



## "I would rather see our boy a cripple"

Probably the greatest task you will ever face is guarding and guiding your boy through the dangerous years of adolescence.

Think what your boy must face. His imagination is at white heat. His energy is prodigious. Adventure invites him. The glamor of the spectacular and untried is seductive. Other boys have met these temptations, wavered and fallen. You have heard of their disgrace. Involuntarily the words have sprung to your lips—"I'd rather see our boy a cripple than be-fouled like that." And you have resolved to do everything in your power to prevent it.

Thousands of parents, facing the same situation, seeking a companion to help their boys through this trying period of life, have found **THE AMERICAN BOY**—the magazine that has been chum, guide, counsellor, instructor and friend to the cream of America's boyhood for a quarter of a century.

Your boy wants and needs **THE AMERICAN BOY**. He needs its companionship—its leadership, its stimulus to sleeping capacities. He wants its corking stories, replete with thrilling adventures in the world he must meet and grapple.

This Christmas give your boy a year's subscription to **THE AMERICAN BOY**. Sign and send the coupon below. Send no money. He will receive the beautifully illustrated current issue. Watch him devour it. Read it yourself and see the multitude of fine influences that your boy will absorb and make a part of himself. A bill for \$2.00, covering a year's subscription, will be sent you later, unless you notify us to the contrary within 10 days.

*\$2.00 a year by mail. 20 cents a copy at news-stands. Subscribe for a year or leave a standing order with your news-dealer.*

**The American Boy**  
The Biggest, Brightest Best Magazine for Boys in All the World

**THE SPRAGUE PUBLISHING CO.**  
 298 American Building, Detroit, Mich.

Please enter a year's subscription to **THE AMERICAN BOY** and send a copy of the current issue to the following address. Unless I notify you to the contrary within ten days of the receipt of it, I will remit \$2.00 on receipt of your bill.

Boy's Name.....

Address.....

Your Name.....

Address.....

If you prefer, remit \$2.00 with order  
 Canada, \$2.25; foreign, \$2.50

of only eight pages to a town. Wherefore variety and brevity. There are 119 illustrations, mostly photographs, excellent and admirably chosen. The facts in each case are presented without any frills, but with sufficient narrative skill; the frequent effect of poignancy is enhanced by the simplicity. Much research must have gone to the making of this book, which should rescue from oblivion many "old, forgotten, far-off things."

### EDUCATIONAL

#### CHILD (THE): HIS NATURE AND HIS NEEDS.

A Contribution of The Children's Foundation. Edited by Professor M. V. O'Shea, of the University of Wisconsin. The Children's Foundation, Valparaiso, Indiana.

Professor O'Shea has the happy faculty of being able to gather together valuable and practical data concerning almost any subject having to do with the education and care of children. In this book he has collected and edited interesting and useful papers, written by a number of experts, covering a wide range of subjects important to teachers and to parents—subjects ranging from the social development of children and the care of various mental levels to matters affecting health and habits. This should be a useful book to all students of the many problems of childhood. It might be remarked, however, that when nutrition is taken up the theory is still supported that the average type of physical build is the normal and desirable, and that slender children are almost invariably suffering from malnutrition or other ill. The Outlook has strongly supported the theory that one's type of build is most likely to be hereditary, and that many are normally and hereditarily slender. If so, then you cannot say a child is "underweight" if that child is healthy. The one way to discover malnutrition or ill health is by means of a medical examination, for which a pair of scales is no substitute.

### WAR BOOKS

#### ROMANCE OF THE LAST CRUSADE (THE).

By Major Vivian Gilbert. D. Appleton & Co., New York. \$2.

Major Gilbert briefly outlines his war experience: first as a raw subaltern at training camp in England, then in the French trenches, later in Macedonia, and, finally, with Allenby in Palestine—the "last crusade." He gives us a real feel of the Palestine campaign, that most brilliant operation of the war, more steeped in romance than any other military episode of modern times. The book is racy, humorous, and vivid, nor lacks touches of true poignancy.

### MISCELLANEOUS

**GYPSY FIRES IN AMERICA.** By Irving Brown. Harper & Brothers, New York. \$3.

Gypsies have inspired much good prose—like the books of Borrow—and

some fine romantic poetry, like the song of the "Raggle Taggle Gypsies" and Kipling's "Gypsy Trail." They are an endless theme for romantic imaginings, and they are fine to observe—in books like this one. Upon actual contact their wild beauty and charm fade away, for most of us. Mr. Brown can still find it; he talks with them, has traveled with them, and visited them. Our advice is to read Mr. Brown's book and keep your illusions; avoid personal investigation.

**INVESTMENT, A NEW PROFESSION.** By Henry S. Sturgis. The Macmillan Company, New York. \$2.

Mr. Sturgis sets forth the proper functions of the investment bankers and the broker, and furnishes very valuable hints to him who would invest. It seems that the machinery of investment in this country sadly lacks efficient organization, wherefore the investor is apt to be stupidly or dishonestly served. Mr. Sturgis addresses himself to the problem of devising the organization required. Fortunately, the British can teach us a good deal on this head. A valuable book.

## Notes on New Books

**NAJU OF THE NILE.** By H. E. Barus. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston. \$3.

The life story of the son of an African king, and his adventures with wild beasts and with his own enemies. Admirably illustrated by Warwick Reynolds.

**WANDERING THROUGH ANCIENT ROMAN CHURCHES.** By Rodolfo Lanciani. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston. \$7.50.

Historical and architectural studies of a recognized expert. A beautifully illustrated book on heavily calendered paper, resulting in a volume too heavy to be read except by strong men like Sandow.

**POEMS.** By Ralph Hodgson. The Macmillan Company, New York. \$1.25.

Reprint, in charming form, of a little book first published in 1917. The work of a fine and original poet, author of such verses (they are included here) as "Time, You Old Gypsy Man," "Eve," "Stupidity Street," and "The Bull."

**THE SPIRIT OF THE REVOLUTION.** By John C. Fitzpatrick. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston. \$4.

Highly interesting essays upon such subjects as the history of the Declaration of Independence as a document; Washington's expenses at Valley Forge; bands in the Continental Army, etc. By the assistant chief of the Manuscript Division, Library of Congress.

**THE FUGGER NEWS-LETTERS.** Edited by Victor von Klarwill. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York.

Letters written by correspondents of the great European bankers, the Fuggers, from 1563 to 1605. Such events as the battle of Lepanto, the execution of Marie Stuart, St. Bartholomew, the burning of witches, plagues, wars, and miracles are described by contemporary reporters. A curious and readable book.

**ROMANCE AND JANE WESTON.** By Richard Pryce. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston. \$2.

Remembering the charm of "Christopher" and that delightful boy "David Penstephen," one turns with keen expectation to Mr. Pryce's new novel. It is smoothly and entertainingly written; but it has two faults of judgment hard to forgive: (1) it is impossible to believe that the sen-



