

# CHECK LIST OF NEW BOOKS

*Continued from page viii*

## VERSAILLES.

By Karl Friedrich Nowak. Payson & Clarke  
\$5 9¼ x 5¾; 287 pp. New York

Herr Nowak here tells the story of the Versailles peace conference from the German standpoint, and with the help of German records hitherto unpublished. It is a tale not without its humors, despite the high seriousness of the questions at stake. All the chief mountebanks are depicted vividly, and the author is keenly sensitive to every dramatic value. The curtain finally falls upon the self-betrayal, defeat and collapse of Woodrow Wilson, the most tragic of all the tragicomedians of the play. The book is well written and is worth reading. It is not documented, but there is a good index. The name of the translator is not given.

## THE MEXICAN AGRARIAN REVOLUTION.

By Frank Tannenbaum. The Macmillan Company  
\$2.50 7¼ x 4¾; 543 pp. New York

Dr. Tannenbaum first surveys the general situation of the rural Mexican, and describes at length the organization of the free village and of the large estate, or *hacienda*. He then shows how the populace was oppressed in the days of Diaz, and examines the projects for its liberation that came in with the Madero revolution. There are still many gross abuses, and the small Mexican farmer is still very poor, but "the changes which imply the abolition of servitude have been permanently established" and so there is hope for the future. Dr. Tannenbaum, who has spent much time in Mexico, made the present study for the Brookings Institution. It is heavily documented, and has a good index.

## TEXT-BOOKS

### LEARNING TO WRITE: *A Guide for Adult Students.*

By Merle M. Hoover and Henry Fisk Carlton. The Ronald Press Company  
\$2 7¾ x 4¾; 214 pp. New York

Mr. Hoover is an instructor in English at Columbia, and Mr. Carlton once held a like post there. Their book is designed for adults who desire to attain to a certain fluency in writing, but are without literary ambitions. The advice they have to offer is sensible and practicable, and they present it simply and interestingly.

### A GUIDE TO BERNARD SHAW.

By Edward Wagenknecht. D. Appleton & Company  
\$1.50 7½ x 4¾; 127 pp. New York

Dr. Wagenknecht, who is professor of English literature at the University of Washington, has

achieved a fair job of exposition. He analyzes Shaw's plays and general ideas clearly and fully, and his bibliographies are adequate. His critical opinions, however, are humorless, and, at times, even stupid. He thinks that "from the literary point of view" Shaw's greatest plays are "Saint Joan" and "Androcles and the Lion." But even they are "almost entirely innocent of strong, objective characterization." Shaw, he says, is really not much of an artist. "He lacks the objective reality of Galsworthy, [and] he has no creative power at all in the sense in which Barrie has creative power." The "suggestive questions" at the end of the book, fortunately, occupy only three pages.

## THE MIDDLE AGES.

By Edward Maslin Hulme. Henry Holt & Company  
\$5.50 8¾ x 5¾; 851 pp. New York

This is unquestionably the best text-book on the Middle Ages in the English language. It covers every phase of medieval life, it is ably written, and it takes into account the latest researches. There are eleven good maps, extensive bibliographies at the ends of all the chapters, and a good index. Dr. Hulme is professor of history at Stanford. The book belongs to the excellent American Historical Series, under the general editorship of Professor Charles Homer Haskins, of Harvard, himself one of the world's greatest authorities on medieval culture.

### THE CRAFT OF POETRY: *A Study of the Writing of Verse and Poetry.*

By Clement Wood. E. P. Dutton & Company  
\$3 7¾ x 5¼; 389 pp. New York

In many ways this is the best brief text-book on versification that has appeared in America in the past twenty-five years. The chapters on rhythm, rhyme, the stanza, light verse and blank verse are good jobs of exposition, and full of sound comment. The present book, as is the case with nearly every other book Mr. Wood has written, is not devoid of cheap humor, but fortunately there is not very much of it here. A bibliography would have added to the value of the volume.

