The New Books Fiction

(Continued from preceding page)

people, and to a certain extent from their elders; for it lies on middle ground. It is often too simplified and naïve for adults, it is often too literary and unexciting for adolescents. Where young and old should meet in heartiest unanimity is in a couple of rousing and spirited sagas and in the fullblooded stories of two or three really great Swedish heroes. Gustaf Vasa, Gustavus Adolphus, and Charles XIII are inherently good characters for narrative, and in his clear, direct manner Heidenstamm speeds them through pages of exploit which neither boyish impatience nor grown-up sophistication can withstand. So too in their way, but not to the same extent, will one or two stories from the repository of Scandinavian legend hit double targets, for they appeal strongly to the imagination, which is per-

Heidenstamm manifests his primary desire to reach a youthful audience in a tale like "At Venerable Upsala," where the unisyllabic method of writing, with its questionable simplifications, gives a brief summary of the lives of several Swedish scientists. Here certainly is something for grownups to skip and for boys to find in watery contrast to the tales that precede and follow. The tale which immediately follows, concerning Gustav III, with its climacic assassination at a masquerade, makes very good reading. Of course Heidenstamm has certain notable literary qualities, implicit rather than emphatic in a book like thisqualities of vigor, clearness, vitality, and imagination which are needed to revivify the past as "The Swedes and Their Chieftains" proves itself capable of doing. The technique of the book is simple and orthodox, far removed from the technique of our present-day sophisticated historians; but its aims are far removed also. Here are sagas and battle-pieces and chronicles simple and clear in their architecture and their style. They constitute an effective arrangement of the high points in Sweden's history.

FIREFLY. By DIANA PATRICK. Dutton.

1926. \$2.

After about one half of Miss Patrick's novel of adolescence has been read, a person sensitive to such impressions may suffer from the realization that a promising story is going inevitably and wofully to the dogs. The setting for the greater part of it is a city in modern Yorkshire, where we follow the life and growth of a conceited sixteenyear-old boy till he slowly and painfully achieves, at twenty-four, mature conscious-Various experiences of contacts and emotions, natural to his changing moods and desires, effect the beneficial lowering of his aggravated self-superiority. Occasionally he is hurt sorely, but not beyond repair, although before arriving at his majority the measures employed for tempering him deteriorate to tawdry melodramatics and exaggerations. These unwelcome mediums so increase in number and activity that toward the close there is no trace left of the genuine merits which were liberally evident in the tale's earlier stages.

THE ETERNAL CIRCLE. By JAY WILL-

IAM HUDSON. Appleton. 1925. \$2. An author who cannot make his people interesting is always doomed to fail. Jay William Hudson is an intelligent, and in view of "Abbé Pierre," a successful novelist, but "The Eternal Circle" is not a good novel because it is not an interesting one. In spots it is amateurish. In others it is incredibly dull. As a whole, it is cast in a mold too large for its own good welfare, and suffers primarily from the way it is narrated. Mr. Hudson, having written a mature, psychological novel of two men and two women in love, entrusts the responsibility of making clear and vital the paths of the lovers to one of their ranks. As he is not a subjective sort of person, there is no reason why Robert Mason should tell the story, because it is objectified in everything but its form.

It is a story almost as tedious as it is intelligent. The number of words wasted by the form chosen for telling it appears almost appalling. Not only are exposition and action retarded, but almost every chapter opens or closes with a little essay on love or virtue. The leisurely method is of course not in itself either unworthy or illegitimate. But it will not function successfully without having one of two things, and preferably both—charm and personality. Mr. Hudson's story-teller has neither, and he lacks them so wofully that he cannot infuse them into the other three characters of the amorous quadrilateral. Dorothy Fleming is bookish, Madeline Worthington

is improbable, and Jared Phelps is unattractive. The action of the story is circuitous, but the outcome not very baffling. All these objections can be substantiated by the book itself; and they are too serious in sum to be overlooked for certain apt comprehensions of inner character.

FOLLY. By CLEMENT WOOD. Small, May-

nard. 1925. \$2.

