

Wood" of Woodilee from Cæsar's day. The elder who leads the devilish cohort reasons that his orthodox salvation is perfectly sure, anyway, because he believes in predestination and *knows* that he is saved, so he can worship both God and Satan with impunity!

The romance has not only originality, but vigor, character depiction, and a moving love story. It is only fair to warn readers that they may at first find impediments in the not too easy Scottish words and phrases and in the assumption that readers do not need to have the theological and political situation explained to them. It will amply repay them to have a little patience; as the story possesses them—and it certainly will—they will forget all that.

THE BACCHANTE. By Robert Hichens. The Cosmopolitan Book Company, New York. \$2.50.

This otherwise excellent novel has a fatal rift in its psychology. The reader simply declines to accept Valentine Morris's alleged dual nature as at once sense-driven and of a fine and strong cultivation. She asserts it, and the author asserts it; but one just doesn't believe it. As an actress she has the power and subtle charm of a Duse; but after having made one great success in a delicately wrought part she descends to a vulgar, clap-trap play, because of her physical longing for a brainless, handsome actor whose mistress she had been long before. This was, we believe, her only dereliction from moral conduct. But, after she has discarded this worthless chap, she continues to be so distressed by her lower sensual nature that in the end she goes into a convent, instead of marrying a thoroughly high-minded dramatist who has been instrumental in bringing about her artistic fame—and chiefly, one gathers, because his legs are too short! There is really little of the "bacchante" about Valentine, and what there is the author is responsible for, rather than her true nature. The dual *motif* simply doesn't jibe. In its description of theater life, and especially of the production side, the novel is extremely interesting.

LOVER'S STAFF. By Sibell Vansittart. The Macmillan Company, New York. \$2.50.

"Hope is a lover's staff," says Shakespeare, but there were times when for charming Nancy Bowring and the faithful Cosmo Standish of Miss Vansittart's novel the staff came near to breaking under the pressure of despair. Their story is interesting and so are they, but it is Mary Grant, homely, brusque, common-sensible, and loyal, who is much the most likable person in the book. A girl would-be golf champion for confidant and a shell-shocked major for hero certainly strike a sufficiently modern note; nevertheless there is something rather agreeably suggestive of the old-fashioned Victorian love story in this English tale where caste, county families, social upstarts, scheming mammas, petty scandals, and a happy ending figure in a manner which may well prove, if only by present contrast, as acceptable as of old.

MISS BROWN OF X. Y. O. By E. Phillips Oppenheim. Little, Brown & Co., Boston. \$2.

There are two errors in the technique of mystery tales into which seasoned and competent writers of that variety of fiction sometimes fall. One is to take their work not seriously enough, so that a good plot is set forth with so little care to make the human puppets credible that the resentful reader finds the illusion spoiled; the other is to take it too seriously. It is into this latter error that the able and experienced Mr. Oppenheim not unfrequently slips, and it is especially in evidence in "Miss Brown of X. Y. O." The mousy little stenographer with an unsuspected capacity for hair-raising adventure and desperate devotion is an appealing heroine, and the story

opens with a good situation, promising more thrills to come. They do, to some extent, but their intensity is sadly diluted by an excess of international complications, mysterious committees, labor troubles, and parliamentary problems and procedures, even to the peroration of an address in the House of Commons. And then the absurd Prime Minister Marabels, a dim British shadow of Mussolini! The solemn pseudo-importance of it all becomes positively annoying. As an ingenious background, kept properly subordinated, for a tale of action Mr. Oppenheim's impossible political situations are all very well; thrust into the foreground and elaborately argued about, they are a bore. Nevertheless, even though the last half of the book is much inferior to the first, whoever begins it is not likely to lay it down unfinished.

THE WIND THAT WOULDN'T BLOW. By Arthur Bowle Chrisman. E. P. Dutton & Co., New York. \$2.50.

Mr. Chrisman's sixteen Chinese stories, humorous, flavorful, and quaint, wrought from his own delightful fancy and the ancient story stuff of "the Merry Middle Kingdom," are, as he states on the title-page, designed for children and himself. Himself, he certainly has a right to enjoy them; indeed, if he had not done so as he wrote they could scarcely possess the delicious offhand, bubbling simplicity and spontaneity which constitute so large a part of their charm. As to the children, of course nobody will grudge them their share, and to read the book aloud to a responsive child can but increase a grown-up's enjoyment; but that is no reason why unfortunate grown-ups with no child handy, even the most sedate and settled of bachelors and spinsters, should feel themselves warned off. Not at all. Let them buy, read, and chuckle. All readers will enjoy also the charming illustrations in silhouette by Else Hasselriis which add greatly to the attraction of a volume in every way attractive.

Humor

HEAVENLY DISCOURSE. By Charles Erskine Scott Wood. The Vanguard Press, New York. 50c.

