

for ever. He drove English troops from the island, compelled the Spanish in the eastern end of the island to make terms with him, and, when the other Napoleon decided to subdue him he thought it necessary to send a fleet of 86 vessels with 21,000 men. By treachery Toussaint was seized; but France had no easy task to hold the island; yellow fever was the ally of the blacks; the year in which Toussaint died saw the departure of all French troops. Santo Domingo was free of foreign rule forever. The struggle between the governing whites, usually aided by the mulattoes ("men of color" they were called; many of them were rich) and the poor whites, was marked by almost incredible cruelty, torture and slaughter. Toussaint's personal record seems free from this, but Dessaline, his best general, was guilty of frightful massacres. Mr. Waxman tells his story clearly and forcefully. He has a whimsical, ironical turn of comment, and perhaps overworks it a little, but taken as a whole the book has go and dramatic force.—R. D. T.

Among short stories this week we found an interesting group of short tales by T. F. Powys called *The White Paternoster and Other Stories* (Viking Press \$2.50). The village characters which his other books have celebrated pursue their crooked and lusty ways with much good dialogue. The stories range from farce to tragedy; there is often a touch of the supernatural as the simple-minded feel it; and all is told from an ironic angle in rich, flowing prose.

Behind the Blurbs

WILHELM MATTENKLODT went out to German Southwest Africa, bought a farm, and settled down just before the war. He fought with the German forces until their surrender, when he was permitted to return to his farm. But he helped two escaped prisoners, and so himself became a fugitive from the British. For four years he lived the life of an outlaw in jungle and veldt, constantly pursued but never caught. *Fugitive in the Jungle*¹ is the story of his adventures. It is simply and vividly told, a South African Odyssey that will hold your interest to the last page. *** Great goings-on indeed in *The Man Who Made Gold*², the new Belloc story with illustrations by Chesterton. Mr. Lexington, professor of electro-chemistry, finds out how to make gold, and goes into partnership with a practical friend, with peculiarly disastrous and Bellocian results. The adventures of these unhappy

men, and the satire which sparkles about them, will pass an evening pleasantly for you. *** We have two good adventure stories to offer you this week, both staged among the streets and ruined



Most Discussed Books

This list of ten best-selling books is compiled from reports sent to the Outlook each week by wire from the following representative bookshops:

BRENTANO'S, New York; SCRANTONS, INC., Rochester; KORNER & WOOD, Cleveland; SCRUGGS, VANDERVOORT & BARNEY, St. Louis; KENDRICK BELLAMY Co., Denver; TROLIN PILLOT Co., Houston; PAUL ELDER & Co., San Francisco; NORMAN REMINGTON Co., Baltimore; EMERY BIRD THAYER, Kansas City; MILLER'S BOOK STORE, Atlanta; BULLOCK'S, Los Angeles; STEWART KIDD, Cincinnati; J. K. GILL, Co., Portland, Oregon; JOHN WANAMAKER, Philadelphia; THE OLD CORNER BOOK STORE INC., Boston, Massachusetts.

Fiction

Back Street, by Fannie Hurst: Cosmopolitan. Striking characterizations and heavy sob-stuff in a dramatic story of a rich man's faithful mistress. Reviewed January 28.

Two Thieves, by Manuel Komroff: Coward-McCann. A simple, intense tale of two thieves who lived at the time of Christ. Reviewed February 11.

Grand Hotel, by Vicki Baum: Doubleday Doran. A fine translation of a German novel, the dramatization of which is Broadway's favored child. Reviewed January 7.

Up the Ladder of Gold, by E. Phillips Oppenheim: Little Brown. Warren Rand, the richest man in the world, tries to secure international peace by buying gold. Reviewed January 7.

Festival, by Struthers Burt: Scribner's. A novel clamorous with life, mellow with reflection; itself a sort of fiesta. Reviewed January 28.

Non-Fiction

Education of a Princess, by Marie, Grand Duchess of Russia: Viking Press. The autobiography of the first cousin to Russia's last Czar. Reviewed January 7.

The Story of San Michele, by Axel Munthe: Dutton. Picturesque autobiography of a famous doctor, now available in a new edition with special preface by the author. Reviewed May 21.

