

foundly its elements of tenderness and pathos.

The present volume is not inferior in a number of poems to the work that went before. The verse is singularly robust even up to the end. The "Liddell and Scott" (which, in choice of subject, reminds one slightly of Browning's "A Grammarian's Funeral") and the "Drinking Song" contain an element that could hardly be called frivolity but is nearest to Hardy's particular kind of humor. He found something sturdy in man, for all that mankind in many of its essays seemed so feeble and witless and beglamoured. There were virtues of pride, and simple trust, and dogged courage under a dubious sky. There was loveliness in women, and

beauty. Memory was known to draw the sting from the wounding episode. He could say on his eighty-sixth birthday:

Well, World, you have kept faith with me,
Kept faith with me;
Upon the whole you have proved to be
Much as you said you were.
Since as a child I used to lie
Upon the leaze and watch the sky,
Never, I own, expected I
That life would all be fair.

Thomas Hardy's poetry has a tang and richness of its own. Much of it has pictured for us as clearly as his novels the vistas and the people of the Wessex countryside. He did not have to go far afield to find abundant life chequered with strange stories, incalculable dreams, sub-

tle disasters. His verse is not decorated or romantic. One might say it was often homespun. But it was the vehicle of one of the finest intelligences of our day. He felt that he could say as well, if not better, in verse what he otherwise might have said in more prose. It proved so, if one follows the stories, looks through the windows that reveal so much of separate lives, save that verse as a vehicle confuses many people. They do not realize that this medium may contain as much of actuality as prose, with as deep human implications. They feel that in it the writer must necessarily beat the air. Of course it is not so.

Cousin Rebecca West

THE STRANGE NECESSITY, by Rebecca West; Doubleday, Doran, \$3.00.
Reviewed by GORHAM B. MUNSON.

ARROGANCE BREEDS arrogance, and Miss West allows herself so many extreme liberties in treating her subjects that it is merely natural law that she in turn should experience the excesses of reviewers who disagree with her general drift. The long essay which gives her new book of criticism its title appears to be a strangely unnecessary contribution to that confusion about creative processes already so widely generated by the popular theory of self-expression. Miss West holds that the sentimental artist is one who is detached from his work and molds it with reference to the psychology of his audience, and that the non-sentimental artist identifies himself with his creation and so becomes what he makes. I should say that it is just the reverse: namely, the artist who is bent on communication is non-sentimental, and the artist who is intent only on self-manifestation is the sentimentalist. I aim to score my points not by argument but by a thumb-nail parody of one of Miss West's essays entitled "Uncle Bennett."

"For a decade they have visited the houses of our sensibilities like Cousins, the Rising Four: Virginia Woolf, Aldous Huxley, D. H. Lawrence, and Rebecca

West. Cousin Rebecca West comes most often, always a little out of breath from her enthusiasm, with her arms full of bouquets, sometimes just a trifle in bad taste, but blooming always for an hour or two with sweet messages of flattery.



REBECCA WEST

And, indeed, Cousin Rebecca is the most bubbling appreciator of the genius of her American relatives that the sun and moon have ever shone upon. Great is her accomplishment. She is amazing not in time but *sub specie eternitatis*.

"I remember one wet, raw Sunday when I had left my shiny black raincoat at home beside a lovely majolica vase

New kind of Shorthand



No More Memory-Racking Signs and Symbols! SPEEDWRITING Is Written in the Ordinary A-B-C's

HERE, at last, is a shorthand written, not in a "foreign language" of signs and symbols, but in the plain A-B-C's. Right this minute you know the secret of this amazing new method! Employing only the familiar letters of the alphabet, it is so simple that you can master its basic principles in a single hour of study. So easy to learn that, after a few hours, you will find yourself able to write, understand and transcribe your notes. In a few weeks you will be a proficient Speedwriter, capable of writing shorthand at a speed of 100 or more words per minute!

