

Mr. Clement K. Shorter has been taking Mr. George Haven Putnam to task because Mr. Putnam, in his *Memoirs of an American Publisher*, declares that in 1870 it was not easy to interest any large number of British readers in the productions of American authors. "Why, in 1870," says Mr. Shorter, "if my information is not very much astray, the great English middle class was absorbed in American authors; and it was certainly so when I commenced to devour books not many years later. It is true that they were pirated editions, but this does not affect the argument. I was brought up on Cooper and Poe, on Longfellow and Lowell, on Mark Twain and Bret Harte, on *Queechy* and *The Wide, Wide World*, on Prescott and Motley. Between 1870 and 1880 Longfellow was far more popular with the English masses than Tennyson, partly because he was cheaper, partly because he made an appeal to more elementary emotions. And since the introduction of copyright, American authors have never ceased to receive a royal welcome. Instance Robert Chambers, Gertrude Atherton, Harold Frederic, and a long list of others, ending with Mary Johnston and the astonishingly popular author of *Freckles*. It is the same with other phases of literature—as, for example, the works of Captain Mahan."

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In the closing months of 1914 Harold Bell Wright's *The Eyes of the World* had maintained a steady supremacy in the lists, other conspicuous contenders being Owen Johnson's *The Salamander*, Rex Beach's *The Auction Block*, George Barr McCutcheon's *The Prince of Graustark*, and Marjorie Benton Cooke's *Bambi*. With the first month of the new year *The Eyes of the World* was still comfortably in the lead with a total of 216 points. In second place was Ralph Connor's *The Patrol of the*

Sun Dance Trail, with Joseph C. Lincoln's *Kent Knowles*, "*Quahaug*," third. It was the first appearance of these two books in the lists. In fourth place was Florence Barclay's *The Wall of Partition*, with *The Prince of Graustark* fifth and *Bambi* sixth. Again first in February was the Harold Bell Wright book and again second was *The Patrol of the Sun Dance Trail*. In point totals these novels were far ahead of all the others on the lists. Mrs. Barclay's book was third, Mr. Lincoln's book fourth, and Mr. McCutcheon's book fifth. In sixth place was a newcomer, *The Pastor's Wife*, which was published anonymously, but which since has been acknowledged as the work of the Countess von Arnim, the author of *Elizabeth and Her German Garden*.

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With the March issue came something of a shakeup. *The Eyes of the World* was in second place, having yielded the lead to Zane Grey's *The Lone Star Ranger*. *The Patrol of the Sun Dance Trail* was third, a newcomer, E. Phillips Oppenheim's *Mr. Grex of Monte Carlo* fourth, and *The Pastor's Wife* and *Bambi* respectively fifth and sixth. The reign of *The Lone Star Ranger* was an exceedingly brief one. With the April list came Booth Tarkington's *The Turmoil* with the high point total of 352. Second was *The Lone Star Ranger*, with *The Eyes of the World* third, Mr. Grex of Monte Carlo fourth, *The Patrol of the Sun Dance Trail* fifth, and a newcomer, Samuel Hopkins Adams's *The Clarion*, sixth. During 1914 the point record for any individual month was made by *The Eyes of the World* in the October list with 352 points. *The Turmoil* equalled that record in April, and in May exceeded it by more than fifty points, the actual total being 404. With the exception of *The Lone Star Ranger*, which was in sixth place, all the other books mentioned in previous lists had disappeared. Conan Doyle's new Sherlock Holmes story, *The Valley of Fear*, was in second place. Tied for third

and fourth positions were Robert W. Chambers's *Who Goes There!* and Temple Bailey's *Contrary Mary*. Ernest Poole's *The Harbour* was fifth. With the June list *The Turmoil* was still in first place with a total of 360 points, a margin of 107 points over Eleanor Porter's *Pollyanna Grows Up*. In third place was another newcomer, Henry Sydnor Harrison's *Angela's Business*. There had been a tie in May and there was another tie in June. Ernest Poole's *The Harbour* and Conan Doyle's *The Valley of Fear* each totalled 103 points and at that figure shared fourth and fifth places. The tie came near being a triple tie, for in sixth place, with 102 points, was Harry Leon Wilson's *Ruggles of Red Gap*.

