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## The New Books International

(Continued from preceding page)

Vision." For this may Heaven forgive him.

The remainder of "The Pathway of Peace" is a summary of the crises that have occurred since the great crisis which produced the American Republic, in which Professor McElroy exhibits remarkable skill in sketching a background of European history with a praiseworthy economy of detail. It is, however, hard—remembering our war-time troubles with the hyphenates—to see why any one should write that "Americans of whatever blood, seeing America in danger, respond, regardless of race, creed, or country,"—which is a wish fulfillment if there ever was one! Equally futile is his reference to "the note of faith in international altruism which characterizes America today"—a faith which we display by keeping ostentatiously out of the League and loading our adhesion to the World Court with reservations enough to sink it!

**THE COLONIZATION OF NEW ZEALAND.** By J. S. MARAIS. London: Humphrey Milford. 1927. \$5.

Social experiments of various kinds have been tried in New Zealand from the earliest days of British settlement until the present, and their results are worth careful study now when it is claimed that many of them have failed. It is alleged that compulsory arbitration and the fixing of wages by courts have not proved to be the expected panaceas for the disputes between labor and capital, but are making the country so unattractive to investors as to make it difficult to develop its natural resources, and hence diminish opportunities for employment. The scope of this book does not cover recent times, but the errors made in the early part of the last century are partly responsible for the problems of today.

The British Empire is said to have grown through a series of "fits of absence of mind" on the part of the authorities at London, and it is made quite evident that it was only with the greatest reluctance that the British Cabinet proceeded to annex the Island in 1840 under pressure from the New Zealand Association and the missionaries.

The theories of E. G. Wakefield for the disposal of unoccupied land dominated the early years of the Colony and the effects have valuable lessons. The well-meant and altruistic efforts of the missionaries brought disaster to the native Maories because the social and sanitary conditions were not understood. Various plans for the control of the warlike aborigines failed until the present system was adopted, which is said to be almost the only successful solution of the mixture of white and colored races on the same territory. Maories sit in the New Zealand Legislature and in the Cabinet.

The author has produced a really readable narrative, which is quite an achievement, as it was preceded by much efficient research. The quotations are inserted in such a manner as to carry conviction, while not interfering with the story, and the references and bibliography will be found most useful, though this book is so comprehensive as to be quite adequate even for those who wish to become familiar with the early history of a colony which is said to be more British than Great Britain.

**THE MEXICAN QUESTION.** By William English Walling. Robins Press, 112 Fourth Ave., N. Y.

**STAND TO YOUR WORK.** By W. Eric Harris. Toronto: Musson. \$2.

**THE LEGACY OF WAR: PEACE.** By Boris A. Bakhtmeteff. Houghton Mifflin. \$2.

**THE WHITE MAN'S DILEMMA.** By Nathaniel Peffer. Day. \$2.50.

**CHECKMATE.** By F. A. C. Forbes-Leith. McBride. \$3.50 net.

**THE WORLD TALKS IT OVER.** By Burr Price. Henkle. \$1.75.

**ITALY TODAY.** By Sir Frank Fox. Dodd, Mead. \$4.

**THE INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTS.** By Cleona Lewis. Macmillan. \$2.

**AMERICAN POLICY IN NICARAGUA.** By Henry L. Stimson. Scribners. \$1.25.

**THE CATASTROPHE.** By Alexander F. Kerensky. Appleton. \$3.

**THE NEW PERSIA.** By Vincent Sheean. Century. \$2.50.

**STANDING ROOM ONLY?** By Edward Alsworth Ross. Century. \$3.

## Juvenile

See *Children's Bookshop*, pages 402 and 404

**ANT HILLS AND SOAP BUBBLES.** By MARY GEISLER PHILLIPS. Philadelphia: Macrae Smith. 1927.

What more charming way to acquaint young children with the ways of insects than to transform the children by magic and let them view the insects from their lowly position and pry into all the secrets of the ant hills and watch all the marvelous processes involved in their daily life!

