

## The New Books Fiction

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possibilities are not realized in "Dead Right." The characters, although interesting enough in themselves, seem as remote and detached as so many pictures on the wall of a gallery. One never gets close enough to have any personal feeling of affection or interest toward them. The plot interest is weak because the narrative is disjointed and lacks movement and intensity. Miss Lee has had two excellent horses to ride but has fallen between them. Her plot development has prevented her from drawing the characters fully and convincingly, and her interest in character has slowed up the action and weakened the connection between the parts of the story.

**FORTUNE'S YELLOW.** By EVELYN SCHUYLER SCHAEFFER. Scribner. 1925. \$2.

This story will make pleasant warm-weather reading. It has an unhurried flow, without distinction. Its merits lie chiefly in a sense of plausibility, within the limits of the romantic, and in a fair reasonableness in the portrayal of the characters. Its middle-aged heroine is pleasingly different from the usual type of heroine in popular novels.

There is no discordant note to jar an amiable tale. Life, looked at through this book, has no serious drawbacks and no mean complications that cannot be straightened out by a smile or two. Precisely the idea which some jaded people will like to hypnotize themselves with on a languid spring or a sultry summer day.

**WATLING'S.** By HORACE ANNESLEY VACHELL. Stokes. 1925. \$2.

It is not every young aristocrat who has to go into business to prove that he is worthy of marrying a business man's daughter. Yet the hero of this particular novel does. Thus is reversed the usual formula whereby the young business man is at first turned down because he is not of gentle birth yet by dint of natural aristocracy—could it be otherwise?—at last wins the coveted prize. The old order changeth, giving way to the new. And lo! the poor aristocrat who finds himself at the bottom of the ladder and must work his way up in this busy business world. The hero of "Watling's" had, we suppose, the proper stuff in him. He got there, wherever that may be, and married the business man's daughter. Which, evidently, was a consummation devoutly to be wished. Having reversed the usual situation of such novels, Mr. Vachell can write still another by beginning in the middle and working out to both ends.

**THE FOURTEEN POINTS.** By ARTHUR B. REEVE. Harpers. 1925. \$2.

"The news of the world," Mr. Reeve remarks, "is full of crime, because crime interests human beings. There is just enough devil in all of us to listen to such tales." That may be one reason why even so flatly mechanical a production as this manages to hold one's interest fairly well, for most of Mr. Reeve's crimes are at least ingeniously devised though some of his murders come a bit too near to the fantastically improbable. Read at one sitting the episodes become tiresome, largely because of the sameness in the trick of the solution of the puzzle. In all cases the absurd Craig Kennedy pulls the proper answer out of his pocket at the last moment, out of something that he, in his superior perceptiveness has noted but which has been carefully concealed from the reader, who has been told, simply, that the great Kennedy has observed "something" somewhere in his investigation that others have missed. The "Fourteen Points" of the title, which are the points of the compass, the four "elements" of air, earth, fire, and water, and the "senses" (with "common sense" thrown in to make a sixth) have practically nothing to do with most of the stories, being lugged in by the ears to serve as titles: a puerile device.

**SCHOOLING.** By PAUL SELVER. A. and C. Boni. 1925. \$2.50.

This is a story of a fourth-rate English school, run by third-rate men for second-rate boys. Everybody lives in a state of chronic exasperation with everybody else, and the masters find their only relief in the pursuit of the kitchen maids and other ladies of unquestionable reputation. From Dr. Stack, who runs the astonishing muddle which is Greendale Grammar School, down to the unsophisticated Leonard Malden, there is not in this book a single worthy character, man, woman, or boy. In spite, there-

fore, of certain clever bits of characterization and an occasional flash of wit, the book is shallow and unconvincing. At times, it seems as though Paul Selver, obviously English, were elaborately spoofing his American readers.

**UNDER THE LEVEE.** By E. EARL SPARLING. Scribners. 1925. \$2.

"Under the Levee" is a collection of short stories mainly concerned with the red light district of New Orleans. After reading a few pages of the book it becomes apparent that Mr. Sparling has not sufficient imagination to give a living impression of the bespangled harlots and bleary-eyed footpads that he delights to describe. His stories of the night life of the Southern port are such as might have been the result of the note-book jottings of a young journalist who has spent half a dozen nights "out" looking for copy.

