seven years before Mr. Hudson's death. *GREEN MANSIONS* has just been included in *The Borzoi Classics*, in an edition uniform with the other fourteen volumes in that set.]

Of all living authors—now that Tolstoi is gone—I could least dispense with W. H. Hudson. Why do I love his writing so? I think because he is, of living writers that I read, the rarest spirit, and has the clearest gift of conveying to me the nature of that spirit. Writers are to their readers little new worlds to be explored; and each traveller in the realms of literature must needs have a favorite hunting ground, which, in his good will—or perhaps merely in his egoism—he would wish others to share with him.

And that reminds me: This, after all, is a foreword to *GREEN MANSIONS*—the romance of the bird-girl Rima—a story actual yet fantastic, which immortalises, I think, as passionate a love of all beautiful things as ever was in the heart of man. Somewhere Hudson says: "The sense of the beautiful is God's best gift to the human soul." So it is; and to pass that gift on to others, in such measure as herein is expressed, must surely have been happiness to him who wrote *GREEN MANSIONS*. In form and spirit the book is unique, a simple romantic narrative transmuted by sheer glow of beauty into a prose poem. Without ever departing from its quality of a tale, it symbolises the yearning of the human soul for the attainment of perfect love and beauty in this life—that impossible perfection which we must all learn to see fall from its high tree and be consumed in the flames, as was Rima the bird-girl, but whose fine ashes we gather that they may be mingled at last with our own, when we too have been refined by the fire of death's resignation. The book is soaked through and through with a strange beauty.

I would that every man, woman and child in England were made to read him; and I would that you in America would take him to heart. He is a tonic, a deep refreshing drink, with a strange and wonderful flavour; he is a mine of new interests and ways of thought instinctively right. As a simple narrator he is well-nigh unsurpassed; as a stylist he has few, if any, living equals.

GREEN MANSIONS: A ROMANCE OF THE TROPICAL FORESTS. By W. H. HUDSON. *A Borzoi Classic*. \$4.00 net.

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MACHEN'S HOME
at St. John's Wood, London
(Courtesy of E. V. MITCHELL'S BOOK NOTES)

Hatreds of 1906

By ARTHUR MACHEN

[THE following is taken from the new preface which Arthur Machen has written to DR. STIGGINS: HIS VIEWS AND PRINCIPLES, which is the latest addition to the *Borzoï* Uniform Edition of his works. In this book Mr. Machen states the opinions of a crazy American preacher, using him as a mouth-piece for his own comments, ironic, sarcastic, and critical, of the passing show of life.]

In the year 1906 *THE HOUSE OF SOULS* was issued by the firm of E. Grant Richards. The publisher, I know not why, thought the book ought to have a preface, and so I wrote one. This preface had nothing very much to do with the contents of the volume; it served me as a vehicle for the expression of my hatreds. I find that I disliked many things in 1906. I abhorred the notion that literature should be "practical," or utilitarian; the notion that made Macaulay condemn the Platonic philosophy because it had not led to the invention of anything useful to man, materially useful, that is. Then, I detested "big business" in all ways. Big business meant to me a nest of horrible factories and appalling chimneys, rows of mean streets, staring or deplorable, the pleasant country laid waste, the rivers running black as ink. Again, Puritanism, with its successor modern Protestantism, to me was the abomination of desolation. It was not only that I regarded it as a theological blasphemy and an intellectual folly; it offended that part of the man which does not reason, but only feels. Mr. G. K. Chesterton has put the matter admirably in his notes on Dickens' violent dislike of Dissenters. He says that Dickens was in this exactly like his character Kit, in *THE OLD CURIOSITY SHOP*. Dickens knew no more of the intellectual, historical, or theological

rights and wrongs of Dissent than did ignorant Kit; both took up Dissent as a man takes up a noisome fungus, smells it, makes an inarticulate noise of disgust, and throws it away. It offends; it is no sweet and natural growth of the good earth; it is foul in all its circumstances. And I was thoroughly with Kit and Dickens in this matter.

I liked saying all this so much that I went to a publisher and suggested a little book which should be, practically, this preface in an extended form. He assented, and forthwith I set about writing *DR. STIGGINS*.