Mrs. Phillips, whose husband is a professor of apiculture at Cornell, has apparently got her facts with scientific accuracy so that there is no undue humanizing of the ants. Indeed, the charm of the book lies partly at least in the success with which she has "insectized" the children. She takes the magically transformed children to the ants and lets them follow the ants as they travel about and communicate with each other. They explore the underground passages of the ants and experience the excitement of a flood from an upturned washtub; they are at hand to see the young hatch and to follow the nurses about as they take care of the larvæ; they witness the "milking" of the aphids by the ants, and the swarming and mating and battling with strange colonies. Indeed, they miss scarcely any of the interesting events of the ants' life.

No child will think of leaving the magic adventures in the world unfinished and few grown ups will fail to be entranced by this fanciful flight of children and with the marvelous behavior of the ants.

**ALL ABOUT ANIMALS.** From A to Z. By LILIAN GASK. Crowell. 1927. \$3.

A pleasant and informing book, illustrated by excellent photographs of living animals. It is alphabetical, and under *Ounce* or *Elephant* or *Cat* or *Beaver* is enough for a child of description, habitats, and habits, and an anecdote or two drawn from good sources. It is a vast improvement on the old omnibus natural histories, or the modern collections of myths. The book is an annotated zoo.

**THE MOON'S BIRTHDAY.** By DOROTHY ROWE. Macmillan. 1927. \$2.

These stories of Chinese children tell of the customs and religion of the country. The illustrations, by two Chinese artists, give an effect of color delicately laid on rice paper.

**DAVID GOES TO BAFFIN LAND.** By DAVID BINNEY PUTNAM. Putnams. 1927. \$1.75.

This is one of the best of the Putnams Books-by-Boys series. We are already acquainted with David's northern voyaging and his boyish accounts of it, and when he begins (referring to a previous trip) "We were wrecked and practically everything else happened to us in the way of excitement," we are caught at once into the spirit of this new adventure and are ready to embark with a real boy's point of view. We appreciate David's own development, too, for "of course this year things aren't quite as new and unusual as they were then, but on the other hand I know more what it is all about and I guess it really is more fun." And further on in the book a dash of boyish philosophy suggestively rounds off the account of the most difficult section of the journey: "It really turned out to be a pretty rough, hard trip, but lots of fun at that. Anyway, if you're interested in exploring you might as well get used to it, because all trips can't be easy."

In this book David maintains a high standard of simple, straightforward, interesting writing, not only about day-to-day happenings but in the information which he supplies as to geography, early settlements, or previous expeditions. The photographs are remarkable and generously supplied throughout the book. In addition there are simple but decorative sketches at the beginning and end of each chapter and we are interested to read that they were supplied by another young worker—fourteen-year-old Albert Shaffenberg. Besides the main trip of the schooner to Labrador, the Hudson Strait, and Western Baffin Island, there is a supplementary exploration trip of 500 miles in an open whale-boat, which will make many a boy read absorbedly from page to page. The pictures and the accounts of a Labrador canyon and lake rank near the top in interest and suggestiveness, though perhaps a younger reviewer would prefer the encounters with polar bears, Eskimos, and the rare blue geese. As David says, "it was loads of fun"—and full of toughening hardship, too. A great many boys will be glad to own this book.

**DRAKE'S QUEST.** By CAMERON ROGERS. Doubleday, Page. 1927. \$2.50.

This book maintains a precarious balance upon the two stools of juvenile romance and the kind of biographical fiction with which the so-called adult population is currently glutting itself. That it does not entirely fall between them is due to the author's dexterity in pushing it onto one when it shows signs of slipping off the other. The conception of Drake himself is the conventional one of a doughty, single-minded buccaneer whose failures may be attributed to other people's ineptitude; Howard Pyle might have drawn him so. But Mr. Rogers's retelling of the old story embraces both the use of rather longer words than the fifteen-year-old is usually familiar with and the admission that sailor-men on shore are prone to seek rum and women. The narrative is well and racy constructed, its principal blemishes being a not too close regard for historical accuracy in minor points and the employment of the tiresome pseudo-antique in the imaginary conversations of the characters. No one can employ this latter device at length with Elizabethan English without falling into appalling incongruities.

