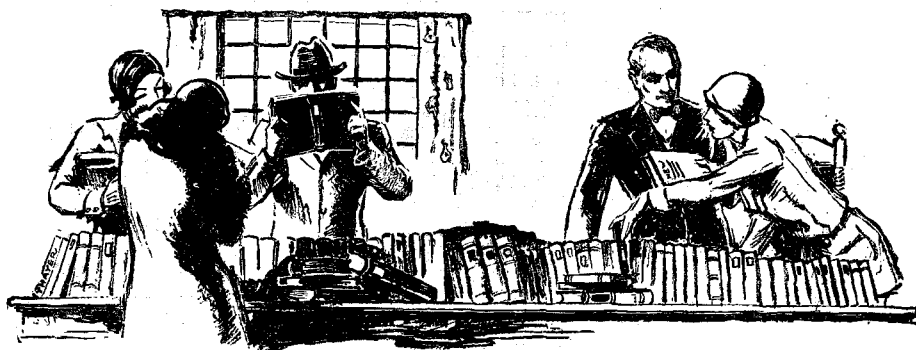


## ▷▷ The New Books ◁◁



### Heirs of Woodrow Wilson

**Newton D. Baker:**  
*America at War*  
By Frederick Palmer  
Dodd, Mead; 2 vols., \$7.50

**Crowded Years:**  
*The Reminiscences of*  
William G. McAdoo  
Houghton Mifflin, \$5.00

**Franklin D. Roosevelt**  
By Ernest K. Lindley  
Bobbs-Merrill, \$3.00

Eighteen or nineteen years ago you could start a lively argument with a question about "the man who made" Wilson. Today there is little question about the men whom Wilson made. But for him we would hardly have the biographies of Baker and Roosevelt or the reminiscences of William G. McAdoo. Wilson gave them their chances—for the reason, of course, that all three had given him valuable support in 1912. If it was not invaluable support it was because they were novices at this game of national politics. Baker, known as a pacifist, had become mayor of Cleveland, but the 1912 convention was the first for him; so it was for McAdoo, a lawyer-promoter from Tennessee who had made his mark in New York by ramming the tubes under the Hudson, and for Roosevelt, but eight years out of Harvard Yard. By 1920, however, their cabinet positions—Roosevelt was in the Little Cabinet as Assistant Secretary of the Navy, of course—had pushed them into fame.

Through no fault of Wilson, McAdoo has been slipping ever since. His are entertaining tales, admittedly sharpened at the hand of W. E. Woodward, but one understands why McAdoo ends them with his resignation as Secretary of the Treasury. The twelve years since then have added nothing to his stature, and not even a McAdoo has the cheek to record his flirtations with the Ku Klux Klan in a book wherein he has written that "the only thing you can do about a religious bigot is to avoid him."

Roosevelt and Baker have grown since parting with Wilson; at the moment it looks as if one or the other may easily be the first Democrat to succeed him in the White House. In that connection Mr. Lindley has done his best to help Roosevelt carry the South by rather

ignoring his final rush to the wet ranks, while Colonel Palmer certainly does Baker no disservice by unending references to his father's cavalry days under the Confederate flag. Aside from these trivialities the books are not to be compared. Mr. Lindley has come dangerously close to writing a campaign biography—a sketchy one which, if Roosevelt became President, would hardly serve as even a first-class outline. Colonel Palmer gives us a splendid and authoritative story of America at war. Baker's part as Secretary of War is not minimized, of course, nor is it exaggerated, for here is practically every phase of the war after 1917. Nevertheless it is a remarkable Baker which emerges, the pacifist who premeditatedly broke law after law in order to give Pershing a real army. Indeed Wilson outdid himself in giving Baker his chance.

DON WHARTON.

### The Week's Reading

**Incredible Carnegie**  
By John K. Winkler  
The Vanguard Press, \$3.50

Demosthenes became the world's greatest orator because, afflicted with a stoppage in his speech, he determined to overcome it, and did. Andrew Carnegie gave away during his own lifetime the impressive sum of \$350,695,653.40 if not because he was a Scotchman, at least despite the fact. Mr. Winkler has told the story of this marvelous man with the same journalistic coloring that he laid on so thick in the cases of J. P. Morgan and J. D. Rockefeller. It is a good yarn; how could it be otherwise? And it is a timely yarn for these days when everybody is furnished with abundant chance to give something away. The Frick-Carnegie-Homestead strike of lamentable memory is told with quite admirable restraint and yet in detail. In this there is still a lesson: it was the most momentous incident that ever occurred on the banks of the Monongahela. We are told, to the cent, where the Carnegie funds are now and much of what is being done with them.

The lesson that is in this interesting recital grows with the announcement of each dividend.

