

putation of slovenly good will and bureaucratic mismanagement which so many charitable enterprises have conferred upon it. The volume is literally part of a survey of the field, an estimation of cause and effect. And it has the fascination of having been composed by people who, like Miss True, are human beings, not tabulating machines.

HERBERT J. SELIGMANN.

"Big Things" in Poetry

You and I, by Harriet Monroe. New York: The Macmillan Co. \$1.25 net.

"WHAT we think of may be enormous—the cosmic times and spaces, for example—whereas the inner state may be the most fugitive and paltry activity of mind. Yet the cosmic objects, so far as the experience yields them, are but ideal pictures of something whose existence we do not inwardly possess but only point at outwardly, while the inner state is our very experience itself. . . . It is a *full* fact, even though it be an insignificant one; it is of the *kind* to which all realities whatsoever must belong."

This passage from Professor James throws into relief one of the fallacies which have been most marked in American literature and art, and one which Miss Monroe's poems illustrate. We seem to feel that phenomena of "enormous" objective importance necessarily imply a corresponding demand on the mind of the poet and the artist. It is easy to understand how a people like ourselves, weak and confused in our understanding of the word personality and always ready to substitute an aggressive individualism for it, should have lost our bearings among all the "big" things that make up our life; but our future depends, for all that, upon disentangling "real things" from things we "point at outwardly," and upon deliberately refusing to stretch our emotional natures beyond the range of experience that is honestly ours.

Lately Miss Monroe, if we are not mistaken, pointed out the tremendous opportunity the Panama Canal opens to American poets. Such an idea comes naturally to a mind so public-spirited, progressive, and humanitarian as hers. Yet her own volume shows its unfortunate effect upon poetry. She has risen, deliberately and conscientiously, to many tremendous opportunities of this kind. The Yosemite, the Grand Canyon, the wreck of the *Titanic*, the Canal itself, the passing of the Hetch-Hetchy, have all been celebrated by her. The result is, in those poems, as in the "Letter from Peking" and others of the sort, an almost complete obliteration of personality, a substitution of muscularity for sensitiveness, a loss of elasticity, a too professional touch, a too frequent resort to rhetoric. Ode-making is never more dangerous than when it springs from a sense of patriotic obligation, especially in a country which is more remarkable for the things people do than for the things people are.

But this is merely one tendency in a collection which is large and various, and contains much that is fresh and personal. One finds, for example, such a charming lyric as "After Sunset":

The forest was a shrine for her,
A temple richly dressed;
And worshippers the tall trees were

She took to herself the waning day
Like a round twilight moon,
Serenely rising far away—
A silvery moon of June,
That whiter than the morning is
And fairer than the noon.

The dim world darkened round her—all
Was night save where she shone,
Save where she stood so slim and small
The shadowed earth upon;
As though the earth were new, and she
Would light its fires anon.

Which serves to show how much for poetry are the most fugitive things.

VAN WYCK BROOKS.

Testimony in Meeting

George Bernard Shaw: Harlequin or Patriot? by John Palmer. New York: The Century Co. 50 cents net.

NOW that Mr. Shaw has suffered the editorial condemnation of the *New York Times*, the eternal parlor discussion as to his sincerity has risen to eloquent fervor. The fact that he has not been lynched for his "Commonsense About the War" is the greatest proof, says the *Times*, of the contempt in which Englishmen hold him. Mr. Alfred Noyes suggests putting him in the Tower. The suggestion smacks of English futility in the face of satire. Shaw's grin in the Tower would be a Gargantuan and symbolic spectacle, to dissolve the boredom of many generations when they consider the early twentieth century.

To give heart to the parlor Shavians comes Mr. John Palmer, successor to Mr. Shaw and Mr. Beerbohm as dramatic critic of the *Saturday Review*. He engagingly announces, from the vantage ground of personal knowledge, that most of the popular conceptions of Shaw are quite wrong. Shaw is not an original thinker, but the popularizer of theories long taught in the universities. He really doesn't consider himself a better playwright than Shakespeare; he criticises himself impartially, and writes about himself so much merely because he is a good critic and finds ordinary criticism inadequate. Shaw is not a jester, but a carefully read and serious thinker. Shaw acquired the reputation of being a merciless rationalist only because he can use logic when he wants to and isn't afraid of it. He is not a dangerous anarchist, but a methodical man with a deep sense of responsibility. He is a passionate puritan and reformer. The magic of G. B. S. is not what he has to say, but the way he says it. He had his power and prejudice before he had his arguments. Mr. Palmer ends by excusing Mr. Shaw for his "Commonsense" on the ground that it is a mistake, but a mistake due to Shaw's greatest virtues. . . . Of course, of course—and not at all.