**AMONG THE ALPS WITH BRADFORD.** By BRADFORD WASHBURN. Putnams. 1927.

Here is a slightly older boy (sixteen) to stand grinning winsomely beside David, Deric, and Bob, in Putnam's row of boy-adventurers who can write as well as trek. For those who sit and watch while others climb, a pleasant vertigo will develop from the perusal of this tale of dering-do. We are told that the popular form of mountain-climbing nowadays is rock-climbing, and certainly full justice is done to it in the chapters on the "Charmoz-Grepon Traverse." The more familiar snow-climbing encounters a grand old wind-storm on the heights of Mt. Blanc, before which Bradford and his professional companions descend "a million miles an hour," ending the book with an honest confession of failure in the interests of sportsmanlike caution. First and foremost, Bradford is intent on the artful sport of mountain-climbing, and he writes accordingly, freshly and simply, without a trace of self-consciousness—this last a saving virtue in the young writer. The material is not so fresh as Deric's Indian matters, but the oldness of the mountains never stales, and Bradford's book is intelligently informative as well as vivid.

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## The New Books Juvenile Reprints, Etc.

See *Children's Bookshop*, page 402 and 404

Never a year draws to its close but reprints of some of the seasoned favorites of childhood make their appearance, brave in new dress and with gay illustrations to make them fitting gifts for the Christmas table. Here, in this year of grace 1927, for instance, is that adult story that never fails to hold the interest of the maturing youngster, Dickens's "The Cricket on the Hearth" (Harpers: \$2.50). Francis D. Beckford, who is on the whole happier in his black and white drawings than in his color illustrations, has furnished the book with several of the first and a profusion of the latter. Mr. Beckford is in the true Dickens tradition, and his interpretations of scenes and personalities are flavorsome and attractive. Here, too, are Charlotte M. Yonge's "A Book of Golden Deeds" (Macmillan: \$1.75), that treasury of brief tales of heroic devotion, and her "Unknown to History" (Harpers: \$2.50), the romance of a favorite queen, Mary of Scotland. Both volumes are romantically illustrated by Clara M. Burd. Miss Yonge, if the number of her works to be reprinted is a true index to her popularity, retains the hold on young readers which has been hers for several generations, for in addition to these two volumes for older children, Harpers has reissued "Little Lucy's Wonderful Year" (\$1). This chronicle of the convalescence from scarlatina of a small girl the tedium of whose quarantine was beguiled by tales of odd corners of the globe and their inhabitants is furnished with a frontispiece in color and quaint line drawings by Anne Merriam Peck. For older children than will enjoy this latter story is H. R. Hall's "Days Before History" (Crowell: \$2.50), a slightly enlarged edition of a standard account of prehistoric man, and Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch's "The Splendid Spur" (Doran: \$2.50), a good story of the days of Charles I, now made into a large gift book.

Those children who are still in the age when fairy stories and tales of fantasy make special appeal have not been forgotten in this year's reissue of old favorites. And, to interject a volume that falls into neither of these categories, mention should be made of the charming little volume that enshrines Stevenson's "A Child's Garden of Verses" (Macmillan: \$1). There have been numerous editions, of course, of this delectable collection of poems, but this new one, with its graceful drawings by Marguerite Davis, and its reasonable price, should find a niche of its own. Macmillan, which issues it, has also brought out that tried and trusty favorite, Collodi's "Pinocchio" (\$1.75), with gay and amusing color illustrations by Attilio Mussino supplementing his drawings in black and white, and with its text translated into English by Carol della Chiesa. Appleton has a handsome reissue of Lewis Carroll's "Alice in Wonderland" with the original Tenniel illustrations, while Jean Ingelow's beloved fairy tale, "Mopsa the Fairy" (Harpers: \$1.75), has been made into a new book by some of the most delightful pictures that Dorothy Lathrop has ever drawn. Another excellent book is in print once more now that Dutton has issued it in time for Christmas giving, "Mrs. Leicester's School" (\$3), by Charles and Mary Lamb. Winifred Green has decked it out charmingly with pictures in the Kate Greenaway style and flowery wreaths decorating the old tales. "The Princess With the Pea-Green Nose" (Harpers: \$1), by E. H. Knatchbull-Hugessen, which we understand from the publishers has never been issued before in this country in independent form, is now put out with illustrations by Myra Cocks. This story of the beautiful princess whose only disfigurement was a nose the tip of which was bright green and whose trust and love brought her freedom from her blemish and won her a gallant husband at the same time is a charming tale, and one that should prove widely popular. A quaint old tale from the days of the Rollo books has been revived in Richard Henry Horne's "The Good-Natured Bear" (Macmillan). The book was written by an Englishman who wished his story to sound as if it were a translation from the German. With a vast amount of circumstantial detail the bear tells the Littlepump children all about his life. The silhouette cut-outs by a German artist, Lisl Hummel, make this one of the most satisfying of the season's books. Parents who were children in 1881 may recall a fanciful tale by Frank R. Stockton which appeared in the *St. Nicholas* of that year under the title "The Poor Count's Christmas." It has now been reissued in