One asks of romance not that its plot and characters be fundamentally real, but that its method be skilful enough to make them seem so. In the heightened world of the romancer everything in conflict, in pace, in incident, in setting, must be contrived to satisfy the reader as momentarily real; murder, piracy, and heroism must be as convincing as tea-drinking or church-going. Mr. Wood has not made "Folly" convincing. His Folly Leigh, endowed too generously with beauty, wit, and daring even for romance, displays them with so much theatricality and so little conviction that they turn into the attributes of mock-romance, and his black-bearded villain, painted as the vilest of monsters who yet can play the courtier with polished repartee, is almost impossible. The events of the book come in a very artificial sequence; they do not (as they should in any narrative, romance or otherwise) evolve one out of the other. There are two other glaring faults. The first consists of having people always "neatly parry" and "magnificently retort"but not so well as Mr. Wood declares. The second consists of a deficiency in the making of scenes: nothing could be flatter than the account of Folly's presentation to the King, or less rousing than her duel in the tavern. The book is passably interesting and sometimes reveals the inherent intelligence of the author; but too often it is tricked out in the properties of romantic

Sulamith. By Alexander Kuprin. Translated by B. Guilbert Guerney. Adelphi, \$2 net. Poison. By Lee Thayer. Doubleday, Page \$2

CLOUD CUCKOO LAND. By Naomi Mitchison. ARICIE BRUN. By Emile Henriot. Viking Press. \$2.

\$2.

IN A GERMAN PENSION. By Katherine Mansfield. Knopf.

ADVENTURES OF A YOUNGER SON. By Edward John Trelawny. Oxford University Press. 80 cents net.

COMES THE BLIND FURY. By Raymond Escholier. Dodd, Mead. \$2. YE THAT JUDGE. By Helen R. Martin. Dodd,

UP HILL, DOWN DALE. By Eden Phillpotts.
Macmillan. \$2. Young Son. By John G. Brandon. Brentanos. \$2.

\$2.

THE FARTHING SPINSTER. By Catherine Dodd.
Doran. \$2.50 nct.

REX. By E. F. Benson. Doran. \$2 net.
UNCHANGING QUEST. By Philip Gibbs. Doran.
\$2 net.

COUNTER CURRENTS. By Elsie Janis. Putnam.

Government

NEW ASPECTS OF POLITICS. By CHARLES E. MERRIAM. University of Chicago Press. 1925. \$2.50.

In Professor Merriam's opinion, the study of politics is not sufficiently scientific. It does not make full use of the contributions of other sciences to modern thought. Specifically, he feels a "lack of comprehensive collections of data regarding political phenomena," a "tendency toward race, class, nationalistic bias in the interpretation of data available" and a "lack of sufficiently precise standards of measurement and of precise knowledge of the sequence of processes." His criticism in places goes to such lengths as to raise the question in the reader's mind of whether political science has yet taken so much as its first step. Thus he remarks; "The prime difficulty lies in the uncertainty as to what are the traits of citizenship which it is desirable to inculcate."

Throughout the volume Professor Merriam stresses the obstacles in the way of a scientific approach to politics until a reader is tempted to advise him to give up the hopeless task. If his object is to stimulate a deeper study of politics, his book may provoke such study by operating as a challenge to fellow-workers in the field. On the other hand, parts of it are likely to strike them as more speculative than scientific and as demanding something like omniscience. A volume giving the results of the kind of research for which Professor Merriam calls and hence serving as a model would be more useful. It may be questioned whether the prime need of political science is not rather insight than data, better interpreters rather than more facts.

History

History of Ireland, 1798-1924. By Sir James O'Connor. Doran. 2 vols.

The Student's History of Ireland. By Stephen Gwynn. Macmillan. DIPLOMATIC EPISODES. By William Carey Morey.
Longmans, Green. \$2. Paris in the Revolution. By G. Lenotre. Brentanos. \$4.50.

International

THE RIDDLE OF THE PACIFIC. By J. MACMILLAN BROWN. Boston: Small, Maynard & Company. 1925. \$6.