The fact is these tales are surface tales and seldom touch that undercurrent of turbulent poetry which alone interprets life truly. Popular writing of this kind so favored by our age represents merely the artificial façade of existence, whereas below the stereotyped external appearance of even commonplace people there may often be found unique, individual, and improbable thoughts and sensations. Merely to write of cafés "where the yellow lights stab out on the night" means nothing. We can read that kind of thing in half the magazines on the bookstalls.

Mr. Sparling often spoils his stories by giving them a weak and sentimental ending. In "The Creole Shadow," for example, how absurd to suggest that the intelligence of Louey Alcide, the prize-fighter, could be turned on and off like an electric light!

And how tawdry is the first story, entitled "Little Teeny and Cajin Joe," which ends with the "big ungainly tears" of Cajin Joe! And yet it must be remembered that this kind of thing is written under the inspiration of that city whose cobbles stones, so it has been reported, "are surrounded by black mud which appears to have been left to grow stagnant and putrid and to breed murder from the days of some incredible massacre when it was red and not black."

**THE CIRCLE OF THE STARS.** By JOAN SUTHERLAND. Doubleday, Page. 1925. \$2.

Here in this tale are all the characters and situations that the dime-novel-reading-public has learned to love, plus the stock materials of the cinema. There is the brutal husband, the trodden but transcendent wife, the cocktailed younger set, and the African official, with a Raleigh and a Bluebeard for every lady fair.

Here too, is English society, painted with all the gusto and finesse of Podunk, Maine. Nor are official regions disregarded. Anglo-African affairs come into prominence, though no further than is absolutely vital to the course of the story. And the movement never flags. On the contrary, it moves in a swift circle toward its pre-determined end. Drink and seduction, riot and religion, debauchery and want, hustle it through to the goal of Everafter. The book is more than half a movie now. Some day it will make a stupendous film of the Great Open Spaces and the Madding Throng.

**ON BOARD THE MORNING STAR.** By PIERRE MACORLAN. Translated from the French by MALCOLM COWLEY. A. & C. Boni. 1925. \$2.

The literary prowess of Pierre MacOrlan-Dumarchais is not unknown to American readers whose eyes turn sometimes to France. Although he is forty-two years old, has resided in Paris since his youth, and during most of this time has frequented the most interesting literary society of the capital and helped to guide the destinies of a great publishing house, MacOrlan has come to the fore as a writer only since the war. In these few years, however, he has produced the work of a life-time. "Les Poissons morts," "Le Chant de l'Equipe," "Petit Manuel, du Parfait Aventurier," "La Chronique des Temps Sésespères," "La Cavalière Elsa," "Malice," and most recently "La Vénus Internationale," have each in their turn informed a growing public that a new writer, happily free of pretensions to profundity and from every embarrassing allegiance, armed with a magically adept style and an inexhaustible, prying, droll, impertinent imagination has stepped forth from the drab banality of contemporary literature.

"A bord l'Etoile Matutine" is by no means MacOrlan's cleverest or most successful book, but it is an excellent choice with which to introduce him to the American public; for it has all the lyricism, sophistication, deftness, and originality of his best

work, with none of the eroticism and social bitterness which rather disfigure some of his books.

It is to be hoped that "On Board the Morning Star" will be greeted with sufficient appreciation to direct the interest of American publishers to this discreetly scintillant writer, and that his books will always have the good fortune to fall to the hands of translators who can render them with as much tact, fidelity, and spirit as Mr. Malcolm Cowley has done by this.