This was eighteen years ago. I have glanced over the book again and find no single article that I would wish to recant. Everything that I hated in 1906 I hate now; if possible, with greater heartiness.

DR. STIGGINS: HIS VIEWS AND PRINCIPLES. By ARTHUR MACHEN, author of "*The Hill of Dreams*," "*The Secret Glory*," etc. Uniform with the *Borzoï Machen Edition*. \$2.50 net.

The Shining Pyramid

"Two years ago," Mr. Machen says in his introduction, "an American man-of-letters, full of industry, rummaged in old papers, magazines and manuscripts owing their origin to me, and produced as a result of his labours a volume published at Chicago, called *THE SHINING PYRAMID*. The American gentleman, I may say, did not disturb my peace by consulting me as to the content of the book in question. Then in 1924, pleased, I suppose, with the result of his toils, he rummaged a little more, and, using the same methods, produced a second volume of scraps and odds and ends from my workshop. This book he entitled *THE GLORIOUS MYSTERY*."

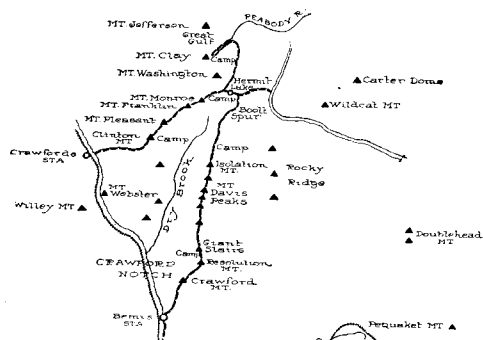
This edition of *THE SHINING PYRAMID*, uniform with the *Borzoï* Edition of Machen's works, contains all the matter, issued in the two previous volumes, which Mr. Machen wishes to preserve. Some of the chapters are: *Out of the Earth*, *The Happy Children*, *The Secret of the Sangraal*, *The Mystic Speech*, *In Convertendo*, and *Education and the Uneducated*.

THE SHINING PYRAMID. By ARTHUR MACHEN, uniform with *The Borzoï Machen Edition*. \$2.50 net.

When Mohammed Came to the Mountain

"MOUNTAINS! What stuff has been written in praise of them, what buncombe from dithyrambic pens! 'As soon as men begin to write on Nature,' Emerson remarked, 'they fall into euphuism.' Ah, well: let no one be too full of blame or too stiff-necked in criticism. These lofty habitations of the gods, where they live and play and now and then look down amused upon the swarm of life in the valleys, are not to be re-created in pallid sentences, nor adequately understood by the minds of journeyman scribblers. Sometimes on wind-swept summits, if your ears are very sharp, you may hear strange conversations in an argot, never known before, a sweeping language at a pitch inarticulate to common ears; a jargon, it must be, even to ears more sensitively tuned; yet full of some tremendous import."

Thus begins SKYLINE PROMENADES by J. Brooks Atkinson, editor of *The New York Times Book Review*. A Mohammed in his dignified calm philosophy and contemplation of life, he has gone to the mountains that he loves so well and on their peaks has talked of everything from books to birds, from trees to people, from geography to authors. Though the main story deals with a camping and tramping journey through the forests of the White Mountains the author takes half the book to write seriously and frivolously of the things that interest him most.



Cross-section of map for SKYLINE PROMENADES

A peculiar piquancy is given the book by the discourteous dialogue of the skeptical Pierre, who accompanies him on his journey. Pierre protests severely against the pose and pretense of writers in general and of Mr. Atkinson in particular. With true humor he represents the opposite camp from the author. Mr. Atkinson defends himself against himself and in the end each reader must decide for

himself—or herself—whether it is Pierre or “The Author” who has the better of it.

SKYLINE PROMENADES. By J. BROOKS ATKINSON, editor of *The New York Times Book Review*. *The first edition will consist of 2000 numbered copies. 8vo, board sides. Illustrated with a map. \$2.50 net.*

Youth and the Bright Medusa

[THE following article appeared in *The New York Times Book Review* shortly after the publication of *YOUTH AND THE BRIGHT MEDUSA* by Willa Cather in 1920. This volume of short stories has just been reissued in *The Borzoi Pocket Books*.