> Reviewed by MARGARET MEAD Columbia University

Professor Brown has certainly exercised rare discrimination in his choice of a subject. Just as the unexplored regions of the Amazon may lawfully be peopled with strange beasts and white Indians, so Easter Island is fair game for fantastically minded scientists. This lonely, barren little island is 2000 miles from the coast of South America, 1000 miles from the nearest land, and that uninhabited. There is no decently plausible explanation for the great statues which ring its coasts. Neither the soil of the island nor the scanty miserable population suggest how a body of workers, disciplined, well fed, and in numbers sufficient to construct these tremendous statues, could have existed there. The additional dramatic detail of the quarry on the mountain side which contains statues in all stages of construction with the rude stone tools of the workmen lying abandoned in their midst, furnishes the final literary justification for Professor Brown's assumptions. The negative statements with which he introduces his phantasy are considered and authentic. Then, having established the mystery, he suggests a surrounding island empire which was suddenly submerged. The thousands of cowed slaves who were working on the statues on Easter Island, which he characterizes as the Westminster Abbey of this lost empire, were left without food and without discipline. Professor Brown then deftly annotates the culture hero myth of the Easter Islanders to provide the next chaper in his romance. Hotu Matua who is credited with the introduction of all edible matter, vegetable and animal, is envisioned as one of the chiefs of the submerged empire, who with a small following established himself on Easter Island, and by one wise piece of legislation after another, ensured to his slender band immunity and food. Viewed in the light of Polynesian ethnology, there are many aspects of this part of the tale which might be termed scientific impudence. One custom after another which is found widely distributed over Polynesia is credited to the wisdom and foresight of this picturesque hero. Such, for example are the abdication of the king before senility, or the protection of the sacred chiefs by the taboo. Many of the pseudo-scientific arguments with which Professor Brown surrounds the story makes it ly inaccurate, as his use of the fact that regular phonetic changes occur in two dialects as proof of continued contact between the groups speaking the dialects in question. Although the book contains a large amount of comparative material furnished by the author's extensive knowledge of other Polynesian groups, the manner in which such material is introduced into the book makes it hard to find and difficult to interpret. The large amount of data about the present Easter Islanders and their culture is also presented as corroborative detail only. The catastrophic aura with which Pro-

fessor Brown surrounds the story makes it excellent reading. The book is constructed very much like a movie scenario. The bizarre and sensational paragraph heads which are grouped correctly and pedantically at the beginning of the chapters, only emphasize this melodramatic set. The many illustrations are particularly good and furnish the chief scientific value of the book. And this is said without malice. Professor Brown is within his rights. He was faced by an authentic riddle; he has constructed an amusing and deliciously documented solution.

THE RUHR-LORRAINE INDUSTRIAL PROBLEM. By GUY GREER. Macmillan. 1925. \$2.50.

The devastating effects of "politics"even in its more approved forms-in the orderly progress of economic life can find no better illustration than that supplied by the handling of the Ruhr-Lorraine situation. Here on the one hand are the necessary supplies of coking coal, and on the other highly important deposits of iron ore. But what man in his wisdom does is to draw between them an imaginary line called a political boundary, and on each side of the line he erects customs and other barriers which are highly successful in preventing the coke and the iron ore from being brought together as under every economic dictate they should be brought together. The result is privation and suffering in areas far removed from the Ruhr or from Lorraine. The integration of the Ruhr-Lorraine interests before the War, their vio-

lent sundering by the treaty of so-called peace, the tremendous issues involved at the present time, the alternatives that present themselves as ways out-these and other important matters are ably discussed by Mr. Greer who was an expert on the ground during and after the peace negotiations. The book, another in the Institute of Economic Series, adds fresh glory to the work that the Institute is doing.

From Dawes to Locarno. By George Glasgow. Harpers. \$2.50.

Juvenile

THE THREE OWLS. By ANNE CARROLL Moore. Macmillon. 1925. \$2.50.

The delightful articles and stimulating discussion of children's books and reading, appearing each week under the editorship of Anne Carroll Moore in the New York Herald-Tribune Books have been here gathered into a volume which is sure to be an important contribution to our talking and thinking on this particular branch of litera-

In her approach to her subject and her enthusiasm and love for its every significant detail Anne Carroll Moore shows that she has much in common with Andrew Lang and E. V. Lucas. Her articles (and all those unsigned are by Miss Moore) are distinguished for their insight, zest, and sympathy as well as for that charm of style so noticeable in "Nicholas," her popular New York Christmas story of two season's ago. Many other interesting people are among the contributors to the book, and we find illuminating articles by authors, artists, critics, booksellers, and librarians, representing their different points of view. The chapters bear such intriguing titles as: "Salt Seas and Salty Books"; "Hans Christian Andersen's Birthday"; "Hallowe'en"; "Robin Hood's Country"; "Poets and Lepracauns"; "The Ageless Child," and many others. Although for the most part the emphasis is laid upon current books and their tendencies, there is plenty of background and comparison with less modern

Altogether it is an excellent volume for reference and especially needed at a time when too many are writing books for children-writing them hurriedly, thoughtlessly and unimaginatively.