**A CERTAIN CROSSROAD.** By EMILIE LORING. Penn. 1925. \$2.

It is a pity that the word, "lady-like," has acquired a belittling, even derisive connotation: it would exactly describe such novels as this, if it could be used with no derogatory sense. This is ladylike romance and a very good specimen of its kind: a pleasing tale, conceived and told entirely from a woman's point of view, although it deals with such rough masculine stuff as the "rumrunner" and "hijacker," and involves some strenuous action. Its young doctor-hero, and the other good young and old men, are very noble, but not too noble. The villain is a bad lot, but we feel sure all the time that he will not be allowed to go too far or to become too offensive. He will at least retain a semblance of good manners. The women are done with greater realism, especially the heroine, who is of the gallant girl type, headstrong, intelligent, a bit inclined to be selfish, but capable of outgrowing that: a really engaging young woman displayed with much skill in character drawing. But, after all, the plot's the thing in such a tale. This is a good one, especially in the suspense as to just what the "mystery" is; you know, of course, at the outset that it involves smuggling, but the precise how and what and who of the situation is cleverly tangled up until the disclosure is quite due and then the puzzle is neatly unravelled. A plot something like some of Mrs. Rinehart's, but lacking their exuberance of humor.

**THE DOOM WINDOW.** By MAURICE DRAKE. Dutton. 1925. \$2.

When modern romance goes a-subject-hunting its selection is too often trite and threadbare. Or if its subject is a likely one, replete with fresh and potential matter, the spirit of pot-boilers has a familiar way of luring it through conventional courses of "fraud, exciting adventure, and big business," to die in the arms of some creaky "love appeal."

Such is the fate of "The Doom Window," for Mr. Drake has submerged his opportunity in the clasp of cheap fiction. Stained-glass and the reconstruction of old English churches should lend him an inviting atmosphere for a fascinating piece of story-telling. But Mr. Drake succeeds well in neither. We hear much of the process of stained-glass manufacture and the ins-and-outs of the business, but there is no delicate coloring, no sense of blending tints, of antique lines, such as we should like to feel from such a background; and the "romance" is anything but uncommon.