These are dialogues in heaven. Their humor is mingled with biting satire, and their irreverence toward the old theology would make them seem shocking to many modern readers. Dayton, Tennessee, would find them blasphemous, but the monks of the Middle Ages, who performed the old mystery plays, would disagree. As these dialogues appeared in "The Masses," they have something of the snobbery of that paper, which presupposes that if God and the souls of the great dead could speak to us, it would be to say that the political crotchets of "The Masses" are 100 per cent pure and wise. There's no such bigot as the professional liberal.

Travel

ADVENTURES IN ARABIA. By W. B. Seabrook. Harcourt, Brace & Co., New York. \$3.

The author, who spent his youth in Abilene, Kansas, and read the "Arabian Nights," followed their inspiration, and when grown up ventured to the desert. He spent some time with a shepherd tribe, visited the Druse and the Devil Worshipers, and took part in one stock-stealing raid. He enjoyed himself hugely. The reader will share some of his pleasurable emotions, even though he made few discoveries and had no adventures of great moment.

CANNIBAL NIGHTS: THE REMINISCENCES OF A FREE-LANCE TRADER. By Captain H. E. Raabe. Payson & Clarke, Ltd., New York. \$3.

The recollections of an old sea captain, now resident, it is said, in Jersey City. It is full of gory adventure about pearl fish-



Roosevelt and the Caribbean

By Howard C. Hill

Harry Hansen in the *New York World* calls it "the sober second thought of the historian . . . a very able study of this president's policies and politics." And William Macdonald says, in the *Herald Tribune*, "Professor Hill has . . . turned the X-ray of historical criticism upon Roosevelt's Caribbean policy." \$2.50

Jesus

A New Biography

By Shirley Jackson Case

The newspapers say, "blasphemous," "silly," and "heretical." The *Christian Century* says: "not the Jesus of the stained glass window, but the Jesus who lived and walked with men." The thoughtful reader will find it a straight-forward, stimulating account of the real Jesus of history. \$3.00

The Nature of the World and of Man

" . . . fascinating reading. . . . The book has taken on the unity, the coherence, the march, of one great epic poem."—*Chicago Tribune*. " . . . the story is well told, well illustrated, and well colored with human significance . . . popular without being diluted."—*The Nation*. \$5.00

At All Bookstores

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS



"In my opinion the
Ideal Investment!"

Practically the World
over the same statement
is being made concerning

Smith Bonds

Their unquestioned safety and
attractive interest rates have
built for us a clientele in nearly
every civilized country.

Why not become another well
satisfied owner of Smith Bonds?
Complete information may be
had without obligation.

Ask for Booklet "6-42"

The F. H. SMITH Co.

Founded 1873

Smith Building, Washington, D. C.
285 Madison Ave., New York City

Branch Offices in—Chicago—and Other Cities

Kindly send booklet and information regarding
SMITH BONDS.

NAME _____ "6-42"

ADDRESS _____

HELP WANTED!

Are you in need of a
Mother's Helper, Com-
panion, Nurse, Gover-
ness, Teacher, Business
or Professional Assistant?

The Classified Want De-
partment of The Outlook
has for many years of-
fered to subscribers a
real service. A small ad-
vertisement in this depart-
ment will bring results.

The rate is only ten cents
per word, including address

Department of Classified Advertising

THE OUTLOOK

120 East 16th Street, New York City

ing, piracy, cannibalism, and assorted dev-
iltry in the South Seas—in the "old days,"
before the writers of fiction had spoiled it
all. The descriptions of anthropophagastic
feasts are not to be recommended as an
appetizer. Say Messrs. Payson & Clarke,
the publishers, "It is a sea-romance that
bears the undeniable impress of truth."
Maybe, to Messrs. Payson & Clarke. We
wouldn't doubt that Captain Raabe had
these adventures, but it seems that he must
have hired some literary feller to fix
them up. And, in the interests of science,
if there are any United States marines
stationed near Jersey City, we suggest that
the tales be tried on them.

Education

EIGHT O'CLOCK CHAPEL. By Cornelius How-
ard Patton and Walter Taylor Field. Hough-
ton Mifflin Company, Boston. \$3.50.

A charming book for college men, or
others with college interests. It is about
the New England colleges of the 1880's, and
will perhaps be enjoyed best by those
whose memories go back thirty or forty
years. Anecdotes of the best-known and
best-loved professors; chapters on college
religion, student life, and athletics.

Books for Children

THE BOY'S BOOK OF EXPERIMENTS. By A.
Frederick Collins. The Thomas Y. Crowell
Company, New York. \$2.

This is intended to show boys and young
men how to perform experiments that test
and prove principles of time and force as
related to mechanics, heat, sound, light,
electricity, the radio, and other applications
of those principles. It offers a chance for
individual work and might well supplement
school and even college instruction.

EMILY'S QUEST. By L. M. Montgomery. The
Frederick A. Stokes Company, New York. \$2.