IN THE ENDLESS SANDS. By EVELYN AND C. KAY SCOTT. Holt. 1925. \$2.

Something quite out of the ordinary in children's books is this fascinating tale of a little boy's adventures when he becomes lost in the Sahara Desert. Perhaps it is unusual because one of the authors is already a brilliant novelist, Evelyn Scott, but more likely, we think, it is because the tale is written with as much excitement and vigor and colorfulness as if it were not intended for boys and girls of nine or ten years. We found it wonderfully absorbing and chronologically speaking we can no longer qualify in the above class! Jackie, the hero, is a real American small boy who loses his way in the great desert. his dog Papillon and a little Arab girl, Fatma, Jackie has wonderful and varied adventures which he goes through with the fear, zest, and daring of any plucky small

FOLK SONGS OF BOHEMIA. With words and music by Dorothy Cooper and illustrations by M. FISCHEROVA-KOÉCKOVA. New York: Raf. D. Szalatnay, 542 East 79th Street.

This slim volume contains ten Bohemian folk-songs, translated from the Czecho-Slovak, and illustrated in the bright colors characteristic of the land from which they emanate. It is a volume that should charm young folk, with its merry tunes gay pictures and decorations.

Miscellaneous

When the Movies Were Young. By Mrs. D. W. Griffith. Dutton. \$3.

Brassey's Naval and Shipping Annual, 1926. Edited by Sir Alexander Richardson and Archibald Hurd. London: Clowes.

THE YELLOW-MANED LION. By Ernest Glan-ville. Harcourt, Brace. \$2.

THEORY OF STRUCTURES. By H. W. Coultas. Pitman. \$4.50.

THE SUPREME COURT AND MINIMUM WAGE LEGISLATION. Compiled by the National Consumers' League. New Republic.

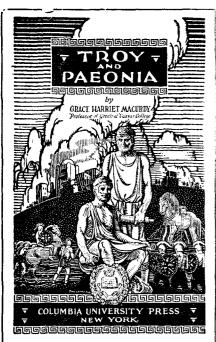
Motors in Industry. By Gwendolyn S. Hughes. New Republic.

JOURNAL OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES. Faxon. \$2. HISTORICAL MATERIALISM. By Nikolai Buhdarin.

International. \$3.25. LEGATION STREET. By Lenox Fane. Little,

Brown. \$2.50 net. THE REGION CLOUD. By Percy Lubbock. Scribners, \$2.50.

EYES THAT SEE NOT. By E. L. Southwick. Siebel. \$2.



Glimpses of the culture, religion and history of ancient Balkan tribes which built the walls of Troy in the centuries illuminated by the poems of Homer.

"Out of some fifty books on Homeric subjects which have been published in the last few years, I should put this among the first half dozen."—Sir Gilbert Murray.

pp. xi + 259. Just Published. \$3.75 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS 2960 Broadway New York

The New Books

(Continued from preceding page)

Philosophy

QUO VADIMUS? Some Glimpses of the Future. By E. E. FOURNIER D'ALBE Dutton. 1925. \$1.

The shock of the great war has given a new birth to the minor prophets. Dr. Fournier d'Albe first asks himself whether there is much chance of any future for the human race and having answered that question in the affirmative he proceeds to contemplate the changes that will take place as the centuries and millenia roll on. He anticipates a reasonable degree of stability in a world governed by the *élite*. He describes probable changes in transport and communications, privacy, clothing, children, education, labor, government, all to be expected within a century. Even beyond that some forecasts are ventured. The whole outlook is suggestive and on the whole hopeful.

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY. By Louis E. Bisch. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins Co. 1925. \$3.