Well, the value of Mr. Palmer's booklet is not what he has to say, but the warmth that made him say it. He had his passion before he had his arguments. All that is true didn't need corroborative testimony: if it had, the testimony would have been incriminating. We dislike the alternative "Harlequin or Patriot." We imagine with sympathy Shaw's snort of disgust at the evaluation of his most costly and passionate candor as a lovable mistake covering a furtive but conventional patriotism. But it must

Harper's Weekly

THE PROGRAM DURING
APRIL, MAY AND JUNE:

The War and America

An authoritative series on the subject of greatest concern to Americans by leaders of American thought and directors of national policy.

The following, with others, will contribute:

WILLIAM G. McADOO, <i>Secretary of the Treasury</i>	LINDLEY M. GARRISON, <i>Secretary of War</i>
CHARLES M. SCHWAB, <i>Financier, Pres. Bethlehem Steel Co.</i>	DAVID STARR JORDAN, <i>Educator, Peace Advocate</i>
GEORGE von L. MEYER, <i>Former Secretary of the Navy</i>	NORMAN HAPGOOD, <i>Editor of Harper's Weekly</i>
SAMUEL L. GOMPERS, <i>Pres. American Federation of Labor</i>	HUDSON MAXIM, <i>Inventor Expert on Explosives</i>
HENRY L. STIMSON, <i>Former Secretary of War</i>	LOUIS D. BRANDEIS, <i>Efficiency Expert for the People</i>
AMOS PINCHOT, <i>Lawyer, Radical, Expert on Government Ownership</i>	HOWARD D. WHEELER, <i>Journalist, Author of "Are We Ready?"</i>
FRANKLIN K. LANE, <i>Secretary of the Interior</i>	WILLIAM B. WILSON, <i>Secretary of Labor</i>

President Wilson

will deliver, through HARPER'S WEEKLY, a message of extraordinary interest to Americans unless unforeseen circumstances arise.

The War at First Hand

Glifford Pinchot is now in Europe as representative of HARPER'S WEEKLY; Norman Hapgood expects to be there shortly.

The Powers and Albania

by George Fred Williams, who, as United States Minister to Greece, played an important part in the exceedingly dramatic curtain-raiser of the war.

The Patent Medicine Series

will proceed serenely, undeterred by suing fakers who squawk their "inalienable right" to exploit the sick and credulous.

Christ and Fifth Avenue

A series of interest to everyone, clergyman, layman and non-churchgoer, who is concerned over a vital social problem of the times.

All told, we feel that we could not ask a better acquaintance-making period than the three months just ahead. And to form an acquaintance that we hope will become a lasting friendship, we will send you the thirteen issues of HARPER'S WEEKLY during April, May and June for \$1.00—thirty cents under the news-stand price.

N.R.
327

HARPER'S
WEEKLY
251 Fourth Ave.,
New York

For this coupon and \$1.00 enclosed, you may send me HARPER'S WEEKLY for three months beginning with the issue

Mail the coupon to-day with a dollar check money

Product of the Most Modern Factory
Lyon & Healy Piano
\$350
BEST PIANO VALUE IN AMERICA

A very broad statement but a reputation gained by 50 years of fair Dealing is the Guarantee.

ASK YOUR DEALER FOR THE LYON & HEALY—IF HE HASN'T IT—WRITE US

Lyon & Healy

WORLD'S LARGEST MUSIC HOUSE
CHICAGO

OUT OF WORK

A STUDY OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN AMERICA

By Frances A. Kellor

This book is not an academic study written in a library and based only on labor reports and statistics; it is a laboratory product. It contains a governmental program; but, not satisfied to point out long-winded means of preventing unemployment to slow-moving official bodies, it also makes specific suggestions for immediate aid, which every individual employer, every industry, and every official body in the country and every public-spirited citizen can begin at once to put into operation.

Price \$1.50. By mail \$1.65.

Address orders to

The Committee for Immigrants in America
95 Madison Avenue, New York City





BY special arrangement with the publishers, "Progressive Democracy" by Herbert Croly (The Macmillan Co.: \$2.00 net) and "Drift and Mastery" by Walter Lippmann (Mitchell Kennerley: \$1.50 net) may be secured within the next thirty days with a year's subscription to THE NEW REPUBLIC at the total price of \$4.85—a saving of \$2.65. The volumes may be sent to one address and THE NEW REPUBLIC to another. Subscriptions already entered may be extended one year on these terms.

No better reflection can be found than in these volumes of the spirit and point of view of THE NEW REPUBLIC.