If Willa Cather had written nothing except “Coming, Aphrodite!” the first of the eight stories in her *YOUTH AND THE BRIGHT MEDUSA*, there could be no doubt of her right to rank beside the greatest creative artists of the day. This pagan paean to Beauty, symbolized in the love story of an artist and written with exquisite sympathy, is a veritable Koh-i-noor in the rhinestone and paste tiara of contemporary literature. All clamorers at the gates of art who have bitterly felt the sting of worldly success withheld, will want to lay wreaths of gratitude at the author’s feet for the artistry with which her story has given voice to that loneliness of spirit which is the ultimate tragedy of their lives.

The theme of this story—youth’s adventure with the many-colored Medusa of art—runs like a golden thread through the entire collection, a thread so dazzling that delight in its gleam swept the reviewer away from sobriety of expression into a mood of molten appreciation that made him grab a sheet of notepaper and write to a friend: “Don’t fail to read Willa Sibert Cather’s latest book if you have to beg the price of it.” And facile enthusiasms are not one of his weaknesses; out of the last half hundred books of fiction he has reviewed for these columns not one has moved him to unreserved praise.

YOUTH AND THE BRIGHT MEDUSA is decidedly a literary event which no lover of the best fiction will want to miss.

YOUTH AND THE BRIGHT MEDUSA. By WILLA CATHER, author of “*One of Ours*,” “*A Lost Lady*,” etc. *A Borzoi Pocket Book. \$1.25 net.*



A Great Historical Saga

IN 1916 Verner Von Heidenstam, leader of the romantic school in Swedish Literature, received the Nobel Prize. *THE TREE OF THE FOLKUNGS*, probably his greatest novel, has just been translated into English.

"How the dwarfs lost the horn Manegarm and how a seed was laid in the earth from which a great tree was to grow, is here to be related. Here we shall tell the story of a race which attained to the highest honor and then was swept away and left no trace behind." That is the introductory paragraph to this fine epic, the romantic saga of the tragic and masterful family of the Folkungs, which, emerging from a mist of legendary origins, controlled the destinies of Sweden for two or three generations and then vanished as mysteriously as it had come.

Starting with the close of the Viking age, when dwarfs roamed the earth and magic ruled the air, it moves swiftly to the advent of Christianity, to the overthrow of paganism, down to the thirteenth century in the days of the all-powerful Earl Birger. Against a brilliantly colored tapestry of ancient glory is acted out the heroic achievements of the Folkungs and the drama of the rivalry between the Earl's two sons. In this struggle between Valdemar, the gay voluptuary, and Magnus, the stern ascetic, with all the changing incidents of love and war, Von Heidenstam has narrated a great tale worthy to stand beside the finest of modern European classics and as fascinating as the *Nibelungen Lied*.

THE TREE OF THE FOLKUNGS.

By VERNER VON HEIDENSTAM.

Translated from the Swedish by A. G. CHATER. \$3.00 net.

Bestial Gods

THIRTEEN years ago Theodore F. Powys, brother of the distinguished authors Llewellyn and John

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Cowper Powys, turned from the world and its affairs, married a village girl and retired to East Chaldon, a remote smuggling village hidden away on the Dorset Coast some three miles inland from the magnificent White Nore Cliff. In this solitary hermitage he began writing extraordinary novels, *THE LEFT LEG*, *BLACK BRYONY*, *MARK ONLY* and a score of others, as brutal and frank in their vivid stories of English peasants as they are original in their treatment and style. Through the encouragement of David Garnett, author of *LADY INTO FOX* and *A MAN IN THE ZOO*, and Louis Wilkinson, author of *BRUTE GODS*, Powys's work was presented to the English public by Chatto and Windus. Its reception both there and in this country resulted in the unanimous acceptance of Mr. Powys as a unique figure in contemporary letters—a story teller with the themes of a Thomas Hardy and a courage almost unparalleled in literary history.

