

## The New Books

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

### Art

THE ETCHINGS OF FRANK BRANGWYN, R. A. A Catalogue Raisonné by W. GAUNT. London: The Studio, Limited. 1926.

There has been a notable increase of monographs on individual living artists, such as the series, "Modern Masters of Etching," published by the *Studio*. When the monograph takes the form of a catalogue of the work on an artist who is still producing, it naturally means that in time there will be another catalogue or at least a supplement.

That is the case with Brangwyn. For twenty-six years he has been turning at times to etching, and has now 336 plates to his credit. The first catalogue of his work was issued in 1908, the second in 1912, and the present one lists all his plates to date, with a reproduction of each subject. At the end of the book there is a list of his etchings in public collections, and an imposing bibliography. The book is naturally indispensable to any public or private collection of Brangwyn's prints.

### Biography

MODERN GREAT AMERICANS. By FREDERICK H. LAW. Century. 1926. \$2.

A series of twenty conventional, laudatory, "human-interest" biographical notes which tell the stories of "men who made their way in the world, developing their particular geniuses to the benefit of all humanity." Among the men treated are Bell, Edison, the Wrights, Millikan, Michelson, Mark Twain, Henry van Dyke, John Burroughs, Roosevelt, Wilson, Root, Goethals, Sargent, Peary, Pershing, and Carnegie. Most of the sketches are accompanied by photographic portraits. Because of the facts it records this is a useful reference book; its style is easy enough to make it of mild interest to the general reader.

THE WORLD THAT WAS. By JOHN G. BOWMAN. Macmillan. 1926. \$1.50.

Mr. Bowman has written an unusual little book. It is small, and it is upon a theme in itself not at all unusual today—being memories of his own childhood. But he has managed to endow it with a quality of real individuality and—in the first chapters preeminently—he has a real achievement. Many a book of memories looks back, an adult recalling external events. But Mr. Bowman's paragraphs are almost weirdly the child himself, his mind never empty of pictures, absorbed in his own built-up world, remote from the familiar adult interests which press in futile insistency upon him. We are jogged into fresh realization of just how distant and self-sufficient that world and those imaginings are in this type of child. The routine activities of life are to him a humdrum impinging interruption from which the nearest approach to an escape is to pay as little attention as possible.

There is an illuminating glimpse also of a father who understands—or nearly understands; and who gropes with gentleness and affection across the slender bridge between the child and the life about him, thus avoiding instead of creating antagonism. The scant eighty pages of the book, with no pretense of anything beyond simple outlines, contain a great deal of charm.

### Fiction

YOUNG FOLK, OLD FOLK. By CONSTANCE TRAVERS SWEATMAN. Morrow. 1926. \$2.

This is another "novel of the younger set" in which there is a certain amount of conscientious but rather uninspired characterization. It is distinguished from the steady flood of similar novels largely by the fact that it tries to be fair to the parents. There is a certain superficial vividness in the picture of St. Paul society which the author presents, but it is two-dimensional writing. It has no depth.

The story centers around two sisters, Max, aged twenty-two, and Jerry, aged sixteen. It describes their somewhat hectic relations with their parents, the latter being old fashioned enough to think that girls should come home before sunrise and should stay away from road houses. Max, beautiful, lazy, and self-indulgent, becomes embroiled in a secret marriage and refuses to live with her impecunious but adoring husband because she cannot face the thought of even temporary poverty. Instead she

lives with her family and spends much of her time being righteously impertinent to her father. Jerry is a scatter-brained little dare-devil who has to be taught that society will speak ill of her and will even ostracize her if she disregards appearance, no matter how great her fundamental innocence. She does things like posing in a skin-tight bathing suit for an advertising poster and going for an automobile ride in silk pajamas and is stunned when people misinterpret her actions.

This is an honestly written novel that would have attracted some attention had it appeared before the jazz age had received such a deluge of publicity. Now it seems rather tepid.