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Again it was the Booth Tarkington book that held the lead in the July list. But the margin of that lead was diminishing. In second place was *Pollyanna Grows Up*, with *Angela's Business* third, *Ruggles of Red Gap* fourth, *The Harbour* fifth, and Honore Willson's *Still Jim* sixth. With the August list there came a new Winston Churchill book into the field. And the story of all the years that we have been compiling these lists shows that the appearance of a new Churchill book means the elimination of all other contenders so far as first place is concerned. *A Far Country's* point total for August was 453, almost fifty points more than *The Turmoil* had scored in May. In second place was W. J. Locke's *Jaffery*. While newcomers thus held the first two positions, the other places were occupied by old friends. *The Turmoil* was third, *Pollyanna Grows Up* fourth, *Ruggles of Red Gap* fifth, and *The Harbour* sixth. With the exception of fifth place the order for August was the order for September. 422 points were credited to the Winston Churchill book. Then came *Jaffery* and *The Turmoil*, and between *Pollyanna Grows Up* and *The Harbour*, in fourth and sixth places respectively, was Joseph C. Lincoln's *Thankful's Inheritance*.

By the time of the printing of the October lists the reign of *A Far Country* was at an end and *The Turmoil* had ceased to be a factor. *Michael O'Halloran*, the new Gene Stratton-Porter book, coming in full stride, assumed the lead with Mary Roberts Rinehart's "K." a very close second. *A Far Country* was third, *Jaffery* fourth, *Pollyanna Grows Up* fifth, while for sixth place there was the third tie of the year, between *The Harbour* and Leona Dalrymple's *The Loveable Meddler*. In November, *Michael O'Halloran*, "K.", and *A Far Country* were respectively first, second, and third. In fourth place was Sir Gilbert Parker's *The Money Master*. A new Zane Grey book, *The Rainbow Trail*, was fifth and *Pollyanna Grows Up* sixth. This incidentally was the sixth consecutive appearance of the Eleanor Porter book in the lists. In the December lists *Michael O'Halloran* was once more the leader, but "K." had to be content with third place. In second position was F. Hopkinson Smith's posthumous novel, *Felix O'Day*. *The Money Master* was fourth, while in fifth and six places were two newcomers, Rex Beach's *The Heart of the Sunset* and Kathleen Norris's *The Story of Julia Page*.

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JANUARY

1. The Eyes of the World..... 216
2. The Patrol of the Sun Dance Trail. 109
3. Kent Knowles, "Quahaug"..... 88
4. The Wall of Partition..... 75
5. The Prince of Graustark..... 70
6. Bambi 65

FEBRUARY

1. The Eyes of the World..... 267
2. The Patrol of the Sun Dance Trail. 190
3. The Wall of Partition..... 77
4. Kent Knowles, "Quahaug"..... 62
5. The Prince of Graustark..... 60
6. The Pastor's Wife..... 59

MARCH

1. The Lone Star Ranger..... 236
2. The Eyes of the World..... 183
3. The Patrol of the Sun Dance Trail. 148
4. Mr. Grex of Monte Carlo..... 126

MARCH—Continued

5. The Pastor's Wife..... 96
6. Bambi 63

APRIL

1. The Turmoil 352
2. The Lone Star Ranger..... 173
3. The Eyes of the World..... 135
4. Mr. Grex of Monte Carlo..... 96
5. The Patrol of the Sun Dance Trail. 81
6. The Clarion..... 69

MAY

1. The Turmoil..... 404
2. The Valley of Fear..... 158
3. {Who Goes There!}
 {Contrary Mary } 99
5. The Harbour 78
6. The Lone Star Ranger..... 67

JUNE

1. The Turmoil..... 360
2. Pollyanna Grows Up..... 253
3. Angela's Business..... 222
5. {The Valley of Fear}
 {The Harbour } 103
6. Ruggles of Red Gap..... 102

JULY

1. The Turmoil..... 297
2. Pollyanna Grows Up..... 260
3. Angela's Business..... 191
4. Ruggles of Red Gap..... 139
5. The Harbour..... 118
6. Still Jim..... 105

AUGUST

1. A Far Country..... 453
2. Jaffery 233
3. The Turmoil..... 211
4. Pollyanna Grows Up..... 198
5. Ruggles of Red Gap..... 88
6. The Harbour..... 85