## PUBLIC QUESTIONS

### BELGIAN PROBLEMS SINCE THE WAR.

By Louis Pierard. The Yale University Press  
\$2 8 x 5½; 106 pp. New Haven

With the exception of a brief chapter on the Flemings and the Walloons, this book is devoted entirely to a consideration of the history of the Belgian Socialist party, or, to be more precise, the Belgian Labor party. It was founded in 1885, and after a long struggle

*Continued on page xii*

THE AMERICAN MERCURY

# PLEASE ACCEPT *this book free!*

... and learn how you can  
get books never before  
published

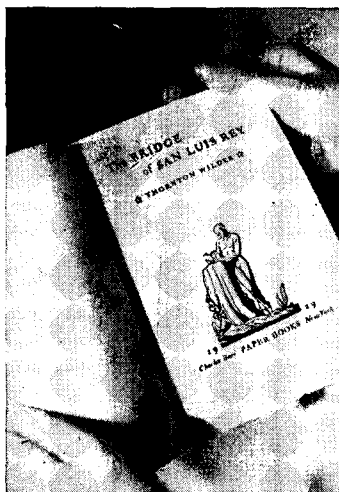
for only **42¢** each

Article below gives full  
details. Note coupon...

**W**E offer, free, the book pictured  
to the right in order to intro-  
duce an idea in publishing utterly  
new to America. It is an idea that  
brings you fine modern literature  
at an astonishingly low price.

Briefly, the plan is this. Every  
month the distinguished Board of  
Editors pictured below will select a  
book from the vivid and significant  
literary work being done today.  
These books will be books that have  
never been published before, not  
reprints. They will be selected from  
the manuscripts of both American  
and European authors. Biography,  
history, fiction and philosophy...  
all will be considered, and only the  
books of outstanding merit will be  
chosen. All books will be complete  
editions. The names of the Board of  
Editors are a guarantee that these  
will be books you want to read.

Early each month you will re-  
ceive your book by mail. One every  
month for a whole year. Twelve



books for only \$5.00. That's less  
than 42¢ each!

## *How we do it*

We are able to offer you good books  
at such low prices because now, for  
the first time, the economies of the  
book club idea are fully passed on  
to the reader, and because we have  
eliminated costly cloth binding in  
favor of attractive paper covers.

And yet, in spite of their low

price, these books will be beautiful  
and durable. They are books you  
will be proud to have on your  
library table.

The cover design, end papers  
and decorations are by Rockwell  
Kent, internationally famous artist.  
The beautiful and readable type  
pages were designed by Elmer  
Adler of the Pynson Printers.

The only way you can appreciate  
how fine these books are is to see  
for yourself. So we have taken a  
widely discussed novel, printed it  
as the Paper Books will be printed,  
and we will send it to you free.

## *This famous book FREE*

Send us the coupon at the bottom  
of this page. By return mail we  
will send you, **THE BRIDGE OF  
SAN LUIS REY**, by Thornton  
Wilder, printed as the Paper Books  
will be printed.

This book has been published be-  
fore, of course. But let us send it  
to you so that you may see for  
yourself how the Paper Books will  
look.

Keep this volume for 5 days.  
Read it. Examine it. Note the dis-  
tinguished cover design by the  
famous American artist, Rockwell  
Kent. Note the attractive type  
dress, the quality of the paper, the  
perfect bookmaking. You will  
quickly appreciate the real beauty  
of the books, as books.

At the end of 5 days send us  
\$5.00 for a charter subscription for  
the Paper Books, or return the  
volume to us.

This unusual offer is good for a  
limited time only. So mail the  
coupon now!

## THE BOARD OF EDITORS OF THE PAPER BOOKS



EVERETT DEAN  
MARTIN



PADRAIC  
COLUM



HORACE M.  
KALLEN



LOUIS  
UNTERMAYER



LINCOLN  
COLCORD

*Charles Boni*  
**PAPER BOOKS**

66 FIFTH AVENUE

*New York*

**PAPER BOOKS**, Charles Boni, Publisher  
66 Fifth Avenue, New York

A. 3

Please send me, free, "The Bridge of San Luis Rey" by  
Thornton Wilder. Within 5 days after receiving the book I will  
send you \$5.00 for a charter subscription to the Paper Books  
or return the book. **Send check with coupon if you prefer.**

Name.....  
(Please print your name plainly)

Street.....City.....  
(\$5.50 in Canada, \$6.00 Abroad)