

From this point of view since thoughtlessness about high ideals is so universal, and irreligion so prevalent, there is ample explanation why modern society, as evidenced by the daily press, is "rotten."

Books on Religion are important, since Religion is such a supreme necessity. Books of sermons may therefore properly come under the notice of the reviewer in a magazine of such tolerance and breadth of view as "The Forum." A typical and noteworthy book of sermons is that of Dr. C. I. Scofield "In Many Pulpits." The writer is the famous editor of the Scofield Reference Bible who gave up his pastorate to complete that monumental work. Preacher, lawyer, soldier, he found occasion to deliver addresses "In Many Pulpits" which gathered together, twenty-seven in number, in a volume of the same name form the present volume. They cover a wide range of topics, from the first one "The Best of All Good Resolutions," "Is Life Worth Living?" "Busy About the Wrong Thing," to the very end. Brief, brilliant, practical, stimulating, they aid powerfully the cause of religion, and constitute therefore their full weight in maintaining the permanence of the body politic. The present volume as well as the spoken word is the author's personal testimony to the intrinsic worth as well as the infinite preciousness of Religion to the human spirit.

—(Rev.) DEWITT L. PELTON.

#### *THE RISING TEMPER OF THE EAST\**

**S**YMPATHY for the under-dogs of the world in their common desire for liberty, for better food and homes, for education into the nobler things of life, is the dominant note sounded by Frazier Hunt in "The Rising Temper of the East."

Bullets and bayonets do not beget love. Love comes with friendly helpfulness and cooperation. Because force has been largely used by Britain in Egypt and India; by Japan in China, Korea, and Siberia; by France in Indo-China and Madagascar, the author finds everywhere a growing discontent, an increasing hatred for the foreigner. This is being expressed in riots and revolutions, strikes and outbreaks of various kinds, all having the joint purpose of expelling the hated invader. All are actuated by the same desire for land and liberty. And he finds this restlessness not only in the Far East, but nearer home in Mexico, in Haiti, in Santo Domingo.

He admits that we of America are perhaps less guilty than the others, but says our hands are not stainless by any means. He points out that "the history of the white man's civilization is not a pretty one. It has been mostly one of conquest and gain and loot." And he finds that "these men with bayonets and these men dreaming of profits have differed

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\*"The Rising Temper of the East," by Frazier Hunt. Bobbs Merrill Co.

very little, regardless of the time or of the flag under which they conquered and looted." He adds naively that "none has been a conqueror or an imperialist in his own eyes, but each in turn has pointed the finger of scorn at the other fellow and accused him of bad faith in dealing with weaker, far-away peoples."

After painting vividly, interestingly, in true reportorial style, local conditions under Zaghlul in Egypt, Gandhi in India, Kagawa in Japan, the author takes us around the globe by way of Australia and the Philippines, showing everywhere this rising temper among the backward people of the earth. He finds it expressed most strongly among the almost countless millions of yellow, black, and brown men in the East. He prophesies that eventually they will not only drive out the invader and gain their nationalism, but that "more rice, better homes, and all the precious things of real freedom" will surely follow.

This is a book of the hour. A perusal of it will help one toward a livelier understanding of the important news of the day.

—ARTHUR A. CROSBY.

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## THE RETURN OF CASANOVA\*

**T**HERE is a lightness of touch and charm about Arthur Snitzler's "The Return of Casanova" that is closely reminiscent to his earlier "Anatol." It is difficult to portray the love affairs of a fat old man of 60—even if he has the reputation of Casanova or even of Don Juan himself for that matter, as anything more than rather sickening. Snitzler, however, has attempted and succeeded in that difficult task and the result is a combination of real wit and infinite charm.

Snitzler has taken as the theme of his story a part of the life of Casanova that have failed to obtain notice in his voluminous memoirs—his return to Venice, the town of his birth, to die after many years of weary exile.

While awaiting the decree at Padua he happens by chance on an old friend who insists on taking him to his home. Casanova though old is still irresistible to the ladies and the wife of his friend is most anxious to resume the place in Casanova's fleeting affections that she once occupied. He has gazed upon the lovely face of her young niece however and has sworn that she shall be his. The young lady is disdainful of him and for once in his life he begins to realize that old age is upon him. He refuses however to give her up and by a clever subterfuge manages to obtain his end. It leaves him with a sorry realization of himself and he creeps into Venice almost wishing he could die.

—RONALD TREE.

\* "The Return of Casanova," by Arthur Snitzler. Thomas Seltzer.

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