book form by Stokes (\$1.50), and despite the lapse of time is still as fresh as when first it delighted young readers. Another tale that appears in new guise, and though in its present less expensive edition it lacks the color which was an added attraction in the dearer volume still remains attractive, is "The Story of Naught Kildeen" (Harcourt, Brace: \$2.50), by Marie, Queen of Rumania. The book is illustrated in black and white by Job, and is an unusually good story for little girls.

Finally, we come to the books for children of the nursery age, all of them with the exception of *Æsop's Fables* intended for the little ones still far from graduation into an older cycle of literature. The *Æsop* (Harpers: \$1.75) is delightfully illustrated by Louis Rhead; indeed, we understand that it was the last work done by the artist before his death. Curiously enough the publishers have prefaced the fables with an introduction taken over from what must have been the original issue of the text they are using, and which while bearing neither name nor date to range it, in the manner of its writing and certain of its statements makes it quite evident that "the present publishers" and the need for a more literal translation from the Greek than had been made in the past, have nothing to do with the present. Harper has also issued a book of nursery rhymes entitled "Jack Horner's Pie" (\$2), the familiar verses of

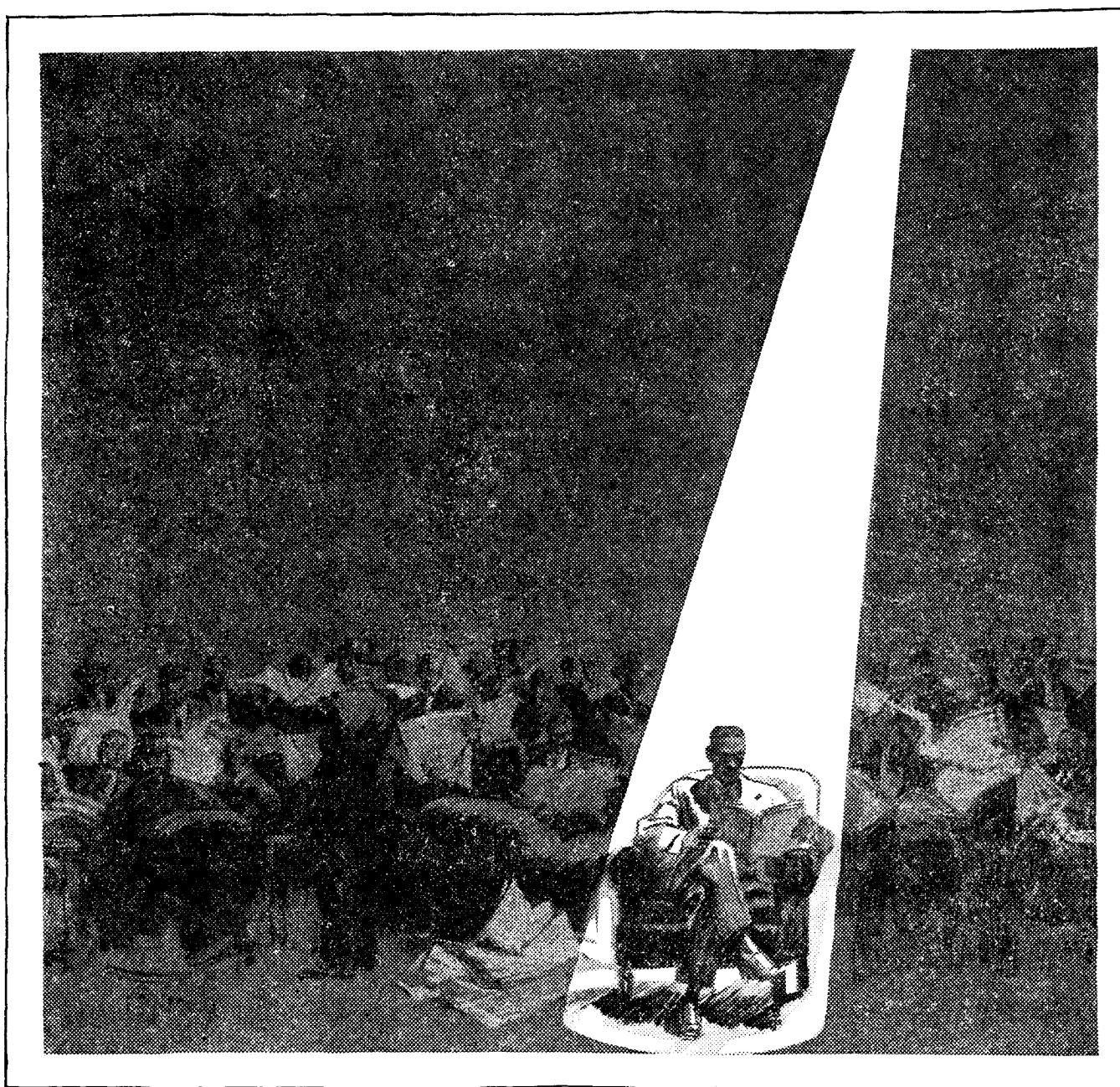
which have been selected by Lois Lenski and illustrated by her in ingenious fashion. Such a jingle, for instance, as "Simple Simon" has a full page in color facing it which in a series of diminutive illustrations illuminates the various lines of the poem. The book should appeal to the type of child who will be entertained by trying to match the details of the pictures with the appropriate lines of the verses. A slim, gay volume with vivid illustrations and brief accompanying commentary is "The Cock and the Hen" (Harpers); it was issued some two years ago by Rafael D. Szalatnay, and is a Czechoslovakian fairy tale that has fancy and charm to recommend it. Its bright colors and large pictures, as well as the simplicity of its text, should make it an excellent gift for a very young child. For the same youngster "The Playbook of Robin Hood" (Harpers) with its narrative by Susan Meriwether introducing the various figures of the Robin Hood story, and its profusion of cut-out figures and standards by Esther Peck, should afford excellent entertainment on a blustering winter day for the child who is forced to remain within doors. Three other books should appeal to this same very small person, "Rhymes of If and Why" (Duffield: \$2), by Betty Sage, a large, square book of verses about children with pictures of them by Boardman Robinson; "The Animal Al-