**THE SLEEPER OF THE MOONLIT RANGES.** By Edison Marshall. Cosmopolitan. \$2.

**THE TREE OF THE FOLKINGS.** By Verner von Heidenstam. Knopf. \$3 net.

**THE HORLA.** By Guy de Maupassant. Knopf.

**THE PEASANTS.** By Ladislav Reymont. Vol. III, Spring. Knopf. \$2.50 net.

**HARVEST IN POLAND.** By Geoffrey Dennis. Knopf. \$2.50 net.

**THE SHINING PYRAMID.** By Arthur Machen. Knopf. \$2.50 net.

**YOUTH AND THE BRIGHT MEDUSA.** By Willa Cather. Knopf.

**ROCKING MOON.** By Barrett Willoughby. Putnam. \$2.

**A YOUNG MAN'S FANCY.** By John F. McIntyre. Stokes. \$1.50.

**PASSION AND PAIN.** By Stefan Zweig. New York: Bernard C. Richards Co. \$2.50 net.

**TEMESCAL.** By H. H. Knibbs. Houghton Mifflin. \$2.

**THE DIFFERS.** By Ben Travers. Doubleday, Page. \$2 net.

**ROOKERY NOOK.** By Ben Travers. Doubleday, Page. \$2 net.

**A CUCKOO IN THE NEST.** By Ben Travers. Doubleday, Page. \$2 net.

**THE GREAT GATSBY.** By F. Scott Fitzgerald. Scribners. \$2.

**FLEETFIN.** By Clarke Venable. Reilly & Lee.

**THE MANDARIN'S BELL.** By Edward Noble. Houghton Mifflin. \$2.

**LIFTING MIST.** By Austin Harrison. Seltzer. \$2.

**AN AFFAIR OF HONOUR.** By Stephen McKenna. Little, Brown. \$2.50 net.

**THE GROOTE PARK MURDER.** By Freeman Wills Croft. Seltzer. \$2.

**ANNA'S.** By G. Nina Boyle. Selzer. \$2.

**PATTERN.** By Rose L. Franken. Scribners. \$2.

**LAST HOPE RANCH.** By Charles Alden Seltzer. Century. \$2.

**SNUFFS AND BUTTERS.** By Ellen N. La Motte. Century. \$1.75.

**THE CHASE.** By Mollie Panter-Downes. Putnam. \$2.

**BURNED EVIDENCE.** By Mrs. Wilson Woodrow. Putnam. \$2.

**THE WAY OF ALL EARTH.** By Edith Barnard Delane. Boni & Liveright. \$2.

**MINNIE FLYNN.** By Frances Marion. Boni & Liveright. \$2.

**BEHIND THE RANGES.** By Anne Shannon Monroe. Doubleday Page. \$2 net.

**DOCTOR S. O. S.** By Lee Thayer. Doubleday, Page. \$2.

**THE MYSTERY OF THE SINGING WALLS.** By William Averill Stowell. Appleton. \$2.

**THE LITTLE DARK MAN.** By Ernest Poole. Macmillan. \$2.

**PURPLE AND FINE WOMEN.** By Edgar Saltus. Covici.

**PAID IN FULL.** By Ian Hay. Houghton Mifflin. \$2.

**A HASTY BUNCH.** By Robert McAlmon. Privately printed.

**TWO SELVES.** By Bryher. Paris: Contact Publishing Co.

**POST-ADOLESCENCE.** By Robert McAlmon. Contact.

**A COMPANION VOLUME.** By Robert McAlmon. Contact.

**GREAT PIRATE STORIES.** Edited by Joseph Louis French. Brentanos. \$2.

**GREAT SEA STORIES.** Edited by Joseph Louis French. Brentanos. \$2.

**THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD.** By Charles Dickens. (The World's Classics.) Oxford.

**A LEGEND OF MONTROSE.** By Sir Walter Scott. Oxford. \$1.20.

**DAWN ISLAND.** By Cecil Adair. Greenberg.

**A BRIDGEMAN OF THE CROSSWAYS.** By Justin Heresford, Jr. Marshall, Jones.

**THE MYSTERY OF REDMAROT FARM.** By Archibald Marshall. Dodd, Mead. \$2.

**THE WAY OF STARS.** By L. Adams Beck. Dodd, Mead. \$2.

## Foreign

**LIBROS Y AUTORES MODERNOS.** By César Barja. Selling agents, G. E. Stechert & Co., New York.

**LA VIERGE AU GRAND COEUR.** By François Porché. Paris: Grasset.

**HAY UNA FILOSOFIA EN EL QUIJOTE?** By David Rubio. New York: Instituto de las Españas.

**FRAY LUIS DE LEON.** By Abate A. Lugan. New York: Instituto de las Españas.

**FILOSOFIA DEL DERECHO.** By Mariano Aramburo. Vol. I. New York: Instituto de las Españas.

**LES HEROINES DE CORNEILLE.** By Maria Tastervin. Paris: Champion.

**IL CHARTAR DI LANCELOTTO.** Edited by E. T. Griffiths. Oxford University Press. \$2.50.

## History

**THE CALIPHATE.** By SIR THOMAS W. ARNOLD. Oxford University Press. 1924. \$3.50.

In the preface to this volume Professor Arnold modestly disclaims doing more than present to English readers the results of researches by European authorities on Muslim history, but his exposition on the theory of the Caliphate is none the less interesting and, within its limits, original. Its service to students lies primarily in its summary of material from a wide range of texts and commentaries and its concentration upon a title familiar but generally misunderstood in the West. The appellation of *Khalifah* cannot be traced to Muhammad but seems to have been prompted by Abu Bakr's genuine humility in calling himself a "Successor" instead of representative of the Prophet. When his followers had secured most of the power and wealth of the eastern Mediterranean regions the dignity of the greatest office in the mediaeval world sufficiently glorified the title. Its secular and sacred functions were expressed by two other designations, *Amir*, or Commander (of the Faithful), and *Iman*, or Leader (of public worship), both employed with varying degrees of emphasis and propriety down to present times. The sanctions and assumptions of the chief potentate of Islam are defined in fourteen short chapters of a book which is a model of logical and penetrating exposition.

Professor Arnold considers the popular conception of a Caliph as Pope and Emperor combined in one to be fallacious. There is no relativity between Muslim and Christian systems, owing to the absence of a priesthood in Islam. No functions corresponding to those of a Pope could be given or denied to a sovereign; they did not exist in the minds of the faithful whose metaphysical and religious demands were perforce satisfied by persons known as the Ulama—students of theology, but laymen without spiritual or sacerdotal powers. If there is no church there cannot be a head of a church, whatever be the influence or pretensions of religious thinkers. Comparisons between religious systems that have no common terms have led Western writers into similar pitfalls in their attempts to explain the sacro-sanct institution of the Mikado. In Japan the descendants of a

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## The New Books History

(Continued from page 714)

tribal chieftain were clothed upon with divine ancestors, later transformed by priestcraft into the embodiment of a cult with a Chinese name and finally corrupted into an abstraction, while mayors of the palace seized the real authority. Like all Occidental scholars, the author fails to observe connotations of Far-Eastern conceptions of religious functions involved in rulership, presenting analogies and contrasts that might be profitably expounded to make clearer our understanding of other non-Christian organizations.