THE INHERITANCE OF MENTAL DISEASES. By ABRAHAM MYERSON.

The scientific study of the normal human mentality is tremendously difficult; introspection—on first thought the certain road to discovery-seems to have hindered progress about as much as it has helped, and behaviorism while sufficiently objective wilfully blinds itself to whole fields of obviously psychic phenomena. Thus it is not surprising that those who have looked to psychology for an explanation of why the human animal acts as he does in daily life have felt a keen disappointment and often voiced it in raucous tones. While there have appeared of late encouraging signs that the "new psychology" is getting at mysteries hitherto impenetrable, it is in the realm of the abnormal, the atypical, the diseased, that the most striking and practically applicable discoveries have been made. Here, if not in the more general branch of the subject, the not too hostile observer can feel a certain confidence in the data, the formulations, the theories, and the recommendations of those who are laboring in the vineyard.

The two books under review bear witness to the good work which the abnormal psychologists are doing. They are clear, intelligible to the general reader, and highly informative, although written in very bad English and full of minor misprints. They have, moreover, a special interest in that they stand opposed, on the whole, regarding the inheritance of mental defectiveness. This question is sociologically so important that it is necessary to examine carefully the data, the reasoning, and the prejudices of those who treat it.

Dr. Bisch's book is a practical manual. In it the reader will find clear definitions—amentia, dementia, the psychoses, etc.—definitions important for anyone who is in-

The Reader's Guide

Conducted by May Lamberton Becker

be addressed to Mrs. Becker, c'o The Saturday Review

[Downger, delivered by

A RALANCED RATION

VNTHOOLOGY OF MAGAZINE VERSU By Well on Stanfey Braith-

ARK TOWLE By Francis Brett Young (Knowl)

THE MEMOIRS OF WILLIAM
JENNINGS BRYAN. By Himself
and H. Wite Winston).

1. E. P., who knows Sir Walter Raleigh's coay in "Some durhors" (Oxford) and University's books, asks if there are other criticisms or appreciations of "Don Quixote" in grint in English.

THE head of the column of the long procession of Cervantist commentary is row taken-and turned in an unaccustomed direction-by Miguel de Unamuno, indomirable professor of Salamanca, with his cult ef Quixotism as the national religion. "What does it matter to me," says he, "what Cervantes intended or did not intend to put into it and what he actually did put into it: What is living in it is what I myself and what we all put into it. I wanted to hunt down our philosophy in it." This he does not only in his "Vida de Don Quijote y Sancho, explicada v commentada" (Fé, Madrid, 1905) but with even wider and deeper application in "Del Sentimiento Tragico de la Vida," of which a translation, "The Tragic Sense of Life in Men and in Peoples," is published by Macmillan. Turgeniev uses the character of the Don, Unamuno's "our sublime fool and our exemplar," in his comparison of Hamlet and Quixote types of national psychology. There are studies of "Don Quixote" in the Ticknor and Fitzmaurice Kelly histories of Spanish literature for English readers, in Rudolph Schevill's "Cervantes" (Duffield), in the "Literary Essays" of G. E. Woodberry (Harcourt, Brace)his "Great Writers," which included Cervantes, is out of print-,in "My Literary Passions," by William Dean Howells (Harpers, and in the essay "Don John of Austria," in Dr. Maclaurin's "Post Mortem" (Doran), in which he traces his name and at least the basic suggestion for some of his personal traits to Don Quixada, foster father of Don John, under whom Cervantes fought at Lapanto. The facts in the life of Cervantes are set down in the most scholarly of his biographies in English, "Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra: a Memoir" (Oxford University Press), and in "Main Currents of Spanish Literature" (Holt), J. D. M. Ford pays especial attention to his short stories and plays.

I. W., St. Louis, remembering that the R. G. attended, in London this summer, the stage performance of Lytton Strachey's only play, "The Son of Heaven," asks if it has attended in print.

So far as I can discover, it has not; I hope that this statement may be contradicted as promptly as most of my mistakes are, for I should like to go over again the pumeent speeches of the Chinese Empress

terested in education, criminology, malad-

instment, eugenics, or psychotherapy. There

is a great store of clinical information, tab-

ulated and in the form of case histories, in-

telligently arranged so as to aid in the

recognition and study of individual cases.