Hard Lines, by Ogden Nash: Simon & Schuster. Riotous light verse, much of which has appeared in the New Yorker. Reviewed January 28.

Little America, by Richard E. Byrd: Putnam. A complete account of the Antarctic Expedition. Reviewed in issue of December 24.

The Mysterious Universe, by Sir James Jeans: Macmillan. A discussion of the shift from a materialistic view to an abstract view of the universe. Reviewed November 26.



temples of a lost civilization. The first is *Cambodian Quest*³, the story of Anne Abbott, who went out to Indo-China to paint, was mistaken for some one else, and after some very strange doings was kidnaped and whirled off into the jungle



by a mysterious beachcomber. There, in a lost Khmer city, knives and bullets fly about and Love Awakes. *** The other good one is *House of Darkness*⁴, by C. E. Scoggins, who has done this kind of thing before, and very well, too. Five people set out from Belize in an airplane to visit a lost Maya city, set beside a lake in the jungle of Yucatan. The archaeologist, his daughter, the pilot, the mechanic and the Man Who Has Been There Before all hope to get back the same day. But though what happens is just what you expect—the wrecked plane, the long struggle through the pitiless jungle, the treasure and the priest of a forgotten cult—it is an exciting and well written tale by a man who knows the country. *** There's enough blood in *There's Been Murder Done*⁵ to make up for the lack of mystery. There's a prologue called "Nocturne" all about blood. Then a cop finds three dismembered bodies in trunks. There are interludes of hard-boiled cop-talk, dick-talk, prostitute-talk. Then some more blood. And some James Joyce soliloquy. Then a quite unrelated sea voyage. Then more blood, and—oh, well, we can't hand it much. *** In the 40-odd short essays in Chesterton's new book, *Come To Think of It*⁶, there is—to this unjaundiced eye, at least—something of the old sparkle, which has been missing during the past few years. The gusto is only a little dimmed, the freshness only slightly faded. The topics are more current, but even so, we think we'd rather go back and read one of the early ones. Chesterton admirers will like this one, but it will make no new converts. *** New titles in Everyman's Library: *Conversations of Goethe with Eckermann*; *Literary and Historical Atlas of America*; Eliot's *Middlemarch*; Fielding's *Amelia*. *** *The Rembrandt Murder*⁷ is a good one. Now here was Mr. Goold, murdered at his desk, and the famous Rembrandt gone from its frame. The police were all for arresting Cullen Forbes, who had been trying to get some of his wife's letters back from Goold. But Ross, Criminology Prof., took the trail, and aided by Goold's niece and her boy friend—whose conversation strikes the only flat note in an ingenious and exciting yarn—followed his perfectly logical reasoning to a solution which came to us as a complete surprise. Oh, sure, we should have guessed—but read it yourself, and if you're not surprised in the last chapter, you're a better man than we are, Taj Mahal.

WALTER R. BROOKS.

1. Little Brown, \$3.00.
2. Harpers, \$2.50.

3. By Robert J. Casey: Bobbs Merrill, \$2.00.
4. Bobbs Merrill, \$2.00.
5. By K. T. Knoblock: Harper, \$2.00.
6. Dodd Mead, \$2.50.
7. By Henry James Forman: Smith, \$2.00.

►► Human Nature ◄◄

As Seen in Recent Books

A PRECOCIOUS small boy once invented a game called Questions. Pointing a finger toward the nearest member of his family, he would ask, "Do you know?" Then, opening the Youth's Book of Knowledge, he would read aloud random paragraphs from aardvark to Zachariah. Unable to escape, his kin thereby acquired a broad education in irrelevant facts. We suspect that *This Human Nature* by Charles Duff (Cosmopolitan Book Corporation) was prepared in somewhat such fashion. It is an industrious compilation of superficially related but always interesting material—a compendium of general information about human beings and their ways. If you are interested in fires, fences, crime, wheels, religions, roads, funerals, commerce, marriage, piracy, prostitution or prophecy, it's all there.

