

# CHECK LIST OF NEW BOOKS

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and a philosophy are particularly instructive and valuable. The book is heavily documented and has an extensive bibliography and an index.

JAMES BRYCE.

By H. A. L. Fisher. *The Macmillan Company*  
\$8 8½ x 5¾; 360 + 360 pp. New York

This biography of Lord Bryce is written mainly from his letters and diaries. "It has been my object to present a portrait of the man rather than a full catalogue of the events and transactions with which he was concerned," writes the author in his introduction; "I have not . . . attempted to follow Lord Bryce into all his activities." An interesting, very readable piece of work. There are numerous illustrations, a chronological table at the end of the second volume, an appendix and an index. It lacks a formal bibliography, but a statement of sources is to be found in the preface.

THE HARVEST OF THE YEARS.

By Luther Burbank and Wilbur Hall.  
*The Houghton Mifflin Company*  
\$4 8¼ x 5½; 296 pp. Boston

A biography of Burbank compiled from his many notes and journals and setting forth the details of his early life, something about his plant experiments, and his friendships and philosophy. An informative book, but entirely undistinguished in presentation. Mr. Hall contributes an introductory biographical sketch that is full of sloppy writing.

THOMAS PAINE. *Prophet and Martyr of Democracy.*

By Mary Agnes Best. *Harcourt, Brace & Company*  
\$3.50 8¾ x 6; 413 pp. New York

Miss Best has done a capital job. She is a great admirer of Paine, but by no means blind to the many blemishes in his character. Her book is well put together and excellently written. The chapters on Paine's early life, about which little has heretofore been written, are of especial interest.

DISRAELI.

By D. L. Murray. *Little, Brown & Company*  
\$4 8¾ x 5½; 299 pp. Boston

This is a satisfactory job. Happily, Mr. Murray is not obsessed with a desire to be smartly epigrammatic, but is content to present his facts clearly and interestingly. His book is one of the "Curiosities of Politics," a series of biographical studies edited by Philip Guedalla.

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## RELIGION

SPIRITUAL VALUES AND ETERNAL LIFE.

By Harry Emerson Fosdick. *The Harvard University Press*  
\$1 7¼ x 4½; 40 pp. Cambridge, Mass.

The annual Ingersoll Lecture on Immortality has been an institution at Harvard since 1896, when it was first delivered according to the terms of the will of Miss Caroline Haskell Ingersoll. Until about 1920 it was justly famous: it enlisted such honest and able thinkers as William James, Josiah Royce, William Osler, Wilhelm Ostwald and George A. Reisner. Since that time its fame has been sinking steadily: only tenth-rate theologians, like Dean Charles R. Brown, of the Yale Divinity School, and Professor E. S. Brightman, of Boston University, have been allowed the privilege of its platform. With Dr. Fosdick, who, in his book, "The Assurance of Immortality," said, "Immortality is an hypothesis, if you will, but so is gravitation," the value of the Ingersoll Lecture becomes precisely nothing. In the book under consideration he isn't even definitely nonsensical, as in the excerpt just quoted. He jumps from one meaning of immortality to another and finally lands on the definition that faith in immortality is faith in the permanence of spiritual values.

JUDAISM IN THE FIRST CENTURIES OF THE CHRISTIAN ERA.

By George Foot Moore. *The Harvard University Press*  
\$10 9½ x 6¾; 2 vols.; 552 + 486 pp. Cambridge, Mass.

A monumental and laborious work by the professor of the history of religion at Harvard. It aims "to represent Judaism in the centuries in which it assumed definitive form, as it presents itself in the tradition which it has always regarded as authentic." Professor Moore's viewpoint is that of the historian: he has collected a vast amount of information and he sets it forth clearly and with telling impartiality. A book that should prove of the greatest value to both Jewish and Christian students. Exhaustive references to the sources are given in the footnotes and there are full indexes, both of topics and of Biblical passages.

## PUBLIC AFFAIRS

COVERING WASHINGTON.

By J. Frederick Essary. *The Houghton Mifflin Company*  
\$3 8¼ x 5¾; 280 pp. Boston

Mr. Essary is the chief Washington correspondent of the *Baltimore Sun*, and has had many years of newspaper experience at the Capital. His account of the

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❖ *The Best of the New Books* ❖



## THE RISE OF AMERICAN CIVILIZATION

BY CHARLES A. BEARD AND MARY R. BEARD

**Third Large Printing**

This enthralling story of America's making has been unanimously acclaimed as the "ideal history for the layman." William Allen White calls it "a history that any citizen can read without boredom—the kind of history that sensible, practical men can read." Wars and politics of the usual history are displaced by a balanced account of our national growth and culture. No one who wants to understand his age can afford to miss this book, which is not so much a history as it is a piquantly fresh interpretation. 2 vols., illustrated, \$12.50

## Dear Old Templeton

A New Novel by  
Alice Brown

"A novel of worth and substance. There is beauty in its conception and rare charm in its execution. One of the soundest and most worthwhile novels of many seasons."—*Boston Herald*. \$2.50

## Islanders

A New Novel by  
Helen Hull

**Fourth Large Printing**

"A deeply significant cross section of life... Islanders is one of the highly notable novels of 1927. It would take that rank in any year."  
—*Philadelphia Inquirer*  
\$2.50

A New Poem by Edwin Arlington Robinson

## TRISTRAM

**Fifth Large Printing**

"The greatest poem that has yet been written in America" has, through its sheer quality and beauty, won an immediate place on every important best-seller list in America. You'll find no more satisfying reading in the book-stalls. \$1.50

A Life of the Author of "The American  
Commonwealth"

## JAMES BRYCE

By the Rt. Hon. H. A. L. Fisher

"Admirable biography... The work is exceedingly well done, many pages are deep with charm... All throw a white light on the author of *The American Commonwealth*."—*Claude G. Bowers in the New York World*.  
2 vols. \$8.00

William Butler Yeats

## AUTOBIOGRAPHIES

The story of Yeats' life which "offers such a variety of riches that I can hardly see how anyone could fail to enjoy it. This is a book to own, to read, and read again."—*New York Evening Post*. \$3.50



## This Believing World

By Lewis Browne

**Eighth Large Printing**

A story of the great religions of mankind which Will Durant, George A. Dorsey and other noted authors and critics have recommended as one of the most fascinating and valuable books ever written. \$3.50

## Your Money's Worth

By Stuart Chase and F. J. Schlink

The amazing revelations of this book take you behind the scenes of Big Business and Advertising and show you why you rarely get value for what you pay. It is recommended by Dr. Henry Seidel Canby, Dorothy Canfield and other noted critics. \$2.00

**The Macmillan Company**

**New York**