MEDIEVAL CITIES. By *Henri Pirenne*. Translated by *Frank D. Halsey*. Princeton University Press. \$2.50 net.

HISTORY OF THE BYZANTINE EMPIRE. By *Charles Diehl*. Princeton University Press.

SHORT STUDIES ON GREAT SUBJECTS. By *James Anthony Froude*. Oxford. 80 cents.

THE EARLY HISTORY OF BENGAL. By *F. J. Monahan*. Oxford. \$5.

THE NINETEENTH OF APRIL, 1775. By *Harold Murdock*. Houghton Mifflin. \$2.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF CIVILIZATION. By *J. S. Hoyland*. Oxford University Press. \$1.50.

AN ÆTHIOPIAN HISTORY OF HELIODORUS. (Abney Classics.) Small, Maynard. \$1.25 net.

## International

THE ISLES OF FEAR. By *Katherine Mayo Harcourt*. Brace.

CRIME IN INDIA. By *S. M. Edwardes*. Oxford University Press. \$3.

TWO ORDEALS OF DEMOCRACY. By *John Buchan*. Houghton Mifflin. \$2.

FEDERATIONS AND UNIONS WITHIN THE BRITISH EMPIRE. By *Hugh Edward Egerton*. Oxford University Press. \$3.50.

NATIONAL ISOLATION AN ILLUSION. By *Perry Belmont*. Putnam. \$4.50.

THE INDESTRUCTIBLE UNION. By *William McDougall*. Little, Brown. \$2.50 net.

STUDIES IN MID-VICTORIAN IMPERIALISM. By *C. A. Bodelsen*. Knopf.

THE CHALLENGE OF ASIA. By *Stanley Rice*. Scribners. \$2.25.

MANCHURIA. By *Adach Kinnosuke*. McBride. \$5 net.

THE RECONSTRUCTION OF EUROPE. By *Louis Aubert*. Yale University Press. \$2.

## Juvenile

PEEP IN THE WORLD. By *F. E. Crichton*. Longmans, Green. 1925. \$1.75.

In this story of a little girl who went to spend a year in her uncle's old castle in the mountains of Germany are many of the elements that has made "Heidi" such a popular children's classic. Here is the true stuff of folk lore and joyous fancy:—ancient castles with pointed turrets; old gardens and Grimm's fairy tale forests where live real woodcutters and the little Dwarf Knut, so friendly to the small heroine; and tiny clustered villagers full of kindly, quaintly dressed folk. There are moments, it must be confessed, when we feel that the little girl is distantly related to "Pollyanna", but these are few and far between and on the whole there is less of that conscious ingenuousness which mars so many juveniles.

THE WHITE GIANT AND THE BLACK GIANT. By *Annie W. Franchot*. Dutton. 1924. \$2.

Two very modern small boys are the heroes of this highly moral story which concerns their adventures, first, in the forest presided over by the kindly White Giant, and later, in the one where the wicked Black Giant holds them in his power. The Giants themselves manage to have distinct personalities of their own despite the fact that they stand as symbols of Good and Evil. The story although following along the line of old folk and fairy tales has much humor and freshness in the telling.

TONY AND THE BIG TOP. By *Allen Chaffee*. Century. \$1.75.

THE INDIAN CANOE. By *Russell D. Smith*. Century. \$1.75.

THAT'S THAT. By *Beth A. Retner*. Doubleday, Page. \$1.50 net.

WIDE-OPEN EYE. By *Nina Purdy*. Doubleday, Page. \$1.50 net.

BASES FULL. By *Ralph Henry Barbour*. Appleton. \$1.75.

