

CHECK LIST OF NEW BOOKS

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though accurate, are by no means new. A much more serious defect, however, is his inclination to seek some vague sort of good in the doings of such performers as Cartwright, Moody and Sankey. He thinks that they "preached repentance to a nation, made it better, brought its people closer to their God." The book suffers greatly from the lack of an index.

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE WORLD. 1918-1928.
By C. Delisle Burns. Payson & Clarke
\$3.50 9½ x 5¾; 473 pp. New York

This is an outline of the political history of the world since the Armistice. It is accurate and well told. In the appendix there is much valuable material, including a list of the chief treaties, a chronology of events from November, 1918, to May, 1928, a collection of brief biographical notes, and a bibliography. The maps, however, leave something to be desired. They are too small and too bare of important data.

WHEN LOVERS RULED RUSSIA.
By V. Poliakov. D. Appleton & Company
\$3.50 8¾ x 5¾; 284 pp. New York

For the greater part of the Eighteenth Century Russia was, officially at least, a matriarchy. The four women who sat on the throne of the Empire in that period were Catherine I, Anna, Elizabeth, and Catherine II. All of them, with the exception of Catherine the Great, of course, were nothing more than illiterate prostitutes, and it was their numerous lovers who really ruled Russia, and not they. The government of these favorites, naturally, was a tremendous burden on the nation, and forms one of the most scandalous chapters in the history of the Empire. Mr. Poliakov presents an excellent picture of what went on in the royal palace at the time, and how the country suffered as a result. There are twelve illustrations.

TEXT-BOOKS

NATURAL CONDUCT. *Principles of Practical Ethics.*
By Edwin Bingham Copeland.
The Stanford University Press
\$3.50 7¾ x 5¾; 262 pp. Stanford, Calif.

This is a combination text-book of civics and ethics, intended apparently for college freshmen. On the whole it is no better and no worse than such things go. It is full of preposterous definitions of the good, the right, the ethical and the moral, and the usual admonitions to be thrifty, honest, public spirited, healthy and "mentally clean." But it goes further than this, since the author pretends to base his thinking on solid scientific grounds. He is convinced that there is "a general agreement of religious and scientific ethics," and that "Christian morality is valid eth-

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ics." On the latter point he feels very strongly, especially in its implications regarding the married state. "The temporary disparity of the sexes due to modern wars or emigrations does not justify polygamy, sanctioned or illicit, at all. Even a whole state which so offends may properly be disciplined by its neighbors." Mr. Copeland was formerly dean of the College of Agriculture of the University of the Philippines, and instructor in bionomics at Stanford.

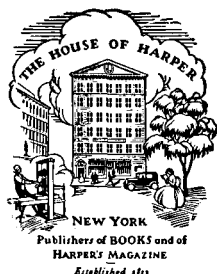
READINGS IN PUBLIC OPINION.
Edited by W. Brooke Graves. D. Appleton & Company
\$6 8¾ x 5¾; 1281 pp. New York

On the whole this is a good book. Most of the men represented are prominent in their respective fields and have something to say. Among them are Walter Lippmann, Floyd Henry Allport, President Lowell, John B. Watson, Dr. Freud, Professor A. N. Holcombe, Professor Zechariah Chafee, Jr., Norman Angell, Bruce Bliven, Leon Whipple, Dr. Raymond Leslie Buell, Graham Wallas, Charles Evans Hughes and Oswald Garrison Villard. But there are also represented such platitudinarians as Otto H. Kahn, the Rev. Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis, Edward L. Bernays, Calvin Coolidge, and Bruce Barton. They, however, do not occupy much space in the book, nor do the idiotic review questions at the ends of the chapters. There is a fourteen-page introduction by Professor Clyde L. King, of the political science department of the University of Pennsylvania, in which he develops the profound thesis that "public opinion is at once an agency of social direction and of social control. As such, no more important subject lies at the threshold of successful democracy." Dr. Graves, the editor, is professor of political science at Temple University.

MODERN ENGLISH IN THE MAKING.
By George H. McKnight & Bert Emsley
D. Appleton & Company
\$4 8 x 5; 590 pp. New York

This history of English has many merits. It is comprehensive, it is well-informed and it is clearly written. Beginning with the chaos that prevailed in the Fourteenth Century, the authors show how the language was gradually brought within bounds by a long succession of writers and printers, and how it finally took its present form. There are excellent chapters on the movement toward formalism in the Eighteenth Century, on the rise of American English, and on the recent rebellions against the tyranny of the grammarians. Such subsidiary matters as spelling and punctuation are adequately discussed, and there is a good summary of the recent history of pronunciation. The book is not for philologists, but

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HOWS AND WHYS OF HUMAN BEHAVIOR

by *George A. Dorsey*

The reasons why we do certain things and do not do others—why people, including our bosses, our associates, friends, wives, children or father and mother, act as they do is a mystery that is now rapidly being revealed. In his *new* book the author of "Why We Behave Like Human Beings" has taken the most vital and interesting of these mysteries, and made them fascinatingly clear, in terms the general reader will understand. \$3.50

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PEDER VICTORIOUS

by *O. E. Rølvaag*

Peder Victorious—youngest son of Per Hansa, the pioneer—inherits the great zest of life, the unconquerable spirit, that burned in his pioneer father. Peder faces the new problems of the younger generation, the first really *American* generation of his people. With it comes the breaking away from traditions of the old country.

The boy's mother, Beret—always longing for Norway—sees in the Americanization of her son the loss of her last chance to cling to the old traditions. Yet she is so fiercely proud of his ability, his achievements and his daring—that, even while with one hand she tries to hold him, with the other she pushes him forward into manhood and into his great New World inheritance. \$2.50

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MUSIC AT MIDNIGHT

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by *E. M. Delafield*

Author of "The Way Things Are," "Jill," etc.

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Author of "A President Is Born," etc.

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THREE GREAT BOOKS

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THE TERRIBLE SIREN

by *Emanie Sachs*

\$4.00

THE TRAGIC EMPRESS

by *Maurice Paleologue*

\$4.00

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