Such topics as mental testing, types of de-

feet, treatment, inheritance, and social prob-

Practically all investigators (says the

author) who have made a thorough

study of the causative factors of con-

genital amentia have come to the same

conclusion, namely, that the primary and

fundamental cause is to be found in

out how the Mendelian principles apply to

the inheritance of mental enfecblement, and

in a later chapter, on social problems, em-

phasizes the importance of such eugenic

measures as segregation and sterilization.

He concludes that "to chronic and incura-

ble cases of mental disease of whatever kind

the laws of eugenics should be applied."

This full recognition of the hereditary fac-

tor in mental pathology does not involve

any slighting of the many environmental

circumstances that may give rise to defec-

tiveness; in fact, the author devotes most

of his attention to arrested and retarded

cases. This book, while not profound or

Following this statement Bisch points

lems are discussed in brief outline.

Dowager, delivered by Miss Gertrude Kingston with the methods of Catherine of Russia and the manner of Victoria of England. But I can find no record save of two special performances at the Scala Theatre, July 12-13, 1925, under the auspices of the Civic and Dramatic Guild, and with most of the actors from Cambridge University.

E. F. D., Philadelphia, asks "if you were getting one of the many books about Lincoln, for a family library, which would it be?"

FOR any kind of a library it would be Carl Sandburg's "Abraham Lincoln: the Prairie Years;" the publication date is February 4, (Harcourt, Brace), but I write far enough ahead of that to have a chance before me, once I have swept through these two magnificent volumes at the speed to which their power compels me, to go back and get the savor of pages and paragraphs that I caught in going by. I was prepared for a poet's vision, but I did not hope for such documentation. It is a book good for a lifetime

E. N. W., Ann Arbor, Mich., asks if there are histories of the world's travel lit-

erature, or booklists with critical appraisals. H AS all the world taken to the road, or are steamboat and railway folders this season so alluring, that I should be sending out with every mail this month letters full of advice to intending travelers? Sometimes they want books to take along, sometimes to use in plotting routes; even more often they are for historical or legendary background. I never saw a history of the development of travel literature, but should anyone decide to use this subject for a thesis there would be no end of documentation. Even a general reader interested in such matters would find books of recent date and pleasantly written enough to make a history of the world from the traveller's angle. "Roman Private Life and Its Survivals," by Walter B. McDaniel (Marshall Iones). has a section on travel, and so I suppose has the corresponding volume in this series of "Our Debt to Greece and Rome," Charles B. Gulick's "Greek Private Life," though this I have not seen. One of the paperbound "Helps for Students" imported by Macmillan is E. L. Guilford's "Travels and Travelling in the Middle Ages." "The Grand Tour in the Eighteenth Century," by William Edward Mead (Houghton Mifflin), is a compilation of experiences with roads, inns, routes, companions, and the like, and to this perennially interesting branch of the subject there has just been a sparkling addition in Miss Cleone Knox's "Diary of a Young Lady of Fashion in the Year 1764-1765" (Appleton). This piquant and outspoken young person was bundled off on the Grand Tour to banish her regret and supplant the memory of an all-too-charming gentleman; the publication of her impressions of life and society has been one of the excitements of the London literary season, for the critics have been busy attacking its authenticity. Allan Nevin's "American Social History as Recorded by British Travellers" (Holt), covers the generations of our national life and records successive waves

of transatlantic opinion: Charles H. Sherrill's "French Memories of Eighteenth Century American" (Scribner), is another illuminating collection of foreign reports. For the earlier expeditions, sources are indicated in a recent book of high value to the collector, Milton Waldman's "Americana" (Holt). This large and lordly-looking volume names the documents, narratives, histories of prime value to the expert on Americana, and gives enough of a taste of their quality to interest not only collectors, but anyone concerned with our social and political development; it keeps track of prices and has many facsimile illustrations.

