

FIRST PRINTING 100,000 COPIES

THE TRAGIC ERA

The Revolution After Lincoln

by Claude G. Bowers

"Dealing with the struggles of the nation after the Civil War to get back to something like its former unity, it clarifies and intensifies the subject with a skill which suggests the art of the dramatist no less than the science of the historian." — *Carl Van Doren*. "The book is not only brilliantly written, but it treats of a period but little known. In my opinion, it will create wide comment." — *Colonel E. M. House*. By the author of "Jefferson and Hamilton."

\$5.00 Illustrated Houghton Mifflin Co.

For the Man in the Street

ONCE the scientist worked in a garret or secret den concealing his discoveries from common men, priests and kings who did not understand. *Today science is translated for the man in the street*. The weekly, *Science News-Letter* appeals to every reader interested in keeping abreast of the times. It is written in **entertaining style** yet bears the heart of all important news in every branch of science.

Introductory offer, \$2 for 6 months

SCIENCE NEWS-LETTER

2185 B Street Washington, D. C.

free!

EXPERT CRITICAL ADVICE FOR WRITERS

Writer's Digest, leading business paper for literary workers, offers you helpful, authoritative, intensely practical criticism **FREE** with year's subscription, \$2. Magazine contains articles by prominent authors on how to write and how to sell your work. Send manuscript — 1,000 words or less for free helpful criticism — with subscription now or any time within year.

WRITER'S DIGEST, 8 E. 12th St., Cincinnati, O.

OXFORD BOOKS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

A HISTORY OF ITALY: 1871-1915

Benedetto Croce
\$5.00

"A splendid volume for those to whom Italy's history does not begin with the rise of Mussolini." — *North American Review*.

AMERICA AND EUROPE

Alfred Zimmern
\$3.00

"Mr. Zimmern's richly endowed and supple mind deals boldly with the facts of international affairs." — *The New Republic*.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS 114 FIFTH AVE.
NEW YORK

Books

The three women stretched upon this wheel do not loom so large, it seems to me, as Virginius. Milly is large enough; her personality is endowed with the fire of action; she is, after all, the real motivating force of the book. But Aunt Agatha is static. Her tragedy was over long ago and she becomes no more than a rather drab contrast to the other women. She is the background for Milly, the dead shadow of Victorian self-immolation. Mrs. Dalrymple glows with a brighter color. She is responsible for the troubling of the waters in the depths of the mind of Virginius Littlepage. If she seems a little like an eighteen-ninety Scarlet Lady, Miss Glasgow must be forgiven the slight effect of caricature. After all, that is exactly what eighteen-ninety society made of them — caricatures.

The irony of Miss Glasgow's book is never obvious but it is always present, an integral part of the texture of the prose. Indeed, this wise and disciplined wit, this sophisticated comprehension of the absurdities of the social scene, this unmalicious pricking of the ridiculous bubbles of hypocrisy, become at times more European than American. Perhaps this is less the fault of American writers than the supreme virtue of the Europeans. There are moments in *They Stooped to Folly* when I cannot bring myself to believe that mortal Americans could possibly carry on such witty and wise conversations, could indulge in such apt repartee with so much sound sense behind the beautifully-turned phrases. But here again I may be at fault. It may be my bad fortune to have missed such mellowed and balanced people. Marmaduke Littlepage, for instance, would be worth traveling miles to see and hear. But however pleasing the wit and wisdom of the book, there is another quality that looms as more impressive — and that is its "knit" quality. I mean the sense of completion, of wholeness, of roundedness. It is a richness of the mind only that can provide so excellent a piece of craftsmanship.

Milton or Wordsworth?

THE CYCLE OF MODERN POETRY, by G. R. Elliott; Princeton University Press, \$2.50.

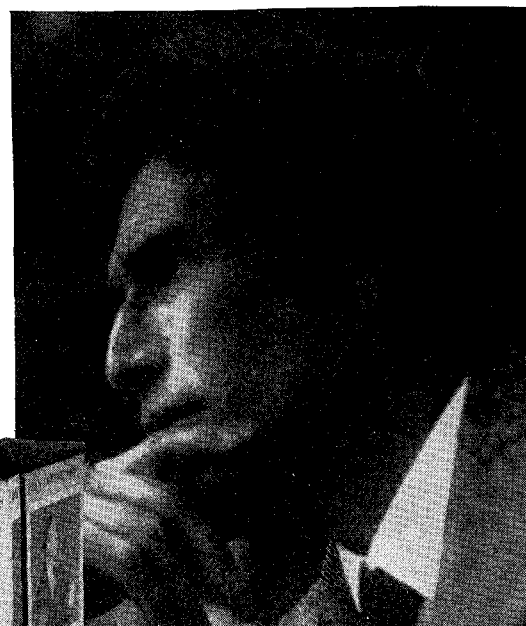
Reviewed by IRVING BABBITT.