SEPTEMBER

1. A Far Country..... 422
2. Jaffery 266
3. The Turmoil..... 155
4. Pollyanna Grows Up..... 146
5. Thankful's Inheritance..... 131
6. The Harbour..... 95

OCTOBER

1. Michael O'Halloran..... 281
2. "K" 275
3. A Far Country..... 267
4. Jaffery 99

OCTOBER—Continued

5. Pollyanna Grows Up..... 95
6. {The Harbour
 {The Loveable Meddler} 69

NOVEMBER

1. Michael O'Halloran..... 385
2. "K." 285
3. A Far Country..... 169
4. The Money Master..... 124
5. The Rainbow Trail..... 116
6. Pollyanna Grows Up..... 79

DECEMBER

1. Michael O'Halloran..... 285
2. Felix O'Day..... 225
3. "K." 210
4. The Money Master..... 164
5. The Heart of the Sunset..... 133
6. The Story of Julia Page..... 101

SIX TIMES MENTIONED

The Turmoil, The Harbour, Pollyanna Grows Up.

FOUR TIMES MENTIONED

The Eyes of the World, The Patrol of the Sun Dance Trail, A Far Country.

THREE TIMES MENTIONED

The Lone Star Ranger, Ruggles of Red Gap, Jaffery, Michael O'Halloran, "K."

TWICE MENTIONED

Kent Knowles, "Quahaug," The Wall of Partition, The Prince of Graustark, Bambi, The Pastor's Wife, Mr. Grex of Monte Carlo, The Valley of Fear, Angela's Business, The Money Master.