In *MR. TASKER'S GODS*, a full length novel and the biggest thing he has yet done, Mr. Powys depicts the English peasant in a sharp, cruel, primitive light. Mr. Tasker, the dairyman with his worship of bestial gods; old Tasker, the tramp and disgrace of the Tasker name; the Rev. Hector Turnbull with his strangely assorted family; Alice and Edith, the servants; and scores of others are creatures of the soil—wild or tame, lustful or kindly, murderous or peaceful as the moods of nature and natural impulses sway them. And in the end Mr. Tasker goes out to feed his gods—the pigs.

MR. TASKER'S GODS. By T. F. POWYS, author of "*Mark Only*," etc. \$2.50 net.

Mid-Victorian Imperialism

THIS volume is an original and important contribution to historical knowledge.

The "Imperialism" with which the author deals is that specifically British movement which aims at preserving and consolidating the unity of the British Empire. In this interesting book is traced the history of this movement from its origin till the end of the Eighties. The Evolution of the Imperialist spirit is traced as reflected in contemporary literature, in public debate, and in the press.

The book is provided with a bibliography and an index.

STUDIES IN MID-VICTORIAN IMPERIALISM. By C. A. BODELSEN. \$3.50 net.

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THE AMERICAN MERCURY

❖ The BORZOI BROADSIDE for APRIL 1925 ❖



CHARLES MORGAN
Author of MY NAME IS LEGION

The Literature of Spain Today

WITH the publication, the end of April, of CONTEMPORARY SPANISH LITERATURE by Aubrey F. G. Bell, a fourth volume is added to the library of studies of the last fifty years of European literature inaugurated a few years ago with IRELAND'S LITERARY RENAISSANCE by Ernest Boyd. The second and third volumes, ITALIAN SILHOUETTES by Ruth Shepard Phelps and CONTEMPORARY FRENCH LITERATURE by René Lalou appeared last Fall. A fifth title, CONTEMPORARY RUSSIAN LITERATURE by Prince D. S. Mirsky, who contributed an introduction to TALES OF THE WILDERNESS by Boris Pilniak, will be published next Fall.

Aubrey Bell is an Englishman who has lived for many years in the Iberian Peninsula and has published many valuable books on Spain and Portugal. One of them, A PILGRIM IN SPAIN, has just been published recently. CONTEMPORARY SPANISH LITERATURE comes at a time when Americans are fast awaking to the fact that there are other and better Spanish authors than Ibáñez. The works of Pío Baroja, DON JUAN by Azorín, the famous essayist, THE PLEASANT MEMOIRS OF MARQUIS DE BRANDOMIN by Valle de Inclán, FIGURES OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD by Gabriel Miró, ESSAYS AND SOLILOQUIES by Miguel de Unamuno, and many other translations from the Spanish have created a demand for more information concerning the little known contemporary literature of that country. There is no book in English that pretends to cover the field of Mr. Bell's book: 1870-1920. Practically every writer of any account is treated and a full bibliography is appended. Some of the chapters are: Valera and the Classical Idealist; The Lyrical Novel; Ramon Perez de Ayala and

the Psychological Novel; The Forerunners of Modernism; The Drama and Social Problems; etc.

No reader, interested in following the trends of the literature of the world today, can afford to neglect this book, for classics are being born today just as they were fifty or a hundred or two hundred (and so on) years ago and Spain is having a prominent share in the creation of these classics.

CONTEMPORARY SPANISH
LITERATURE. By AUBREY F.
G. BELL. \$3.00 net.



The BORZOI Barometer

DURING the month of February The *Borzoi* became a Hound of Heaven, broadcasting its literary barks on the radio from Station WGBS. There were talks on THE WOLVES AND THE LAMB, J. S. Fletcher's latest thriller, THE MATRIARCH by G. B. Stern, which has just gone into its fifth printing, YOUTH RIDES WEST by Will Irwin, which was broadcasted under the caption "Flaming Youth in the Covered Wagon," and Knut Hamsun, one time trolley conductor, whose SEGELFOSS TOWN has recently appeared. Then on February 20th a *Borzoi* reception was held where many of the best known *Borzoi* authors spoke.