Having carried Anne (her of Green Ga-
bles) through a most successful series of
girls' books, the Canadian author is now
doing the same for Emily. A story that is
quiet and gay in turn and that leads its
young girl readers to the verge of love is
pretty sure to be acceptable.

THE FLIGHT OF THE GRAY GOOSE. By Fran-
cis Lynde. Charles Scribner's Sons, New
York. \$1.

One of the best boys' stories we have
read for a long time. And we warn the
boy reader not to let his father or big
brother get hold of it until he has finished
it himself. Three young fellows start out
in Wyoming in the Gray Goose airplane
owned by one of them for a moderate voy-
age. What happens to them is a good deal,
and is mighty exciting.

Poetry

AMERICAN POETRY, 1927. A Miscellany. 147
New Poems by 16 Authors. Harcourt, Brace
& Co., New York. \$2.50.

	Per cent
Prose set in short gasps.....	45
Queerness	10
Attempts to achieve beauty by using odd words and vivid phrases, like "tiger-cats' eyes"	15
Rough stuff	8
Hearty, slap-you-on-the-back, camer- ado business, à la Walt Whitman.....	6
Political bitterness about capitalism and war	4
Poetic beauty	a trace

Biography

SAMUEL SEWALL'S DIARY. Edited by Mark
Van Doren. (An American Bookshelf.)
Macy-Mastus, New York. \$2.50.

Here is something we never expected to
see—Samuel Sewall with a New York im-
print. The three big volumes published by
the Massachusetts Historical Society have
been compressed in this version into one
small book, but Mr. Van Doren has done

The Outlook for

the work well, and it suffices to give the
reader a taste of the famous judge of the
days of the witchcraft trials, his journey-
ings from Boston to Newbury and back,
and all that makes him a lesser Pepys—
less piquant, but not without his salt.

Psychology

THE INNER WORLD OF CHILDHOOD. A
Study in Analytical Psychology. By Frances
G. Wickes. Introduction by Carl G. Jung.
D. Appleton & Co., New York. \$3.

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF YOUTH. By Edgar
James Swift. A New Edition of "Youth and
the Race." Charles Scribner's Sons, New
York. \$2.50.

The great number of books on sociology
and the great number on psychology—
especially child psychology—which are be-
ing published must be appearing in re-
sponse to a demand. The publishers are
not doing it for exercise. The books on
child psychology—like these two—are often
conscientious, sensible books, whose au-
thors have not surrendered unconditionally
to the most extreme of the Freudian doc-
trines. But the flood of books on the sub-
ject is making each addition seem rather
repetitious.

**THE PSYCHOLOGY OF THE MENTAL DISOR-
DERS.** By Abraham Myerson, M.D. The
Macmillan Company, New York. \$1.40.

Here is a psychologist who can write
clearly and simply. This is a brief book
on the mental disorders, on psychiatry, and
upon the doctrines of Freud, his opponents,
his devotees, and his apostates.

He explains, briefly and with apparent
fairness, the strength and weakness of
Freud, whose teachings, he says, are not
understood by one in ten thousand of the
folk who glibly repeat his terminology.
The German neurologists, writes Dr. Myer-
son, for the most part reject Freud; the
French almost totally do the same; while a
small but very eloquent group of English
and American neuro-psychiatrists consti-
tute the bulk of his followers.

"These men and women are in the main
an honest, cultured, exceedingly, almost
painfully, earnest group, seeking to cure
the sick and to advance knowledge. But
in the periphery of the Freudian movement
is a host of the half-baked, seeking the new
sensations, and avidly swallowing the erotic
phases of psychoanalysis, and there is the
inevitable army of the partly respectable
seeking to exploit the half-baked."

Politics and Government

**THE OUTLAWRY OF WAR. A Constructive Pol-
icy for World Peace.** By Charles Clayton
Morrison, with a Foreword by John Dewey.
Willitt, Clark & Colby, Chicago. \$3.

Dr. Morrison, who is editor of the "Chris-
tian Century," puts himself behind Senator
Borah's resolutions to outlaw war, still
lying unacted upon in the United States
Senate, and uses Mr. S. O. Levinson's draft
of a proposed international treaty as a
basis for proceeding to unite the people of
the world against appeals to arms. He
points out that the people have never been
consulted about engaging in war. States-
men and rulers have always proceeded
without regard to the popular will. Dr.
Morrison would have a real world court to
deal with provocative problems, such as
Mr. Levinson proposes. He sees "a world
court adjudicating disputes between na-
tions by the application of law which the
nations recognize themselves as law." This,
of course, depends upon international
willingness—something yet to be brought
about. Such a plan would not be one of
arbitration but of positive jurisdiction, with
a world code that could be enforced. Dr.
Morrison observes that "a world court
without a world code is not a real court."
When such a code is ratified, and not until
then, he holds, war will be finally outlawed.
The nations, it is needless to say, must