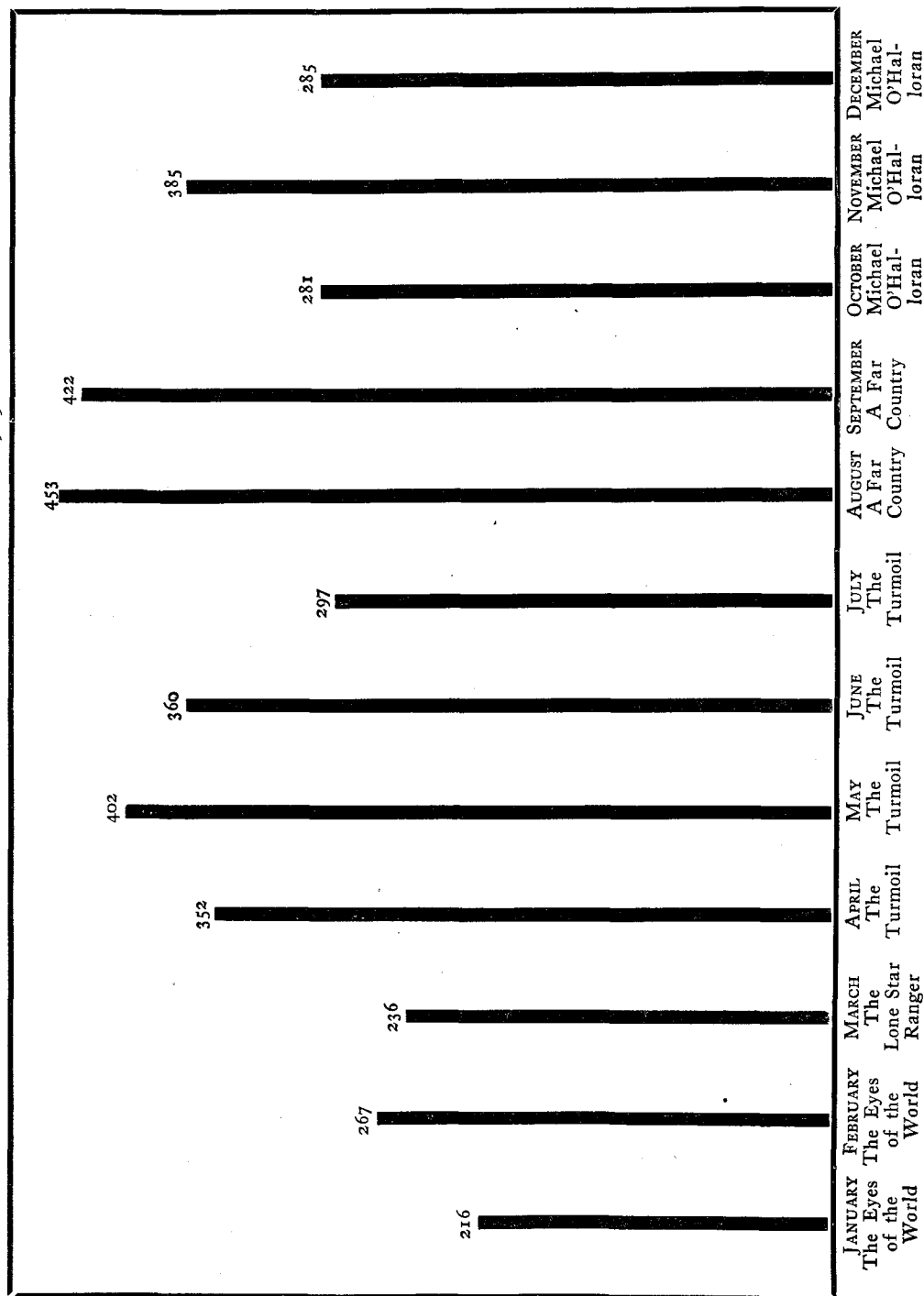
ONCE MENTIONED

The Clarion, Who Goes There!, Contrary Mary, Still Jim, Thankful's Inheritance, The Loveable Meddler, The Rainbow Trail, Felix O'Day, The Story of Julia Page, The Heart of the Sunset.

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From year to year the number of different books mentioned in the lists varies but little. In 1915 it was thirty. Nine books were written by women, one was published anonymously, and twenty were the work of men. Joseph C. Lincoln and Zane Grey were represented by two books each. The most successful book of the year, according to the lists, was Booth Tarkington's *The Tur-*

CHART OF MONTHLY LEADERS IN 1915



SCALE—Approximately 1 inch to 100 points

moil, with Winston Churchill's *A Far Country* second. In the subjoined table every point scored by these two novels is included. The point totals of the other four books represent simply the addition of the points of the months in which they were among the "Six best."

SIX BEST SELLERS OF THE YEAR

1. The Turmoil	1841
2. A Far Country	1563
3. Pollyanna Grows Up.....	1031
4. Michael O'Halloran	951
5. The Eyes of the World.....	801
6. "K"	770



BOON'S IDEA OF ARISTOTLE (IN MODERN DRESS) FROM THE WASHING BOOKS

"A literary Luna Park, in which you dizzily bump the bumps" is what an American critic, Mr. "Boon" Lawrence Gilman, already said of *Boon*.

Incidentally, the full title is *Boon, The Mind of the Race, The Wild Asses of the Devil, and The Last Trump*, Being a First Selection from the Literary Remains of George Boon, Appropriate to the Times. Prepared for publication by Reginald Bliss, with an Ambiguous Introduction by H. G. Wells. "I have a strong suspicion," writes Mr. Wells in that ambiguous introduction, "that this introduction idea is designed to entangle me in the responsibility for the book. In America, at any rate, *The Life of George Meek, Bath Chairman*, was ascribed to me upon no better evidence. Yet any one who likes may go to Eastbourne and find Meek with chair and all complete. But in view of the complications of the book market and the

large simplicities of the public mind, I do hope that the reader—and by that I mean the reviewer—will be able to see the reasonableness and the necessity of distinguishing between me and Mr. Reginald Bliss. I do not wish to escape the penalties of thus participating in, and endorsing, his manifest breaches of good taste, literary decorum, and friendly obligation, but as a writer whose reputation is already too crowded and confused and who is for the ordinary purposes of every day known mainly as a novelist, I should be glad if I could escape the public identification I am now repudiating. Bliss is Bliss and Wells is Wells. And Bliss can write all sorts of things that Wells could not do."

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Kipling has been studied from a thousand different interesting points of view, and Kipling's characters have been mentioned in a thousand different connections, but it has remained for Mr. Irving E. Mansback of New York City to visualise the Kipling people in relation to the present great war. In so visualising the Kipling characters, Mr. Mansback has compiled and arranged "The Roster of the Kipling Battalion," which is being shown at one of the well-known book exhibits in Boston. There it is attract-



HENRY JAMES CONVERSES WITH GEORGE MOORE UPON MATTERS OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO BOTH OF THEM