PROFESSOR ELLIOTT's series of essays on Shelley, Byron, Keats, Arnold, Longfellow, Browning, Thomas Hardy, and Robert Frost is written from a definite point of view. His philosophical thesis is not, however, unduly obtrusive; each essay may be read profitably for its own sake. He would agree with Matthew Arnold, a writer whose merits both as

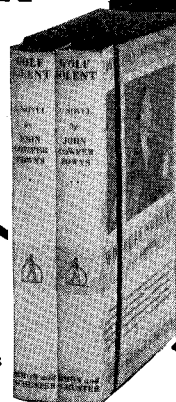
The "AUTHOR'S AUTHOR"

who surprised the world

with a BEST SELLER



Camera portrait by Sherril Schell ©



\$5.00
at all
bookstores

JOHN COWPER POWYS
Author of *Wolf Solent*

a new novel which is not only attracting unusually high acclaim from critics, but is being read by an ever-widening circle of enthusiastic readers here and abroad.

DELIVERING him from the fate which every writer both fears and craves (to be hailed as "master" only by his fellow craftsmen—to be known as an "author's author") the new novel by JOHN COWPER POWYS, *Wolf Solent*, has at length won for him the wider, more general acclaim which is the reward reserved for enduring achievement.

When this book was still in manuscript, the publishers sent it to several leading figures in American letters, including THEODORE DREISER, EDWARD GARNETT, WILL DURANT and EDGAR LEE MASTERS. The measure of their praise was beyond all expectations, and a first edition was issued in high hopes, despite the \$5.00 price and the two-volume format.

Then came even more thrilling acclaim. Such critics as PERCY HUTCHISON of *The New York Times* and ERNEST SUTHERLAND BATES of *The Saturday Review of Literature* hailed *Wolf Solent* as a momentous work of the first order. The first edition was promptly exhausted, and the reading public soon discovered that here indeed was a novel of the first magnitude. *Wolf Solent* at once scaled the heights of the best-seller lists, and was rushed into a third and fourth edition.

*** This was four months ago. Meantime, this novel by the "author's author" has been hailed—and is still being hailed—by reviewers and readers in every sec-

tion of the country, as "one of the most thrilling achievements of the twentieth century in the field of fiction." "Books of genuine importance happen so seldom," continues HENRY BELLAMAN in *The State*, Columbia, S. C., "that I cannot forbear coming back again and again to such a work as JOHN COWPER POWYS' *Wolf Solent*." "Certainly the average contemporary novel is dwarfed into comparative insignificance by *Wolf Solent*," writes STANLEY BABB in *The Galveston News*. "In style and content it stands head and shoulders above the majority of the finest novels of the present time, and promptly to praise it, to weigh it, to place it, one is forced to seek standards of more amplitude than those by which one judges the general run of current novels." "*Wolf Solent* deserves to become a classic," says *The Minneapolis Star*.

*** The lofty and disciplined beauty of its fine prose has been one of the chief reasons for the immediate reception accorded *Wolf Solent*. "I do not know which is more difficult," writes JOSEPH

GREENE in *The Columbus Enquirer-Sun*, "to write beautifully and with penury of words or to write beautifully and with prodigality. It is the latter which Mr. Powys accomplishes on every page. . ."

*** In the opinion of his publishers, the real triumph of JOHN COWPER POWYS lies in reaching the heart of a large reading public despite the aura of greatness which was thrown about him by critics who constantly compared him with the immortals . . . THEODORE DREISER said of *Wolf Solent*: "An enduring treasure—like *The Brothers Karamazoff*, like *Arabia Deserta*, even, in a way, like *Wuthering Heights*. . ." EDWARD GARNETT said: "*Wolf Solent* challenges comparison with THOMAS HARDY's great novels. The book is steeped in the emanations of generations of Dorset country-folk; it is saturated with their lives and lusts. . ." PERCY HUTCHISON in *The New York Times* said: "A momentous work—a modern prose 'Hamlet'." EDGAR LEE MASTERS said: "The whole atmosphere of the drama carried on by these haunted characters is like that which was conveyed in the 'Oedipus' of SOPHOCLES." ***



from THE INNER SANCTUM of
SIMON and SCHUSTER
Publishers · 37 West 57th Street · New York