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his gallant best. The hero of Le Cateau may well be content with his laurels.

History, Political Economy, and Politics

THE HEART OF ÂRYÂVARTA. By the Earl of Ronaldshay. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston. \$5.

The development of Hindu nationalism within the past twenty years is one of the most interesting of modern phenomena; only more remarkable than the rapidity and extent of the Anglicization of the upper and upper-middle classes of India during the previous seventy years. The cultural result of the latter process was a curiously unpleasant hybrid. A strong reaction was much to be desired, but the violence of the reaction we are witnessing is lamentable and stupid.

"Back to the Vedas!" is now all the cry; which is well enough. "Away with the British Raj, and a clean sweep of everything Western," is also the cry of the extremists, who include, apparently, the vast majority of Hindus who have received a Western-type education, at least of sorts; *i. e.*, to use a dreadful, a *samphire* word, the Hindu *intelligentsia*. To be sure, the Hindu *intelligentsia*, by a generous computation, constitute not more than eight per cent of the Hindus; but the nationalist movement refers itself almost exclusively to them.

This book is an acute study of the fundamental causes of the mental and spiritual revolt of said *intelligentsia* against British domination, political and cultural; involving a remarkable analysis of the Hindu mentality, doubtless the most curious mentality to be found among the sons of men. The treatment is sympathetic, but it is clearly deducible from the evidence spread out that the British Raj has, on the whole, justified itself and that the ninety-two per cent of Hindu illiterates may well pray for its continuance. The Hindu *intelligentsia* are long on metaphysics but short on political sense. The most striking features of their "mentality" are its unexampled "tolerance" of inconstancy and its fantastic penchant for sophistry. Remember that, sweet lady, when next thou sittest at the feet of some dear, delightful *swami*.

NATIONAL ISOLATION AN ILLUSION. By Perry Belmont. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. \$4.50.

In writing this book Mr. Belmont proposed to himself two main objects: the one, to prove that the United States has never been isolated, that its relations with Europe are bound to increase in intimacy, and that one should take order accordingly; the other, to vindicate the Democratic Party. As the two theses have no obvious connection, Mr. Bel-

mont would have been better advised to write a book on each. He would have been still better advised to write no book at all. This book lacks consecutiveness, charm, almost every quality that justifies the making of a book; to conclude briefly, it is destined to quick oblivion.

THE DAWES PLAN IN THE MAKING. By Rufus C. Dawes. The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis. \$3.

Mr. Rufus Dawes was chief of the staff of eight economic experts who accompanied General Dawes and Mr. Young to Paris, and he kept a diary recording the evolution of the Dawes Plan. This book is that diary somewhat supplemented. It is well-nigh indispensable to one who should seek a thorough understanding of the Dawes Plan. But though an exceedingly useful book, it is not a jolly book, not a holiday book. The Dawes Plan is printed as an appendix.

Essays and Criticism

EDITH WHARTON. By Robert Morss Lovett. Robert M. McBride & Co., New York. \$1.

The second of a series of monographs on modern American writers. Mr. Lovett briefly sketches the social background of his subject and proceeds to a critical study of her work. The often acknowledged debt to Henry James receives due comment. (Henrietta James, the English call her with facile wit.) Many critics have made favorable comparisons with Jane Austen, but this biographer holds her inferior. "They" (Miss Austen's characters) "are part of an institution, stable, self-perpetuating, permanent. They are in true relation to their environment, and racy of the soil. By contrast Mrs. Wharton's society is transitory, imitative, sterile." One might grant the inferiority, yet take issue with the opinion of its causes. A useful bibliography which includes the isolated short stories is appended.

THE CREATIVE SPIRIT; AN INQUIRY INTO AMERICAN LIFE. By Rollo Walter Brown. Harper & Brothers, New York. \$2.50.

The young *révoltés* have accustomed us to hearing the statement that America is no place for a creative artist; that if his impulses are not stifled by the leveling influences of his democratic environment and his standardized education, he will be thwarted by a skeptical or indifferent public. Few of them, however, have kept their tone of discussion as urbane and impartial as Dr. Brown, even when he is dealing with such ticklish subjects as science and the Church. His tone approaches bitterness only when he takes up concrete examples, such as the struggles of the MacDowell Colony in New Hampshire to make ends meet. His chapter on the complicated machinery of American university life has the unmistakable note of authority. As a contri-

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bution to the American language it is interesting to learn that young assistants in college courses enrolling many students are variously known as "cubs," "theme demons," "dishwashers," and "section hands." It is a thoughtful and constructive book.

Miscellaneous

ADVENTURES OF A SCHOLAR TRAMP. By Glen H. Mullin. The Century Company, New York. \$2.

This is a delightful book, worth everybody's reading. The author, according to the jacket blurb, is a teacher in a university, and thus presumably a treader of conventional ways. But once in the long ago, when doubtless he was not a university teacher, he heard the Call of the Road and made prompt and affirmative response. For several months he rambled about the land, beating his way on trains, begging food and garments, and incidentally acquiring grime and vermin. Also he sometimes got clubbed or "pinched" or both. He had some terrifying experiences as well as many happy ones.

His first comrade was one "Frisco," and a better mentor for the hard training of the life of trampdom no green-horn could want. Frisco knew the road and all its turnings, and his counsels saved the apprentice many difficulties. It is not often that so convincing a character is found on the printed page. He is a flesh-and-blood reality, and fiction could not have produced him. There are other outstanding characters—Whaleoil Pete, Pennsylvania Shorty, Runt Mc-Turk, to name a few—and they all have adventures worth the telling. Here is a story without romance, sentimentality, or plot, a social study without statistics, argument, or recommendations. For the most part it is sheer narrative, engagingly and sometimes joyously told; and what isn't narrative is vivid description.

COPY—1925. Stories, Plays, Poems, Essays from the Published Work of Students in the Special Courses in Writing, University Extension, Columbia University. Introduction by Donald Lemen Clark. D. Appleton & Co., New York. \$2.

A dozen short stories, two one-act plays, some fugitive verse, and a few short articles and essays form the bulk of this heterogeneous collection. All have seen previous publication in newspapers and magazines, their selection having been the work of a committee of the Writers' Club of Columbia University. The reader will almost certainly find something to his taste in the wide scope afforded by this volume. Maturity of treatment characterizing much of the material is due to the fact that the authors are, in the main, men and women long past college days. This book will

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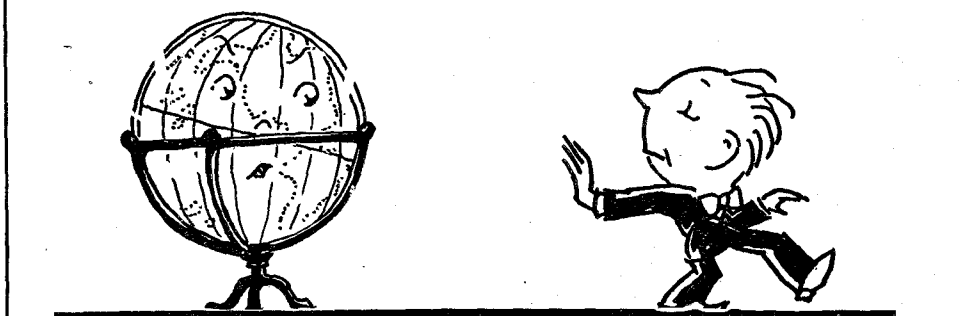
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