WONDER CLOCK PLAYS. By *Sophie L. Goldsmith*. Harpers. \$2.

THE CRICKET OF CARADOR. By *Joseph Alger* and *Ogden Nash*. Doubleday, Page. \$1.75 net.

PEDLAR'S WARE. By *Margaret and Mary Baker*. Duffield. \$1.50.

STORMIE, THE DOG STEALER. By *Robert F. Schulkers*. Appleton. \$1.75.

THE MYSTERIOUS TUTOR. By *Gladys Blake*. Appleton. \$1.75.

FOUGHT FOR ANNAPOLIS. By *Fitzhugh Green*. Appleton. \$1.75.

THE TREASURE AT SHADY VALE. By *Christine Whiting Parmenter*. Doubleday, Page. \$1.75 net.

TRAIL AND PACKHORSE. By *James Howard Hull*. Doubleday, Page. \$1.75 net.

## Miscellaneous

EVERYMAN'S LIBRARY. 11 vols. Dutton. 1925.

Lovers of good literature, whose purses are not as long as their interest, will hail with pleasure the publication of eleven new volumes in the admirable Everyman's Library series. Here are Trollope's "The Golden Lion of Granpere" and "Short Stories from Russian Authors," in the way of fiction; Livy's "History of Rome," in the domain of the classics; "The Journal of George Fox" and Swift's "Journal to Stella," in the field of biography; "The Paston Letters" in two volumes; "The Speeches of Charles James Fox"; "The Collected Poems of Alexander Pope," and Morley Roberts's "The Western Avernus." A goodly collection, and one that should go entire or in part on to many shelves.

THE BOOKMAN'S GLOSSARY. By *John A. Holden*. Bowker. 1925. \$2.

For all who are interested in the production or distribution of books and for those who are engaged in editing, this volume should prove of large usefulness. A glossary of terms employed in the bookman's trade, it is conveniently arranged for ready reference, its entries appearing in alphabetical order, with frequent cross-references. In addition to its definitions it contains a list of classical names of towns and places, an enumeration of curious editions of the Bible, and specimen pages of favored typefaces for book work.

TRACK AND FIELD. By *T. E. Jones*. Scribners. 1925. \$2.

This is more than a merely informative book. It is concise, direct, and carefully prepared from first class experience. The Physical Director at the University of Wisconsin has provided within a compact, thoroughly practical volume, a straight to the point, bone and sinew treatise on the principles and details of training and practice for the various events of track and field sports. It is improved by at least a hundred photographs of important performers in their respective fields, illustrating form and its variations; and has handy tables, and numerous valuable diagrams which detail training procedure in the relays, hurdles, vaulting, the "throws" etc. While this is primarily a manual for beginners and secondary school coaches, it need not be considered a space-stealer on the shelves of any athlete's library. The "Badger" coach has done a good turn for embryo champions and the cause of sport in general.

IMPRESSIONS OF AN AVERAGE JURYMAN. By *Robert Stewart Sutcliffe*. Appleton. 1925. \$1.

A prominent jurist has said, that next to the duty of a soldier fighting for his country, the most important duty of a citizen is to perform the functions of a jurymen. In the criminal courts he is fighting the enemies of law and order; in the civil courts he is fighting for justice, good government, and the proper application of the law. Yet many men of high intelligence, and outstanding ability consistently evade jury service. To such men a special appeal is made in this book. Without the services of such men our legal system can never attain its maximum effectiveness.

The author, after eighteen years' experience as a jurymen in the civil and criminal courts of New York, embodies his observations in this entertaining little book. He portrays with picturesque detail the jurymen amid the formalities of court procedure, and in the seclusion of the jury retiring room. Mr. Sutcliffe knows how to tell a capital story, and tells one frequently. A perusal of his book ensures one a pleasant and profitable hour's reading.

THE RETURN OF THE "CUTTY SARK." By *C. Fox Smith*. Lauriat. 1925. \$1.25.

In the life of ships a half-century is reckoned a long time, and few there be that survive the perils of wind and wave, or the gnawing action of the years to reach even that age. This little volume records, however, the biography of one of the most famous of English sailing ships built in the Victorian period, the "Cutty Sark," still afloat, and past her fifty-fifth year.