Since *This Human Nature* is written from a sociological rather than an psychological point of view, its values are mainly objective. Mr. Duff views the pageant of history in a detached and somewhat humorous way. He is much more interested in what humanity has done than why it has done what it has. In fact, he has little respect for current efforts to understand the inner life of men. Psychology, he says, "flounders in such a sea of pawky contradictions that were we to take them seriously they would deprive us of mind." The rebuke may be deserved, yet we believe that when the real story of human nature is written we shall have to survey the mental and emotional life of humanity from the inside out, rather than from the outside in, by observing behavior.

Life has continued for hundreds of thousands of years, but human nature has changed only in superficial ways, Mr. Duff contends. War and murder remain; men are lustful in love, dishonest in politics. Slight gains in the ease of living and the more general diffusion of culture count for little since materialism will win over idealism, viewing mankind in the large. For the future it will be as it has been in the past; humanity will go on and on and on, concerned primarily with eating, drinking, sleeping and breeding—everything else "mere extrinsic ornamentation." Surely it must have been the publishers, inspirers of the book, who wrote the ironically happy ending. "So, there is no cause for worry. God will remain in his heaven and all will be right with the world."

A way to recover from this cumulative pean of futilism is to plunge quick-

ly into the *Psychological Exercises* of A. R. Orage (Farrar and Rinehart). If it's true that the brain of Cro-Magnon woman far exceeded that of the average twentieth century man, try to picture her burrowing through this efficient and disciplinary system of mental gymnastics. This book provides a splendid opportunity for a mental spring house-cleaning.

By far the most important recent contribution to psychological literature is *Abnormal Psychology: Its Concepts and Theories*, by H. L. Hollingworth (Ronald Press). Although frankly a text-book, its usefulness will extend far beyond the college classroom to educators, doctors, social workers and others who minister to human needs. *Abnormal Psychology* is a mature and scholarly piece of work; not only an assemblage of facts about mental deviations and disorders, but also a critique of attitudes and methods of treatment. Dr. Hollingworth surveys the problem from those early Biblical days when victims of unfortunate mental states were considered battlefields of conflict between God and Satan and agents of evil were driven out by religious ceremonies, torture by fire or by flogging.

Speaking of the psychological approach, Dr. Hollingworth says that it is the "normal," not the "abnormal," that demands explanation. "The amazing thing is that normal mental development so often proceeds as it does. Instead of inquiring, 'Why is this man a paranoiac, a pervert, an infantile creature, a dissociated personality, an imbecile?' one should exclaim, 'There but for the constellation of innumerable positive influences, go I.' The *positive* thing is to be found in those complex and elusive processes of development and learning, growth, inhibition and organization, that result in the balanced, adjusted personality. When these processes go astray, the psychological account is usually merely the assertion that something has *failed*, something has been *weak, inadequate, injudicious* or *constitutionally inferior*." Other concepts interpreted by Dr. Hollingworth are the Neuroanatomical, Physiological, and the Psychoanalytical.

As a general guide through the combined maze of modern approaches, we recommend with double stars, Baedeker fashion, *Psychopathology* by J. Ernest Nicole (Dodd, Mead). From massive tomes of psychological theories, full of abstruse terminology and abstract ideas,



ON TO GERMANY FOR

Charm Color Costumes

This little peasant girl, in her cute native dress, extends to you a cheerful invitation to visit Germany. Everywhere you are greeted with old-world courtesy, kindly interest, and jolly scenes. Peasants in holiday attire enliven quaint villages. Wandering students sing at inns. Each town has its own native life. The Harz, The Black Forest, Bavaria. Honest prices, no visa fee. Write name and address on margin for Illustrated Booklet No. 23. GERMAN TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICE, 665 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y.

Hessian Peasant Girl

"Going to Europe" means going to

GERMANY

Dr. Nicole has brought together, with tabloid brevity, essentials in the contributions of Freud, Adler, Jung, Rivers, Watson, Kempf, Berman, Kretschmer and McDougall. Perhaps because it can't be successfully done, he has made no effort to popularize these serious contributions to psychology as a science. But he has rendered a needed service in providing a brief, orderly summary of current points of view which at bottom are not so much contradictory as different, and vital to our understanding of human nature—each in its own way.

FLORENCE GUY SEABURY.