

## CHECK LIST OF NEW BOOKS

*Continued from page xxii*

### BLUE HARVEST.

By Frances M. Frost.

*The Houghton Mifflin Company*  
\$2.50 8½ x 5½; 113 pp. Boston

Miss Frost is a highly talented young Vermont poet. There are imaginative flight and intellectual vigor in her best work that would do honor to many an older hand. Strangely enough, it is in her lyrics and narrative verses that she is weakest; the few that appear in the present volume give one the impression of a strain after lightness that is not in her. Her emotional mind, if such a phrase may be coined, apparently works most naturally and effectively in that narrow stretch of No Man's Land between the most rigid metaphysics and the most carefree mysticism. Witness such poems as "Words," "Poem For Youth," "Clear Night," and "Language." The second of these would have won the instant respect and understanding of Emily Dickinson:

The mind is vulnerable  
To the slight death of a leaf.  
By swift things, by hawk-shadows.  
Is the heart quickened to grief.

Whatever wind blows by,  
An instant of tears blows after,  
But years and sterner grieving  
It takes to fashion laughter.

### PUBLIC QUESTIONS

#### THE COMMUNIST SHAKES HIS FIST.

By Bruce Reynolds. *George Sully & Company*  
\$2.50 8¼ x 5½; 460 pp. New York

Mr. Reynolds' chief thesis is that Communism is a menace to the whole world, and especially to the United States. "When Lenin came to Russia, Russia had a splendid new provisional government, with a Duma . . . elected by the people, under the leadership of Kerensky. . . . Slavery, persecution and oppression were no more. Then came Lenin. Brutality, terror, murder, revolution. Lenin's own personal revolution for his own personal aggrandizement and gain. . . . Communism was merely the depraved idea of this one man Lenin, the foe to all civilization." It follows from all this that it would be perfidy to the human race for the United States to recognize Russia or to trade with her. "He in America who opens up trade with Soviet Russia of any sort is both directly assisting in perpetuating the hideous tyranny of Communism in Russia and is magnifying the Communist menace to the United States." Near the end of his book Mr. Reynolds prints a list of 100%

Americans who are opposed to the recognition of Russia. It takes up twenty-two pages, and makes very entertaining reading.

### MEXICAN MAZE.

By Carleton Beals. *The J. B. Lippincott Company*  
\$3 8¾ x 5¾; 370 pp. Philadelphia

Mr. Beals knows Mexico as few other Americans know it. He has been through the country innumerable times, and has met all of its chief statesmen during the last ten years. The present book is a collection of notes of what he has seen and heard, and makes very interesting reading. He deals with every aspect of life below the Rio Grande: social, agricultural, political, military, religious, artistic, and economic. His discussion of the church-state relationship is especially full and sensible, and so is his collection of brief but pointed stories about the many generals, big and little, that have afflicted the land. There is a generous number of illustrations by Diego Rivera, whom Mr. Beals calls "the Giotto of Mexican painting." There is an index.

### THE LABOR MOVEMENT IN POST-WAR FRANCE.

By David J. Saposs. *The Columbia University Press*  
\$6 9 x 5½; 508 pp. New York

"In pre-war days," says Mr. Saposs, who is a member of the faculty of the Brookwood Labor College, "French trade unionism was the bold leader of Mediterranean Syndicalism; today it is the ardent imitator of Western European trade unionism." The French labor movement, as a whole, is not so powerful as it used to be, but "the coöperative societies are assuming larger proportions and exercising greater influence." On the other hand, employers' associations have grown in size and number, and they are now resorting to the well-known American varieties of "welfare work." Mr. Saposs's study is heavily documented and ably written. There is an extensive bibliography, and also an index.

### REFERENCE BOOKS

#### AMERICAN BOOK-PRICES CURRENT.

*Compiled by Mary Houston Warren.*

*The R. R. Bowker Company*  
\$20 8¾ x 5½; 726 pp. New York

The present volume covers the auction sales held between June 1, 1929, and June 1, 1930—altogether, sixty-five. Despite the depression, prices seem to have held up very well. For many familiar auction room items new records were set—for example,

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