Starting on her career as that aristocrat

of ocean commerce, a tea clipper, she became widely renowned for her record-smashing voyages, her splendid officers, and her phenomenal good luck. When steam robbed her of her lucrative tea cargoes, she avenged herself on more than one occasion by leaving her steam rivals in her wake.

By some miracle escaping the risks of war, she now lies in Falmouth harbor, a mute reminder of the shipping days that are past. After reading her history even we landmen cannot fail to have a feeling akin to sympathy for this beautiful ship, condemned to ride quietly at anchor, after passing through so many glorious adventures of wind and wave, of sea and fog. A number of rousing sea poems give to the reading of this book an added zest.

OUR DEBT AND DUTY TO THE FARMER. By *Henry C. Wallace*. Century. 1925.

Henry C. Wallace, who died late in 1924, was one of the most effective Secretaries ever appointed to the Department of Agriculture. For years a practical farmer, and later editor of a widely read farm paper, he brought to his work and to the writing of this book a wealth of experience and practical knowledge possessed by few men.

When, in March 1921, he assumed the duties of his office the agricultural interests of the nation had entered upon a period of depression unparalleled in our history. In this book he gives a clear analysis of the causes of this depression, pointing out to what extent this was due to natural influences, and how far to the mistaken policy of the Government. He indicates the way by which the farmer may be rescued from his plight, and reviews the work already done in this direction by Congress. Special attention is given to the work of the Joint Commission of Agricultural Inquiry, and to the national conference on agriculture called by President Harding in 1922. Throughout his study Mr. Wallace fortifies his arguments by an imposing array of statistics.

ON THE TRAIL OF THE BAD MEN. By *Arthur Train*. Scribners. \$3.

THIRTY YEARS AMONG THE DEAD. By *Carl A. Wickland*. Los Angeles: National Psychological Society. \$3.

THE PAPERS OF THE BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA. Vol. XVII, Part II. University of Chicago Press.

FLOUR MILLING INDUSTRY. By *E. Leigh Pearson*. Pitman. \$3.75.

FROM INFANCY TO CHILDHOOD. By *Richard M. Smith*. Atlantic Monthly Press. \$1.25.

CHILD MARRIAGES. By *Mary E. Richmond* and *Fred S. Hall*. Russell Sage Foundation. \$1.50.

KELSEY'S RURAL GUIDE. By *David Stone Kelsey*. Atlantic Monthly Press. \$1.50.

THE DEFENSE OF THE CHILD BY FRENCH NOVELISTS. By *Clifford Stetson Parker*. Menasha, Wis.: Banta.

GOD IS WRITING A BOOK. By *Howard L. Waldo*. Dorrance. \$2.

BROADCASTING: ITS NEW DAY. By *Samuel L. Rothafel* and *Rays*.

THE SAYINGS OF CHILDREN. By *Pamela Grey*. Stokes. \$1.50 net.

PAUL BUNYAN. By *James Stevens*. Knopf. \$2.50 net.

A GUIDE TO THE BEST HISTORICAL NOVELS AND TALES. By *Jonathan Nield*. Putnam. \$4.50.

MY SECRETS OF YOUTH AND BEAUTY. By *Edna Wallace Hopper*. Reilly & Lee.

PHYSICAL TRAINING MANUAL. By *Arthur W. Wallander*. New York. Siebel Press, 32 West 20th Street.

EVERYMAN'S HOUSE. By *Caroline Bartlett Crane*. Doubleday, Page. \$2 net.

THE SUBURBAN TREND. By *H. Paul Douglass*. Century. \$2.

COMMUNITY ADVERTISING. By *Don E. Motory*. Madison, Wis.: Cantwell Press. \$4.25.

A GUIDE TO THE TREES. By *Carlton C. Curtis*. Greenberg. \$1.50.

THE DANCE. By *Margaret N. H'Doubler*. Harcourt, Brace.

HOLD HARD! HOUNDS, PLEASE! By "Yoi-Over." Scribners. \$3.75.

EVERYMAN'S GENIUS. By *Mary Austin*. Bobbs-Merrill. \$2.50.

