Books of Special Interest

Seeing The World

AROUND THE WORLD. By ROBERT FROTHINGHAM. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company. 1925. \$3.

THE "TEDDY" EXPEDITION. By KAI R. DAHL. New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1925. \$3.

A TROPICAL TRAMP WITH THE TOURISTS. By HARRY L. FOSTER. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co. 1925.

IN THE SUN WITH A PASSPORT. By W. R. H. TROWBRIDGE. New York: George H. Doran Co. 1925. \$5.

A RED CARPET ON THE SAHARA. By Edna Brush Perkins. Boston: Marshall Jones Company. 1925. \$3.50.

THE MAP THAT IS HALF UN.
ROLLED. By E. ALEXANDER POWELL.
New York: The Century Co. 1925.
\$3.50.

FROM RED SEA TO BLUE NILE. By Rosita Forbes. New York: The Macaulay Co. 1925. \$3.50.

THROUGH KHIVA TO GOLDEN SAMARKAND. By ELLA R. CHRISTIE. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. 1925. \$5.

TEMPLE BELLS AND SILVER SAILS.

By ELIZABETH CRUMP ENDERS. New
York: D. Appleton & Co. 1925. \$3.

YES LADY SAHER. By Content Typeson

YES, LADY SAHEB. By GRACE THOMPson SETON. New York: Harper & Bros. 1925. \$4.

Reviewed by DALE WARREN

R ED JACKETS, blue jackets, purple jackets; orange and green jackets; yellow jackets; jackets with camels and Chinese temples; jackets with steamships and maps and African bushinen emerging from banana trees—the reviewer is fairly dazzled by the brilliant array before him! From Greenland's icy mountains we go in stolid comfort to India's coral strand, and conclude that it is a wise traveller who picks his guide carefully, even for a vicarious voyage.

Robert Frothingham gives us a bird'seye picture of the world, and with Kai R. Dahl, the Danish adventurer, we

drift nearly eight hundred miles on an ice floe down the Arctic Ocean. That delightful vagabond, Harry Foster, arrayed at last in silk shirt and flannels, rescues us and we have a taste of his good company on a de luxe cruise to South America, W. R. H. Trowbridge takes us along the African shore of the Mediterranean and with Edna Perkins we explore the solitary stretches of the Sahara. Colonel Powell lures us further south into the Belgian Congo and, continuing eastward, we ride on mule-back through Abyssinia with no less a person than Rosita Forbes. All the perfumes of Arabia do not deter us and we safely reach the heart of Turkestan with that fearless Englishwoman, Ella R. Christie. Elizabeth Crump Enders is in China and we cross the frontier to meet her in Shanghai. Then India, and we also respond in the affirmative when Grace Thompson Seton asks us to step into the jungle.

Considering the books objectively, we are somewhat disappointed in the first volume. It may be that Mr. Frothingham has too much ground to cover; it may be that he is over-sentimental and lets his training as an anthologist blur his travel vision. At any rate he does not make us feel that "somewhere over the rim of the world lies romance." We know that, travelling with him, we will see what he sees and no more, for he is the solid American citizen who has set out in cold blood to "go 'round the world." Yet he is a genial philosopher, and his compact guide-book will not be out of place in the luggage of others who do likewise.

There is real adventure in "The 'Teddy' Expedition"—icebergs, storms, shipwreck, half rations, "ship in sight," and all the rest. The schooner, "Teddy," sent to Greenland by the Danish East Greenland Company on an expedition to visit the fur depot at Denmark Harbor, was equipped inadequately to battle with the waters of the frozen north, the result being the loss of the ship in the Polar Sea and the transfer of crew and provisions to a float-

ing mass of ice. The author accompanied the expedition as press correspondent.

Let Harry Foster describe his own sensations as the S.S. "Touromania" warped its way out of dock: "I was sailing-sailing, sailing, over the bounding main, a full-fledged tourist guide looking forward to sixty-five days of sheer, undiluted, unadulterated bliss, following in the footsteps of Columbus, Cortez, Pizarro, Balboa, and Magellan, every day an adventure, without trouble, worry, inconvenience, annoyance, or discomfort!" The "tropical tramp" had given up tramping for once and decided to see the world as others see it. We judge he succeeded, and the result fully justifies the means for his new book is as keen a satire on the American tourist as we have seen.

The two books on Northern Africa, although alike in conception and both written by women tourists, are dissimilar in many respects. One is longwinded where the other is brief; one is filled with classical allusions where the other is detached. One author talks at length with the most interesting of her fellow-travellers, while the other chats informally with her Bedouin guide. Have you guessed? W. R. H. Trowbridge is an Englishwoman, and Edna Brush Perkins is an American. Both books are excellent. We enjoyed Mrs. Trowbridge's mellow conversational pages no less than Mrs. Perkins's terse, epigrammatic observations, expressed with an unusual and refreshing economy of words. The next time we see a camel we shall recall the latter's "I wondered how God had thought of such a beast."