----- Tear out along this line and mail today to The New Republic, 421 West 21st Street, New York City -----

Please send specimen copies to

NAME

ADDRESS

NAME

ADDRESS

For the enclosed Four Dollars please send The New Republic, beginning with the current number, for one year to

NAME

ADDRESS

For the enclosed \$4.85 please send The New Republic (new or extended), "Progressive Democracy" and "Drift and Mastery" to

NAME

ADDRESS



Various New Books

Among which you may find **JUST THE BOOK**
you want, either for your own pleasure
or as a gift for a friend



Essays and Poetry

BRAMBLE-BEES AND OTHERS

By J. Henri Fabre

In which the famous Frenchman, aptly called the "Scientist with a poet's heart," discusses Bees in the same sympathetic and delightful manner that has made his "Life of the Spider" and "Life of the Fly" classics of their kind. \$1.50 net.

POEMS

By Maurice Maeterlinck

Introducing to the American public the early poems of Maeterlinck, symbolical in character, rich in beauty of word and thought. They are reminiscent of Verlaine and Baudelaire, but like all of Maeterlinck's writings stamped with his own individuality. \$1.25 net.

RABINDRANATH TAGORE

THE MAN AND HIS POETRY

By Basanta Koomar Roy

Affords especially illuminating and valuable insight into the character of this noted philosopher and poet, by reason of the fact that the author is a fellow countryman and intimate friend. *Illustrated.* \$1.25 net.

Sociology

PSYCHOLOGY AND PARENTHOOD

By H. Addington Bruce

The author of "The Riddle of Personality," presents in a practical way the gist of the vast discoveries in the realm of child nature which modern psychologists, educators and physiologists have made. A very interesting book to students of childhood—whether professionals, i.e. teachers, or amateurs, i.e. parents. \$1.25 net.

AMERICAN WOMEN IN CIVIC WORK

By Helen Christine Bennett

An inspiring and valuable book about women which discusses the personalities and the work of America's foremost women—Jane Addams, Anna Howard Shaw, Ella Flagg Young and others. *With portraits.* \$1.25 net.

WOMEN UNDER POLYGAMY

By Walter M. Gallichan

A thorough-going investigation into the arguments for and against Polygamy, and the condition of women where Polygamy exists. The most complete discussion in English of this phase of Feminism. *Illustrated.* \$2.50 net.

Books on the World War

ON FIVE FRONTS

To be published in April

Scenes at the front by a man who has been with the British in France, the Austrians in Galicia and Serbia, the Germans in Flanders and the Russians in Bukowina. A very graphic description of the human aspect of the World War by a war correspondent who has seen the war at close range in many places. \$1.25 net.

WAR'S NEW WEAPONS

A thorough, scientific and at the same time very interesting exposition of the latest weapons of warfare—Submarines, Zeppelins, giant howitzers, etc. The author is an aeronaut of note, and an expert on military field equipment. *Illustrated.* \$1.50 net.

THE APPETITE OF TYRANNY

By Gilbert K. Chesterton

The keen and fiery protest of one of the cleverest writers in England against militarism. \$1.00 net.

By Robert Dunn

War Correspondent of the *New York Evening Post*

By Hrolf von Dewitz

By Gilbert K. Chesterton

Some New Novels

THE PRETENDER

By Robert W. Service

In which the Young Canadian, whose "Spell of the Yukon" and other volumes of poetry have been so widely popular, writes a striking novel which centres about the trials and triumphs of a writer of fiction. \$1.35 net.

LONELINESS?

By Robert Hugh Benson

Readers will not soon forget this exquisite story of a brave and beautiful girl who found through trial the highest and most enduring happiness. The carefully thought out, beautifully written novels of Mgr. Benson are coming more and more to the attention of discriminating novel readers. "Loneliness?" is this author's latest and best book. \$1.35 net.

To be published in April

THE HOUSE OF MERRILEES

By Archibald Marshall

A cleverly told tale of mystery by the author of "Exton Manor" and other novels which have earned for him the title of Trollope's successor. \$1.35 net.

THE RIDDLE OF THE SANDS

By Erskine Childers

One of three great books in England on the war. This novel has had there a sale of 400,000 copies, and it revolutionized the whole plan of England's national defence. \$1.35 net.

For a Man's Library

PEAKS AND PRECIPICES SCRAMBLES IN THE DOLOMITES and SAVOY

By Guido Rey

Mountain climbing by one of the most famous mountain climbers of Italy. This is a masterpiece on the subject, and ought to be in the library of every amateur mountaineer in the United States. *Illustrated.* \$3.50 net.

FORTY YEARS IN CANADA

By Col. S. B. Steele

Late in Command of the Northwest Mounted Police

To be published in April

One of the most interesting autobiographies of recent years is this record of a lifetime in the famous Northwest Mounted Police. Col. Steele, as pioneer and soldier, is one of Canada's "big men." His book will gratify any man who enjoys a story of danger, daring and accomplishment. *Illustrated.* \$5.00 net.

Let us send you our *Illustrated Catalogue of New Books*

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED
HARVARD UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

New York