## Travel

AMERICA OF THE FIFTIES: Letters of *Fredrika Bremer*. Selected and edited by *Adolph B. Benson*. American-Scandinavian Foundation. 1924. \$2.

In garnering from the letters of *Fredrika Bremer* the collection which constitutes this volume Mr. Benson has deserved well of those who have interest in the America of the past. For the correspondence of *Miss Bremer* over the period of her visit to America, undertaken in 1849, covered two years in which the country was entering upon a broad development, found the

institution of slavery still in full force, although already a subject of discussion, and represented a time in American literary annals when the New England school was still enjoying its greatest influence. *Miss Bremer*, who came to America with a reputation as a novelist that far exceeded the bounds of her native Sweden, met with a generous hospitality in this country, and both in the North and the South, had an opportunity of studying American civilization in its intimate aspects. Like *Miss Martineau* she found slavery the darkest blot on a society which held much to elicit her admiration, though, like *Miss Martineau*, she found those who supported it a delightful people. Her pages on her Southern experiences are among the most interesting and enthusiastic of a book which shows not only readiness of appreciation but fine powers of discrimination.

As a person of note in the literary world *Miss Bremer*, of course, saw much of American celebrities, and her correspondence presents frequent sidelights on the writers of her day. *Longfellow*, *Whittier*, *Thoreau*, *Lowell*, *Bryant*, *Hawthorne*, *Emerson*, have a vivid being in her letters, and on occasions do not escape her criticism. A woman of culture and broad contacts, with a ready sympathy, a keen mind, and a nice power of observation she had a liveliness of interest that stood her in good stead as a guest and a traveller. Her chronicle is one that at the time of its original publication met with wide recognition, and that a later day will find both enjoyable and significant.

SKYLINE PROMENADES. By *J. Brooks Atkinson*. Knopf. 1925. \$2.50.

Lovers of the mountains, and especially lovers of the trail, will find in Mr. Atkinson's generous enjoyment of the delights of White Mountain climbing an enthusiasm to match their own united with a pleasant facility of description and a gently philosophizing mood. Entering the region from the Chocorua side, Mr. Atkinson and his companion made their way over the lesser peaks to the Presidential Range, packing their provisions, and sleeping in camp and under the sky. The seasoned mountaineer knows how little of hazard climbing in New Hampshire affords, but he also knows how out of all proportion to the difficulties of the ascent are the rewards it bestows, and under the impetus of this book he will live over again in memory the exhilaration of the trips over the jagged Boott Spur trail, along the Great Gulf, through Tuckerman's Ravine, or up steep Huntington to the gay Alpine Garden. Mr. Atkinson varies his recital of experiences and portrayal of scenes with speculative excursions into various aspects of city and country civilization, and adds an occasional discussion of matters literary. By the adroit device of inserting into his chronicle brief bits of dialogue between himself and his friend he manages to convey rather more of the companionship and the friendly argument of their trip than the rest of his narrative would otherwise provide.

ADVENTURES IN PERU. By *C. H. Proddgers*. Dutton. 1925. \$4.

It is our misfortune that Mr. Proddgers, a man who had such varied and interesting experiences, such a life of unusual adventure and such opportunity to gather curious and important information, had so little facility in choosing what was of value and so little ability in recounting it.

Mr. Proddgers spent many years of an eventful life in South America. He was by nature an adventurer, willing to turn his hand to any occupation or employment that presented itself, provided he "could turn an honest penny." Though time and again it was the excitement of adventure that was his only recompense.

Horse trainer, exporter, treasure hunter, sportsman, explorer, artist, archaeologist, confidential government agent, diplomatist, miner, botanist, fisherman, ship chandler, each he was at one time or another and each phase of his career was replete with incident from which he draws his anecdotes. His short yarns are interesting, but they are disjointed and follow no plan. As he starts to elaborate one idea he thinks of a second which reminds him of a third, and so on. He has a great mass of interesting and amusing facts, but they resemble a card catalogue that has burst from the very weight of its contents.

The author must have been a delightful companion before an open fire as, between puffs on a pipe that refused to stay lighted, he meditatively and modestly recounted, with many "and that reminds me's" the stories of his experiences that were his everyday life. But there we should have the advantage of being able to ask him as many questions as occurred to us.