Those who have read Colonel Powell's "Beyond the Utmost Purple Rim" will welcome "The Map That Is Half Unrolled," the second of his contemplated trilogy of travel books on Africa. This is not a book written for the tourist, but an account of observations accumulated over a considerable period of time. For that reason it makes particularly good reading. Colonel Powell knows his Africa well and has just enough sociological interest in his make-up to give character and balance to his writing. His book is carefully planned, and the disinterested reader who affects a contempt for the Dark Continent will be carried in spite

of himself from the first page to the last. One cannot say as much for Rosita Forbes's "From Red Sea to Blue Nile." The author explains: "This is not a book on Abyssinia. It is the record of three months on mule back." Yet such chapters as "Red Lalibela" and "Concerning Women" have no place it seems to us, in a travelogue. Mrs. Forbes would have done better to sort her material and make two volumes of the wealth of data she has at hand

Miss Christie's account of Khiva, Bokhara, and Samarkand is interesting chiefly because this corner of Asia is so often forgotten. She has exhumed the old legends of Tamerlane and been more than fortunate in her attempt to recapture the glamor of the Arabian Nights. This volume, which would also stand some pruning, is, we regret to say, a conspicuously bad example of book-making, being difficult to read and unattractive in practically every feature. Elizabeth Crump Enders needs no introduction to readers who know her earlier sketches of China. "Temple Bells and Silver Sails" retains the simplicity of her other work, somewhat reinforced by a vivid account of a dangerous trip through the Gorges of the Upper Yangtze River. Mrs. Enders does not have to go in search of her scene, as her home for some years has been in China.

In "Yes, Lady Saheb," Grace Thompson Seton has accomplished what Mrs. Forbes failed to do. She has successfully fused travel impressions with historical and sociological fact. She also describes a journey, but in her case the supplementary information given on religious, political, and educational subjects is artistically woven into the whole. We find the same characteristic in Colonel Powell's book, but Mrs. Seton has gone far beyond the other authors in producing a book which is for all time. "Yes, Lady Saheb," in subject matter and physical presentation, is the prize of this collection. India comes alive in these pages and one feels the pulsating, throbbing, organic life of a land, age-old, yet still in its infancy. There is breadth in Mrs. Seton's vision and she brings together many of the diffused elements which have so long made India an enigma.



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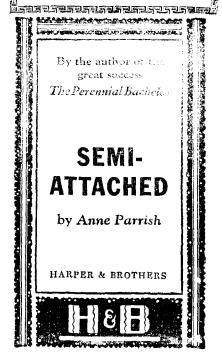
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The New Books

sted by title only in the classified list below are noted here as received. Many of them will be reviewed later.

Art

ART AND WHAT MAKES THEM
W. Ruckstuhl Dutage MONT. CHEAT PY F W. Ruckstahl, Putnams,
The Serstance of Gothic, By Ralph Adams
of m. Marchael Jones.
The Small Herse Primer, By Edwin Bonta,
title, Brown \$2.50 ngt.
Sanoro Polygonia, By Withelm Bode, Scrib-OL. FRENCH FURNITHER AND ITS SURROUND-1808. By Elem Muillard. Scribner's. \$7.50. The Technique of Water Colour Painting. By L. Fichmond and J. Littlejohns. Pitman.

Belles Lettres

MEN, WOMEN AND COLLEGES. By A. BARON R. BRIGGE. Houghton Miff-1973 \$1.50.

Women appear in the title of this little book apparently as a gallant gesture to arrene for their not appearing elsewhere. But of men and especially colleges, these five addresses by President Briggs contain many a shrewd and illuminating remark. What could be better, for instance, than his characterization of mediocre teachers as acooking-stoves through which the forces of nature are applied or misapplied for a time to the crude compounds, which merge from their keeping baked, halflinked, or raw, as the case may be, for communition by the world"? Or this, "W make German demands on a teacher's throng, with a relieving him of Americon demands or his personal relation to The research attitude and the students. the teaching attitude are in most men incompatible. President Briggs deplores the present tendency to select business men as college presidents. He equally deplores the prevalent ideal of every college to become a university—witness the multitude of so-called state universities—and points out the resultant confusion between undergraduate and post-graduate methods. If he followed his argument to its logical conclusion he would be led to Thorstem Veblen's position that the college and the aniversity should be entirely separated. It seems a pity that President Briggs did not see fit to lend the weight of his authority to some such radical solution. Instead, he comes back in the end to a ratha pale optimism which solves nothing.

