

Brace). With an obvious measure of care they have chosen from the works of the rebelling authors those poems most significant and representative. The result is an admirable one: an anthology has been compiled that is not only splendid for its content but also for the unity of its aim.

G. W. Russell, more frequently known as A. E., and another of the rebels of the nineties, has probably had a more varied career than any of his contemporaries. At first active in business, he later attempted painting, finally becoming a leading member of the Dublin Theosophical Society, as well as one devoting a large part of his time to the economic and agricultural improvement of Ireland. During all these experiences, however, he clung steadfastly to his poetry. Throughout the entire content of his "Collected Poems" (Macmillan) is to be found that mysticism so characteristic of him. Despite the fact that his sense of rhythm is at times inclined to be poor, there is in the work a maturity of thought existing only among those with a large, worldly experience.

Horace Wyndham has a new compendium of sundry celebrated episodes of crime and scandal, "The Mayfair Calendar" (Doran). For those readers whose curiosity concerning the more sensational acts in the behavior of mankind demands a satisfaction above the level of any to be had from the tabloids, this book will prove both satisfying and enlightening. For all we know, the author may be right in the contention advanced in his preface that one of the best ways to study man is to examine in specific instances some of his acts of greed and bloodthirstiness along with the fair record of motivating ideals that history and poetry preserve.

At any rate, when served up with a sensitiveness to humorous and ironic values that Mr. Wyndham's treatment displays, the journal of crime and scandal makes vivid reading.

Hilaire Belloc writes with such facility that the children of his brain might almost be said to be born in litters. Yet this easy grace of production is matched by an ease and grace of style, a piquancy and readability, which justify his books in quantity as well as in the individual exemplar. "Miniatures of French History" (Harper) is a connected series of delightful pen pictures. They review the pageant of French history, in vignettes of moments high and heroic or humble yet significant, and always with some outstanding human figure in the foreground. Drawn with color and charm, these miniatures follow each other in dated sequence from the founding of Marseilles, 599 B. C., to the concluding "Two Men of the Marne", and should make anybody's history of France more enjoyably comprehensive.

Sixteen members of the University of Chicago faculty, each one an authority of high standing on the special science with which his essay deals, collaborated on the production of "The Nature of the World and of Man" (University of Chicago Press). The material was originally that prepared and used for an annual survey course open to exceptionally intelligent first year students of the university. But it has here been revised and simplified in order that its value and appeal may be extended to include every class of serious reader. As a complete outline of science, the volume deserves commendation and preeminence above all late contributions of its kind to liberal, readily acquired knowledge. The editor of the

work is H. H. Newman, and its authors are: Julius Stieglitz on "The Nature of Chemical Processes"; M. C. Coulter on "Botany"; F. R. Moulton on "Astronomy"; R. T. Chamberlain on "The Earth's Origin"; J. H. Bretz on "Geology"; H. B. Lemon on "Energy: Radiation and Atomic Structure"; E. O. Jordan on "Bacteriology"; H. C. Cowles on "Plant Life"; A. S. Romer on "Paleontology"; W. C. Allee on "Invertebrate Zoology"; E. R. Downing on "Human Heredity"; F.-C. Cole on "Anthropology"; H. H. Newman on "Organic Evolution and the Origin of Life"; G. W. Bartelmez on "Anatomy"; C. H. Judd on "The Mind in Evolution"; A. J. Carlson on "Physiology".

There's a certain French critic who, when he is genuinely enthusiastic about a book, makes the cryptic report, "Read it." "Smoky" by Will James (Scribner) prompts this terse, compelling comment. "Smoky is just a horse, but all horse, and that I think is enough said", writes Mr. James in the preface of the book. Enough said, but one must see the author's illustrations, which are a spirited complement of this biography of a bit of mouse colored horseflesh, to appreciate the verve and charm of the book. "From that spring morning on the sunny side of the low prairie butte where Smoky was foaled", his life was one long adventure with cougars, wolves, horse thieves, the rodeo, and the "chicken horse" man. He descended the equine social scale until he became the drudge of an itinerant huckster, and then his escape—"The good care the cowboy had handed him, and afterwards the ramblings over the old home range, had done its work. The heart of Smoky had come to life again, and full size." A bully story told in Mr. James's inimitable manner. "Read it!"

The veteran novelist, Irving Bacheller, discourses with no disturbing profundity on superficial generalities of life, in his selection of fifteen essays, "The Opinions of a Cheerful Yankee" (Bobbs-Merrill). His optimism, dedicated here to praise of the past, burbles somewhat immoderately, even to the extent of sanctifying the witch burning spirit of seventeenth century New England. Of the sinful present—an age when many women smoke cigarettes—he disapproves intensely, but is still able to detect a few gleams of hope. When Mr. Bacheller is in a mood to indulge in reminiscence, which he does here all too infrequently, of his association with eminent writing men of a bygone day, his book is entertaining; otherwise it suggests the fallacious preaching of an "inspiration" tract.

Despite the limitations implied by the fact that it is confined to the verse issued by one publisher, "The Book of Bodley Head Verse" (Dodd, Mead) contains more real poetry than many current collections that presumably draw upon all publishers alike. A mere glance at the table of contents will indicate that some of the best of modern poets found their public through John Lane: such names as those of John Davidson, Ernest Dowson, Francis Thompson, Dora Sigerson, Alice Meynell, and Margaret Woods will stand as a guarantee of the quality of the book. Many of the best poems of these and of other writers as well known have been competently selected by J. B. Priestley.

The title of "The Cowboy and His Interpreters" (Appleton) is self explanatory. When you add as subtitle an ancient definition, "A cowboy is a man with guts and a horse", you get the book entire. It is an exhaustive treatise on an exhaustive subject, and if