The facts of Mr. Carnegie's life throughout his eighty-odd years from Dunfermline in Scotland to Sleepy Hollow, back of Tarrytown, are tabulated with perfect precision. Each of these facts is a study in itself, but for a reason that Mr. Winkler either does not have in mind or failed, for esoteric reasons, to proclaim in his illustrated biography of 307 pages. You cannot learn much from a life of this kind. Andrew Carnegie is put down as a Ripleyesque believe-or-not case: we fancy him playing the golf of life with only one stick, the initial driver, for he made a hole-in-one every time. This is, of course, untrue. Even in reformed spelling, on which Carnegie spent thousands more than was wise, he made a birdie in the person of Brander Matthews, for that laudable enterprise was such a complete and utter dud that there was something neat about it.

When we are told that Carnegie was the author of eight books "and wrote every line of them himself" we merely smile and turn to Mr. Winkler's own life to see what dailies he used to write for. When we are informed that Carnegie knew every line of Burns's poetry by heart we think of some freshman whom we cannot persuade to memorize Heine's *Du bist wie eine Blume*. When



### What to Read

#### FICTION

**Maid in Waiting**, by John Galsworthy: Scribners. A quiet drama of English life. Readers of Mr. Galsworthy's Forsyte chronicles will find a few old friends.

**The Almond Tree**, by Grace Zaring Stone: Bobbs, Merrill. The story of three sisters.

**American Beauty**, by Edna Ferber: Doubleday, Doran. A story of early Colonial settlement, its growth, decay and final replacement by the new order.

**Return I Dare Not**, by Margaret Kennedy: Doubleday, Doran. An English playwright's week-end at a fashionable house-party; gay satire on the aftermath of success.

**The Gold Skull Murders**, by Frank L. Packard: Crime Club. A good, fast-moving mystery.

**Mourning Becomes Electra**, by Eugene O'Neill: Liveright. Greek tragedy in up-to-date guise; a trilogy of plays.

#### NON-FICTION

**America Weighs Her Gold**, by James Harvey Rogers: Yale University Press. For those who want a clear explanation of the effect of the gold supply on economic problems today.

**The Care and Feeding of Adults**, by Logan Clendinning: Knopf. A book against cranks and in behalf of those who fall for the crank's schemes.

**Theodore Roosevelt, A Biography**, by Henry F. Pringle: Harcourt, Brace. The first full and impartial biography of T. R.

**Music at Night**, by Aldous Huxley: Doubleday, Doran. Essays on people, places and ideas.

we are shown how Carnegie knew and slapped, either on the back or in the face, everybody worth knowing from the then kings and emperors to Gene Tunney's wife's grandfather, we can only say, a wide circle of acquaintances, Sir. When we look at the list of organs Mr. Carnegie gave away, we remember that he himself, though longing to become a musician, never even learned to indulge in the now moronic sport of whistling. When we read of the real founding (March 3, 1901) of U. S. Steel we no longer wonder why everybody, from Mr. Brisbane to bishops, held up a hand of warning. When we read that the Carnegie house on Fifth Avenue is assessed at only \$997,833 we somehow click inside at the thought that ours on a much humbler avenue is assessed at a much higher rate, and conclude that "Incredible" has been given a new meaning by this life so full of startling eminences.

ALLEN W. PORTERFIELD.

An Editor Looks At Russia  
By Ray Long  
Ray Long & Richard R.  
Smith, \$1.00

Mr. Long is newspaper man as well as author and publisher. He writes briskly, amusingly and graphically. This slight volume is easy reading. We see bits of Russia with the eyes of a trained reporter. There is no attempt to settle the Russian problem as a whole, but what Mr. Long gives us in his hurried impressions will help us to know what Russia is today. His answer to the question why Russian workers accept tamely living conditions that in America would represent poverty and hardship in the extreme, is threefold: first, that, bad as things are, the worker was worse off under the old régime; secondly, that police enforcement and punishment are severe, sudden and certain; third, that "the Soviet system has given the Russian peasant and the Russian worker something he never had before—Hope."

R. D. TOWNSEND.

Time Exposure,  
By Parkhurst Whitney  
Farrar and Rinehart,  
No. 3, \$2.00

After generations in which every one politely pretended that sex had nothing to do with marriage, any intelligent person, whether a novelist or merely a gossiping friend, who is speculating concerning the ups and downs of a wedded pair today is certain to be fascinated by this once *verboten* aspect. Mr. Whitney's "novel of American marriage," as the jacket describes it, naturally resolves itself into a story of what the mental corsets of 1901 did to a young couple who started their life together with much in their favor, including love. It might have been a noisy or a leering or a jeering piece of work in which the

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