phabet" (Houghton Mifflin: \$2), a collection of characteristic Harrison Cady pictures and rhymes about animals made into a book sewn to lie open flat, and "The Children's *Punch*" (Scribners: \$2.50) which contains verses and pictures from *Punch*, including some by Tenniel and some by E. H. Shepard.

**THE PIONEER TWINS.** By Lucy Fitch Perkins. Houghton Mifflin. 1927. \$1.75.

Lucy Fitch Perkins and her Twin books are classics for children in the truest sense of the word. Sometimes a teacher welcomes a book, for reasons of her own; sometimes a parent, sometimes a child. But it is probable that not many books receive from all three groups a more genuine reception than is always ready for the Twins in each new embodiment. The present volume strikes a slightly different line and a very worth while one. These are American twins, but they belong to America in solution,—America in transformation. It is a Covered Wagon story, with all the advantages of that setting, involving action and changing scene, hardships and courage,—and some little geography thrown in for subconscious stimulus. And of course there is a happy ending. This will undoubtedly take its place as one of the favorites of the series.

(Continued on next page)



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THE AMERICAN SONGBAG. By Carl Sandburg.  
ABRAHAM LINCOLN: THE PRAIRIE YEARS. By Carl Sandburg. (Popular edition.)  
MY HEART AND MY FLESH. By Elizabeth Madox Roberts.  
GALLIONS REACH. By H. M. Tomlinson.  
THE GRANDMOTHERS. By Glenway Westcott.  
MAN POSSESSED. By William Rose Benét.  
THE PROSE AND POETRY OF WILLIAM BLAKE. (In one volume published by The Nonesuch Press.)  
MOTHER INDIA. By Katherine Mayo.  
OUR TIMES (Vol. II). By Mark Sullivan.  
TRADER HORN. By Ethelreda Lewis.  
THE EDUCATION OF HENRY ADAMS. (Popular edition.)