THE VICARION. By GARDNER HUNTING. Kansas City: Unity. 1926. \$2.

As a thriller pure and simple "The Vicarion" rivals the most gruesome detective story. It stands head and shoulders above all of its contemporary competitors in the field of mechanical adventure stories. Even H. G. Wells seems a piker at projecting himself into the future when his conceptions are compared with some of those of the un-heralded Mr. Hunting. The framework of the story is simple. Mr. Hunting makes use of the often-exploited theory, formerly connected with fourth-dimensional conceptions, that all of the past is concretely in existence—if one can get hold on it. He postulates that the ether receives and records an actual impression of

(Continued on next page)

## JESTING PILATE

AN INTELLECTUAL HOLIDAY



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—Ernest Boyd  
in *The Independent*

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### A Selected List of Outstanding New Novels from Beacon Hill

## WAYS OF ESCAPE

By NOEL FORREST

A remarkably arresting novel, strongly dramatic, charming and restrained, in which an Englishman, apparently successful in everything, encounters rebellion both at home and in town, and finds his family planning ways of escape from his domination.

*The American Review of Reviews* says: "Noel Forrest's 'Ways of Escape' might be considered the coup of the season. It is a first novel which has already achieved discussion. The finely depicted Stephen Heath is likely to become a classic example of the self-centered, tyrannical parent."

*The Chicago Evening Post* says: "The story is well told and will be widely read. The masterpiece is Stephen Heath; as an egotist he has few to equal him in literature."

Fifth Large Printing. \$2.00

## HARVEY GARRARD'S CRIME

By E. PHILLIPS OPPENHEIM

E. F. Edgett in the *Boston Transcript* says: "No disappointment awaits the reader of 'Harvey Garrard's Crime.' It is one of Mr. Oppenheim's best books." Second large printing. \$2.00

## WALLS OF GLASS

By LARRY BARRETTO

John Farrar says: "It is as interesting a story as I have read in months. . . . In 'Walls of Glass' Mr. Barretto proves himself to be a first class novelist." Fourth large printing. \$2.00

## \*INTO THE VOID: A Bookshop Mystery

By Florence Converse

A mystery story gay and sophisticated, woven about a college bookshop. \$2.00

## \*THE HOUNDS OF SPRING

By Sylvia Thompson

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"In some ways this tale of Mr. Cooper's is a more significant novel than 'The Covered Wagon'."—*The Boston Transcript*. \$2.00

## SAVIOURS OF SOCIETY

By STEPHEN McKENNA

McKenna at his best. *The New York Times* calls it "A great political novel. Fascinating, unique and refreshing." Second large printing. \$2.50

## PORTIA MARRIES

By

JEANNETTE PHILLIPS GIBBS

An interesting novel by the wife of A. Hamilton Gibbs. Inez Haynes Irwin says: "It is an astonishing book indeed for a first novel." Second printing. \$2.00

## LABELS

A Novel

By A. HAMILTON GIBBS

In this dramatic new novel the brilliant young author of "Soundings" (the best selling novel of 1925) has written the story of two brothers and a sister—one of the brothers a conscientious objector and the other a winner of the D.S.O.—struggling to adjust themselves to post-War conditions.

*The Brooklyn Eagle* says: "With one stroke Major Gibbs breaks up the literary corner on the War market. . . . His viewpoint is original, and a welcome change."

*The Detroit News* says: "Without the sacrifice of intelligence or nicety A. Hamilton Gibbs has written what ought to be by all the laws of human nature another best seller." Fourth large printing. \$2.00

\*"An Atlantic Monthly Press Publication"

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—New York Times

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New York Herald Tribune

"It is a long time since I have enjoyed any novel so much as *Tampico*."