Speedwriting

The NATURAL SHORTHAND

is the result of years of study on the part of Miss Emma B. Dearborn. For 18 years Miss Dearborn taught conventional shorthand in such well-known institutions as Columbia



Executives find Speedwriting valuable for saving time and increasing efficiency.

Miss Emma B. Dearborn, originator of Speedwriting. For 18 years Miss Dearborn taught practically every known system of shorthand in such well-known institutions as Columbia University, Rochester Business Institute, Simmons College, etc.

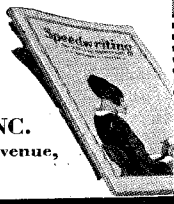
University, Rochester Business Institute, Simmons College and the University of California. Then, realizing the crying need for a shorthand that could be learned in a few enjoyable hours rather than thru months of hard effort, she finally evolved Speedwriting — the easiest-to-learn, most accurate and practical shorthand ever invented.

Free Book Tells How You, Too, Can Quickly Learn SPEEDWRITING

Let us show you how easy it is to learn Speedwriting — why business and professional men and women, experienced stenographers and beginners alike have found Speedwriting the surest, quickest way to more pay and quick advancement. Let us prove to *you* that, after a few hours' study, you can write shorthand with the same ease and rapidity as an experienced stenographer.

Send today — NOW — for FREE book which tells what Speedwriting can do for YOU!

SPEEDWRITING, INC.
Dept. BC-1021, 200 Madison Avenue,
New York, N. Y.



Mail Coupon for Free Book

SPEEDWRITING, Inc., Dept. BC-1021,
200 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y.
Without obligation, please send me your Free Book and details about Speedwriting, the Natural Shorthand.

Name

Address

City

I am interested in Speedwriting for: Stenography ☐ Engineering ☐ In Executive Work ☐

Reporting ☐ Professional ☐ Clerical ☐



There is only one Book-of-the-Month Club

Why 95,000 people belong to it

WE feel it is only fair to book-readers to correct some wrong impressions that seem widely disseminated, and to suggest that, before joining any book-club, *they get the facts about them all*—and then decide!

After the Book-of-the-Month Club started, other organizations somewhat like it arose. Frequently, we find by correspondence, people think that all the book-clubs are alike and give precisely the same advantages. This is not so. Also, many people think they can get the peculiar Book-of-the-Month Club conveniences through bookstores. This, too, is not so.

We do not want to give a wrong impression. We have nothing whatsoever to say against any competing organization. Each one (it will be found upon investigation) has its place; each one fills a specific need of the book-reading public.

In their interest, however, as well as our own—and most of all, in the interest of book-readers—we believe that there should be no confusion, and that those who intend to subscribe to a book-club, should do so clearly understanding what that particular club does and how it operates.

In our own interest, we feel it is allowable to point out that no existing organization gives either *exactly* the advantages nor *all* the advantages that we do; and we believe that it is because this service is quite unique and valuable that 95,000 people now belong to this organization—more than to all other book-clubs combined; and that clearly they are of a highly discriminating type.

Cabinet members, judges, governors, senators; leaders of industry and finance; the outstanding figures in business and society in thousands of communities, large and small—that is the type of judicious book-reader who belongs to the Book-of-the-Month Club. They are not the kind of people, in other words, to be easily influenced or to follow fads; they know what they want.

But we do not want to “sell” our service here. That is not the purpose of this announcement. The purpose is to avoid confusion. So we say: *If you are going to join a book-club, and you ought to, get full information about all of them—and then decide.* Then you are not likely to go wrong.

As a first step, mail the coupon below. Your request for full information will not obligate you in the least to join.



Henry Seidel Canby
Chairman



Heywood Brown



Dorothy Canfield



Christopher Morley



William Allen White

THE EDITORIAL BOARD OF THE BOOK-OF-THE-MONTH CLUB

BOOK-OF-THE-MONTH CLUB, Inc. 15-2
386 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Please send me, without cost, a booklet outlining how the Book-of-the-Month Club operates. This request involves me in no obligation to subscribe to your service.

Name

Address

City State