I have not space for the journals—though I cannot keep away from naming the "Journal of Madame Knight," designed and printed by Bruce Rogers (Small, Maynard), -which preserve experiences of early American travel, but two books must be included for the amount of ground they cover as well as for their quality. The journeyings of the Roget family are recorded entertainingly by S. R. Roget in a picturesquely illustrated octavo, "Travel in the Two Last Centuries of Three Generations" (Appleton)—a title, by the way, that I never dare to quote unless it is under my eyes-, "Steamboat Days," by Fred Erving Dayton (Appleton), may look uninviting, in spite of its excellent pictures, to one who ruffles its many closely but clearly printed pages. But only if you have lived all your life away from rivers or the Lakes or the Sound: if you have never waved to the Mary Powell or leaned from the crowded heights of the Priscilla to someone on the pier for that long embrace of the eyes after the gang-plank comes aboard. Whenever I think of my father I see him looking up, taller than anyone on the Fall River Line pier, with his beautiful Burnsides, loving us with his eyes to the last. He looked so every summer when we tore ourselves away for a New England vacation; those steamboats are drenched with memories. So, I suppose, are all the steamboats of America; there will be many a reader who will send for this book because I've written this, to find if his own old boat is in it.

There are several book-lists of travel, but the best I know is the one prepared by Josephine Rathbone and issued by the American Library Association, Randolph St., Chicago, "Viewpoints in Travel," which like all the excellent "Viewpoint" series has illuminating comments on well-chosen books. "Arm-Chair Travels" is the manual of a reading-course arranged by Charles B. Shaw of the North Carolina College for Women and published by them at Greensboro, N. C. And in "A Reader's Guide Book," by May Lamberton Becker (Holt), there is a section called "The World Tour" in which books about travel are gathered by countries

Besides books for young people like "How We Travel," by J. F. Chamberlain (Maemillan) and "How the World Travels," by F. G. Carpenter (A.B.C.), there are "The Steamship Conquest of the World" and "The Railway Conquest of the World," by F. A. Talbot (Lippincott), to indicate another method of approach; you could gather world-tours made by men of varied occupations, "This World of Ours," by James Herbert Curle (Doran), thirty-eight countries as seen by a mining engineer; "Round the World," by F. H. Butler (Stokes), the journeyings of an American business man; Kipling's "Letters of Travel" (Doubleday, Page), as a journalist; a missionary's travels in Jean Kenyon Mackenzie's "Black Sheep" (Houghton Mifflin), and the double record of a walking tour in the Rockies preserved by Stephen Graham in "Tramping with a Poet" (Appleton) and by Vachel Lindsay in "Going to the Sun" (Appleton). You can study personality as revealed against an unaccustomed back-ground in Mark Twain's "Innocents Abroad" and "Roughing It" (Harper), and in Theodore Dreiser's "A Traveller at Forty" (Century). And you can spend as much time as you have and be sure of a tremendous return with Hermann Keyserling's "Travel Diary of a Philosopher" (Harcourt, Brace), whose publication in an English translation has been one of the events of our book year.

strikingly original, is well balanced and reliable; and it will undoubtedly become a standard work of reference. Dr. Myerson's book, aside from the brief definitions and descriptions of mental states which are included, is very different. It is primarily controversial and devoted to an attack upon all those whose studies lead them to give preponderating weight to the hereditary factor in mental deficiency. In particular there is a long and passionate denunciation of the "Davenport school" and of all who believe in the inheritance of "predisposing constitutions," such as lack of resistance to specific infections or a tendency to weaken be-

Where (says the author) a definite and direct etiological cause is found for a condition, hereditary factors are of no essential importance, and it is clinical wisdom not to be over-subtle in dealing with the more or less hypothetical predisposition. . . . In fact I suspect an inferiority complex in the ready use of heredity as explanatory of many conditions.

fore the complexities of civilization.

But it is precisely the effect of some predisposing cause (often manifest throughout a family tree) that alone can account for the disparity between the small number of cases and the multitudes exposed to the "direct etiological causes."

Like so many other critics of Davenport, Myerson seems to have but a faint notion of (Continued on next page) YOU ARE A WRITER. Don't you ever need help in marketing your work?

I am a literary adviser. For years I read for Macmillan, then for Doran, and then I became consulting specialist to them and to Holt, Stokes, Lippincott, and others, for most of whom I have also done expert editing, helping authors to make their work saleable.

Send for my circular. I am closely in touch with the market for books, short stories, articles and verses, and I have a special department for plays and motion pictures,

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