—New York Evening Post

## JOSEPH HERGESHEIMER'S

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### BEST NOVEL IN YEARS

\$2.50 at all bookstores

Alfred A. Knopf, 730 Fifth Avenue, New York

In Canada from The Macmillan Company of Canada, Ltd., St. Martin's House, Toronto



## The New Books Fiction

(Continued from preceding page)

every physical event; his hero constructs a machine by means of which he catches the "wave lengths" of past events which, he discovers, are held together by a unity of action. This machine projects upon a screen any event of the past so realistically that not only do things look and sound as if they were real, but the very odors that were originally present are reproduced. It is not illusion, but reincarnated reality.

And there is no limit to the range of subjects which may be called back. Balboa, Charlotte Corday in Marat's bathroom, Rizzio on Queen Mary's back stairs, Raphael at work in the Sistine Chapel, Peter the Hermit starting for Palestine, the inside story of Cabinet meetings and of financial deals, the real story of divorces and of Hollywood scandals, the private lives of reformers—nothing is safe from revelation.

The world absolutely loses its head over this invention; people stop doing things, they stop living actively and live vicariously through Brainard's machine—hence its name, "The Vivarion." And Brainard, formerly an unassuming and easy-going inventor, finds himself in complete control of the world. A dozen people a day try to kill him, but they are powerless. He can make anyone do anything he wants. The power goes to his head and he becomes an obsessed and devilish tyrant.

It is a gorgeous thriller with a thousand unexpected complications. The author works up his dramatic suspense with all the craftiness of an old hand. If one wants to complain that certain passages are too long-drawn-out, it is merely that the suspense is such that one can't wait to hear what is going to happen next.

**CARTERET'S CURE.** By RICHARD KEVERNE. Houghton Mifflin. 1926. \$2.

For its first hundred and fifty pages this book is a mildly interesting romance in which a brilliant London barrister who is suffering from a nervous breakdown tries to save a beautiful girl of good family who is attempting to save her impoverished family by helping to smuggle silk into England. The last half of the book develops into a rip roaring detective story in which everyone suspects everyone else and the cruel and evil master-mind almost wins out. It is worth skipping hastily through the first part of the book to indulge in the tense excitement of the last hundred pages.

**BISON OF CLAY.** By MAX BEGOUEN. Translated by ROBERT LUTHER DUFFUS. Longmans, Green. 1926. \$2.

Following along an underground passage in the limestone cliffs of Argiège, in southern France, Max Begouen, a young French archaeologist, discovered a cave that had remained undisturbed since it was abandoned by the Magdalenians of the Cro-Magnon period, 25,000 years ago. There he found drawings of fish, bears, lions, bison, mammoths, and gods, as well as bone ornaments, spears, arrows, and harpoons which had been left behind by the original inhabitants. He also found two bison modelled in clay, the first examples ever unearthed of prehistoric cave sculpture. From these bison, found in as fresh condition as when they left the hands of the primitive sculptors, Mr. Begouen's novel takes its name.

It is a vivid, colorful novel of the life of the cave man in which the author has subordinated minute archaeological accuracy to the demands of the narrative. The story of the Lynx and the Amazon chief, Spring-on-the-Prairie, is related with a simple realism that neither condones nor accentuates the superstition and cruelty of these pre-historic savages. The book is written with restraint and humor and possesses a definite literary quality quite admirably maintained in Mr. Duffus's translation. Although many of the details cited by Mr. Begouen are evidently borrowed from the known facts about the American Indian, he succeeds quite well in giving us a feeling of the strangeness of the atmosphere that surrounded our pre-historic ancestors.

**CONFESSION.** By COSMO HAMILTON. Doubleday, Page. 1926. \$2.

This is a good old "high life" story in which are mentioned lots of titles, fashionable restaurants, watering places, etc. When Mr. Monalty had kept his factories running, despite the efforts of the labor unions, long enough so that half a dozen millions were no longer an important sum to him, his wife went to a beauty specialist and had twenty years and thirty pounds taken off her figure. She then stormed, almost unopposed, the citadels of society. As a result Molly was engaged to marry the eleventh Earl of Risborough who happened,

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