ACADEMY PAPERS. Addresses on Langreen Problems, By Members of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Seelboom's, tozi, \$3.

volume onsists of addresses de-

lay a Ubefore the American Academy durlist agin years by Paul Elmer Mose William Crary Brownell, Brander Matterns Blic Gerry, and others. The if become for these addresses was here steed there thousand dollars from d. Fr. Fransch & Wilhour Blashfield "to American Academy of Arts and an effect to determine its duty liab to preservation of the regard to a life beauty and integof als surfahment by such error of modern conditions," depleass are not absolutely in to the sectiousness of the for the Mr. More holds work of Ched into Helhere is to be degenerating as the best collect "Englistic," A stable realies that a to and of u. Neverthe volume to Profesor lineuiste. and tenth of re end nearly enths are than tradition, Pro-Drown we will as to speak Now a bloomalized contempt with Brownell demolishes and he of song offered by Max hastran and others, by showing that slong is usually the more conventional than is correct usage; it is merely the convention of the lazy man instead of the convention of the scholar. Mr. Robert Underwood Johnson attempts, somewhat less successfully, to show that the free verse meavement of the last few years has been marrious to beth prose and poetry. Paul so Paul Showy pleads for more Latin in the wheels had whole, the group in the least

MERE MORTALS: MEDICO-HISTORI-CAL ESSAYS. By C. MACLAURIN. Doran. 1925. \$2.50.

Here again is brisk acceptance, by the Sydney physician (author of the scabrous and successful "Post Mortem") of that awing invitation:

For heaven's sake, let us sit upon the

ground,

And tell sad stories of the death of kings. The new volume contains a score of discursive clinics, dealing largely with the maladies of English kings and queens of the Tudor and Stuart periods. The royal list is interlarded with a few mere literary worthies and philosophers. Their ills are discussed with a candor and freedom which is perhaps not without a parallel in our literature but which we find undisguisedly bold and refreshing. Dr. MacLaurin follows a line of morbid inquiry much affected by the French physicians Chéreau, Corlieu, Cabanès, who for half a century have been discussing the terminal illness of Francis I and the probable cause of death of Blaise Pascal. Far from being supernaturally solemn, as the French are in such discussions, MacLaurin carries on in a gay vein which at times verges on the unregenerately brutal. He stops at nothing. His overmastering impulse is to make haste through the blasted terrain which he and we must traverse. And so, under his lead, without delays for circumspection, we make a glad, mad rush from cover, unsupported, undismayed.

We grant that in this mood and temper is history made. Not so, however, with the "Ars et Mysterium" of historiography. Unhasting method, meticulous preparation

are hers.

Lack of method and sound preparation militate against the validity of much that Dr. MacLaurin has to say. cajoling manner of speech is so bland and genial that he can all but carry off most outrageous pieces of conceit and aggressive guesswork. Diagnoses based on the protocols of medical procedure are altogether wanting in this volume. They are not as interesting as sheer speculations, particularly if the latter are tinged with the Talmudism of modern psychoanalysis. Let us see, for example, in the case of Samuel Johnson, how our author attempts to surprise one of the most abstruse secrets of biography:

To sum up, probably all Johnson's psychasthenic involuntary movements, which made him so strange a figure to his contemporaries, took their origin in unconscious memory of some affront to his childish masculinity, such as would be caused by taking him to Queen Anne to be "touched."

THE CHAP BOOK. Number 40. London: Cape. SYNCOPATING SAXOPHONES. By Alfred V. Frankenstein. Chicago: Ballou. Coleridge at Highgate. By Lucy Eleanor Watson. Longman's Green, 83.75. ORVIETO DUST. By Wilfrane Hubbard. Minton, Balch. 82.50.

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The Nobel Prize Winners in Literature. By Annic Russell Marble. Appleton. \$2.

The Three Owls. By Anne Corroll Moore. Macmillan. \$2.50.

Biography IN THE AMERICAN GRAIN, By William Carlos Williams, A. & C. Boni, 3.
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CMAIN COLLEGE, By William Allen White, Magnifolm, \$2.

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MEMORS OF THE LIFE OF JOHN MYTTON, By "Nimerod," Longmans, Green, \$7.50.

DIARY AND LETTERS OF JOSEPHINE PRESTON PERMON, Edited by Christina Hopkinson Baker, Houghton Mifflin, \$4.50.

Drama

THE JUDGE. A Play by MAXIM GORKI. Translated by MARIE ZAKREVSKY and BARRETT H. CLARK. McBride. 1925.

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