☺

ANOTHER *Borzoi* book has reached the screen: THREE PILGRIMS AND A TINKER, Mary Borden's novel, has been bought by the Metro-Goldwyn Company.

☺

AMONG recent callers at the office of The *Borzoi* have been: Joseph Hergesheimer, Julia Peterkin, John Weaver, back from Hollywood, Witter Bynner, from Santa Fe, Viola Tree, co-author of THE DANCERS, and John T. Frederick from Iowa.

☺

EUNICE TIETJENS has just returned from Tunis, where she wrote her latest volume of poetry PROFILES FROM HOME. She found the romantic enchantment of Tunis conducive to the creation of poetry of America or home.

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THE AMERICAN MERCURY

The BORZOI BROADSIDE for APRIL 1925

In His Own Image

THIS collection of tales, *IN HIS OWN IMAGE*, by the mysterious and much-misunderstood Frederick Rolfe, self-styled Baron Corvo, is in every way representative of his sardonic genius. A sincere Catholic, his piety is apparent in all his work, and yet his keen sense of the humorous and imbecilic in mundane and holy affairs found expression in his most devout writings. These stories of the monks in the monasteries and orders of Italy, as told by that delightful young imp of the perverse, Toto, are perhaps the closest approach we have had to a new Boccaccio since the original *DECAMERON* was written, and are all informed with that curious admixture of extreme devotion and ironic ridicule. Corvo was neglected during his lifetime and found oblivion after his death. Nevertheless, the number of his readers has steadily increased, until today the widespread revival of interest in his writings almost assumes the proportions of a genuine cult. *IN HIS OWN IMAGE*, together with *THE CHRONICLES OF THE BORGIIAS* and *HADRIAN THE SEVENTH*, is the best of his work.

These tales are unique, and though very uneven, they are very original. They represent a natural comminglement of the Pagan and the Christian tradition in the form of modern Italian folk lore expressed through the medium of a rather fantastic youth of Rome. But at times it is difficult to say whether it is Toto or Corvo who is speaking. The naivety is always Toto's but the subtlety is sometimes Rolfe's.

Some of the chapters are: About the Miraculous Fritter of Frat Agostino of the Cappuccini; About Sodom, Gomorrah, and the Two Admirable Jesuits; About the Love Which is Desire and the Love Which is Divine; Why Cats and Dogs Always Litigate; About a Vegetable Purgatory; About What is Due to Contrition; About One Way in Which Christians Love One Another, etc.

IN HIS OWN IMAGE. By FREDERICK BARON CORVO. *With an introduction by SHANE LESLIE.* \$2.75 net.

The Latest Publishing Arrangements

The books listed below have only just been contracted for by Mr. Knopf. Their publication dates will be announced in due course.

AN ANATOMY OF TOBACCO
By ARTHUR MACHEN

FROM AN OLD HOUSE
By JOSEPH HERGESHEIMER

THE WAGNERIAN ROMANCES
By GERTRUDE HALL, *with an Introduction by*
WILLA CATHER

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Poems by JOHN V. A. WEAVER

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\$1.25 net

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\$3.00 net

IN HIS OWN IMAGE. \$2.75 net

In Canada, Borzoi Books can be obtained from The Macmillan Co. of Canada, Ltd., St. Martin's House, Toronto

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FIGHTING THE WORLD

The Struggle for Peace

By COUNT MICHAEL KARÓLYI

FROM an editorial in *The New York World*, February 19, 1925: "This distinguished patriot is not allowed to open his mouth while in this country. What does it all mean?"

The answer may perhaps be found in these memoirs of the first President of the Hungarian Republic, for in his foreword he says he has written them "as a duty to history and to myself, for I know things which no one else can know." \$6.00



CARD CASTLE

By ALEC WAUGH

THE tense story of how a very insignificant incident can cause the card castle, or imaginary structure man builds in his mind's eye as the picture of his own life, to topple to the ground. Alec Waugh is one of the most popular of the younger English writers. \$2.00

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"HE can give in words an impression of the gay but empty life of pleasure, dancing, eating, and *amourette* in which men of wealth join members of the chorus; and then he will switch off to a delicate and sympathetic study." —*Times Literary Supplement*. \$2.00

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