*Hans Untermeyer*

## Postal Rates

(Continued from page 394)

5641 of the Sixty-ninth Congress, Second Session, Section 1 of which provided that

"(a) Mail matter of the fifth class shall include books consisting wholly of reading matter and containing no advertising matter other than incidental announcements of books;

"(b) The rate of postage on books included in subdivision (a) shall be 2½ cents per pound or fraction thereof, with a minimum charge of 3 cents for each parcel and subject to the same maximum weights per parcel now prescribed by law for mail matter of the fourth class."

The Bill introduced in the Senate during the last Congress to provide for a separate classification of mail matter, and lower postal rates for books, as quoted in the above resolution, should be amended upon its reintroduction in the next Congress, so as to provide that existing parcel post rates shall continue applicable where such rates

are less than the special rates for books specified in subdivision (b). All will recognize, however, that the main thing is to secure a separate classification of mail matter for books and rely upon the Congress to prescribe as low a rate as may be feasible.

The National Association of Book Publishers is convinced that some such legislation as this is vitally necessary to insure a reasonable and proper distribution of books. In urging the enactment of legislation to provide for a separate classification of mail matter for this important necessity it feels that it is rendering a public service of the first magnitude. Lower postal rates, by creating an increased demand for books, would of course benefit the publishers, booksellers and authors, but the benefit to the trade would not be comparable to that accruing to the public. It is obvious that the public good that would result from this stimulus to the advancement of education and culture is incalculable.

While this Association does not desire to flood the Congress with propaganda, it does deem it essential that the existing situation respecting postal rates as affecting the distribution of books be brought home forcibly to all the Senators and Representatives. It is believed that a reasonable hope may be entertained for relief from the present high postal rates if each Senator and Congressman can be brought to a serious consideration of the desirable public policy of promoting the widest possible distribution of books through the adoption of a separate classification and reasonable and uniform rates to all the people.

This Association, therefore, urges every book publisher, bookseller, librarian, author, educator, and every other person interested in the wider and cheaper distribution of books, to call this matter to the attention of the Representative in Congress from his District and of the Senators from his State, as well as any other Congressional friends, and request their support for legislation of this character during the next Congress.

The Congressmen should be requested to urge the members of the Committee on The Post Office and Post Roads of the House to take favorable action along this line and Senators should likewise be asked to push the matter with the members of the Senate Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads.

## The New Books

### Miscellaneous

(Continued from preceding page)

MAN. A Brief Interpretation of Man's Creation, His Psychology and His Destiny, with Suggestions on the Practical Application of Psychic Laws. By HORATIO V. GARD. Chicago: The Golden Rule Magazine. 1927. \$3.50.

One of the blessings, or curses, of democracy is the semi-annual flood of works of amateur philosophy. These volumes, written usually by earnest, candid, and ignorant souls, endowed with intellectual vigor and originality but utterly unacquainted with the history of their subject, regularly repeat the fallacies of the past with the addition of a few new ones of their own. They make interesting reading as illustrations of the short span of knowledge attainable by the untrained individual mind, however capable it may be.

"Man," by Horatio V. Gard, is a good example of its type. Its philosophical theory runs as follows: the universe was created by God or Universal Spirit, the name which Mr. Gard prefers; this was accomplished by means of "conditions and laws" established by the Universal Spirit and in turn establishing electrons and intermediate forms down to the algae and amoeba when life and "objective mind" were introduced in order to lead to the development of man.

Thus we see that "the universe of heavenly bodies was imaged and created as a secondary matter, for a place to propagate and to evolve man." This long way round was made even longer, however, by the fact that "the objective mind of the amoeba and its descendants" frequently shied off the track and in the interest of its own development neglected its rôle as a preparation for man. But eventually man appeared, with an objective conscious mind located in the cerebro-spinal nervous system and a subjective unconscious mind located in the sympathetic nervous system. This unconscious mind is nothing less than the Universal Spirit itself, possessor of all wisdom and knowledge, source of all action, but so suggestible that it at once adopts any fool idea that the conscious mind presents to it. Even with this genial limitation, however, it is so powerful that it insures man's ultimate attainment of his goal, the Perfect Ideal. For the rest, Mr. Gard believes that all medical cures are due to suggestion, that