

## 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 ART OF JAPAN. By Louis V. Ledoux. New York: Japan Society.  
ARTHUR WILLIAMS HEINTZELMAN. Edited by John Taylor Arms. Minton, Balch. \$2.50.  
THE REVELATION OF SAINT JOHN THE DIVINE. Brentanos.  
THE A B C OF ART. By John Haldane Blackie. Vanguard. 50 cents.  
THE RUSSIAN ICON. By Nikodim Pavlovich Kondakov. Oxford. \$35.

### Belles Lettres

- APULIUS AND HIS INFLUENCE. By ELIZABETH H. HAIGHT. Longmans Green. (Our Debt to Greece and Rome Series). 1927. \$1.75.

Here is a book about one of the most enjoyable writers of classical antiquity, Apulius, the African romance writer of the second century A. D. That, to be sure, was not his only form of activity; he was a facile and famous speech maker, and a second-class dabbler in philosophy, with a taste for plagiarism. Only one of his speeches has survived entire, but that is of uncommon interest, since it is his defense against a charge of practising magic. Yet, interesting as is the evidence it gives us of the rhetoric and law practice of his time, its chief interest lies in that inventive genius which makes the greatness of the "Metamorphoses." This is an account of the adventures of a young man who was turned into an ass, whence the popular title, "The Golden Ass." The way to get an idea of what it is like is to read it. It can hardly be said to be a moral tale, yet such is its freshness and air of magic that it is hard to conceive of anyone being the worse for acquaintance with it.

It is on this work that Professor Haight frankly and justly lays her emphasis—particularly on that part of it containing the episode of "Cupid and Psyche," whose great and consistent attraction for later writers she demonstrates. The strong point of "Cupid and Psyche" is that, while it always appeals to lovers of pure story, it can endure to have the element of folk tale entirely replaced by allegory without losing its peculiar beauty, which was no small advantage in ages and countries where allegory was a passion. But, though this exquisite story rightly holds the centre of the stage, there is much of beauty and value elsewhere in the "Metamorphoses" to which Professor Haight gives due honor. But, since every reader will have his favorites in such a crowd, we must here voice our single complaint that no mention is made of the delectable and improving episode of the Ass who ate Pastry.

- THE TWO FIRST CHAPTERS ON "THE AGE OF THE ANTONINES" AND "THE LIFE OF APULIUS" make the book a capital supplement to Professor Allinson's volume on Lucian.

- THE NATURAL HISTORY OF A SAVANT. By Charles Richet. Translated by Sir Oliver Lodge. Doran. \$2 net.

- BYWAYS AMONG ENGLISH BOOKS. By Cyril Davenport. Stokes. \$1.

- FRENCH POETRY AND MODERN INDUSTRY. By Elliott M. Grant. Harvard University Press. \$2.50.

- THE FORESHORE OF ENGLAND. By H. W. Tomlinson. Harpers.

- THE SYLVANORA EDITION OF THE WORKS OF HENRY VAN DYKE. Scribners. 10 vols. \$1 each.

- THE KINGDOM OF BOOKS. By William Dana Orcutt. Little, Brown. \$5 net.

- THE HAUNTED CASTLE. By Eino Railo. Dutton. \$10.

- WHAT'S AHEAD; AND MEANWHILE. By Edward S. Martin. Harpers. \$2.50.

- THE GOOD GRAY POET. By William Douglas O'Connor. Toronto: Saunders.

### Biography

- THE OPINIONS AND REFLECTIONS OF NAPOLEON. Edited by LEWIS CLAFIN BREED. Four Seas. 1926. \$5.

This volume of over five hundred pages has been compiled from the memoirs of Bourienne, Montholon, Las Cases, O'Meara, Antonmarchi, et al; and also from the correspondence of Napoleon himself. It is divided into twenty-four sections, each dealing with a particular subject such as law, divorce, literature, history, religion and theory, drama and art. Under each heading are set down the appropriate gems which Napoleon let fall within the hearing of his various Boswells.

The editor had an opportunity to make this an exceedingly interesting book, but unfortunately it is seriously marred in several respects. The proofreading, for example,

has been far from careful. In some cases it approaches the grotesque. To state on page 249 that Napoleon said of Wellington that he was "sans grandeur d'âne" instead of "d'ame" is surely an asinine error. Even more inexcusable for a student of Napoleon is the repeated misspelling of Lord Rosebery's name, giving it two r's instead of one. One would also like to inquire his authority for the insertion of a t into "dutchess" rather than the customary "duchess."

The excerpts have been lifted bodily from their sources and set down arbitrarily and without any critical annotation. At the end of each quotation is a number which refers to the end of the volume, where one who is sufficiently industrious or curious may find, by searching, the authority for a given statement. Page references are entirely omitted. For the student such a book as this is practically useless, and even the individual reader who is interested in Napoleon had better consult the easily accessible memoirs from which these selections have been taken.

- NAPOLEON AND HIS FAMILY. By WALTER GEER. Brentanos. 1927. \$5.

Walter Geer is a successful business man who spends his leisure hours in writing books, particularly on subjects connected with the French Revolution and Napoleon. This present volume is the first of three dealing with the story of how Napoleon's family influenced his designs, acts, and destiny, and carries the story from 1769 to 1807, that is, from Napoleon's Corsican beginnings to the proclamation of Joseph as King of Spain. It is the author's contention that Napoleon's downfall was largely due to the transgressions of his family, which, by the powers which he himself had delegated, often acted against his wishes and to the great detriment of his plans.

Unlike altogether too many books dealing with Napoleon's extra-political life, the present volume is based strictly on facts. Mr. Geer has recognized that the flood of memoirs dealing with Napoleon are often biased and often maliciously incorrect. He has also pointed out in numerous places the inaccuracies even in the memoirs of the Emperor's brothers—inaccuracies which tend invariably to put the author of the memoirs in a more favorable position.

Napoleon is shown as one of a Corsican clan, at the same time aided and shackled by his family ties. As he rises in the world, he lifts his brothers and sisters with him, each of whom takes the favors received as his or her due. Joseph, the elder brother, is always insistent on his position as head of the family. Lucien, outside of Napoleon the most brilliant, is jealous of his brother's success. All are impatient of any restraint, and all are trying their best to get what they can. Napoleon sees their ingratitude, yet constantly forgives them and even gives them greater rewards. If the author appears to be biased against Napoleon's relations, his opinions are amply documented and the reader may judge for himself. It is an interesting book for those who are at all familiar with Napoleon's history.

- HENRY WARD BEECHER. By Paxton Hibben. Doran. \$5.

- THE OLD BENCHERS OF THE INNER TEMPLE. By Charles Lamb. Edited by Sir F. D. Mackinnon. Oxford University Press. \$7.

- THE MEMOIRS OF MADAME VIGEE-LE BRUN. Translated by Gerard Shelley. Doran.

- GEORGE LEIGH MALLORY. By David Pyc. Oxford. \$1.50.

- DEAN BOND OF SWARTHMORE. By Emily Cooper Johnston. Lippincott.

- RICHARD CORDEN AND FOREIGN POLICY. By William Harbutt Dawson. Frank-Maurice. \$5.

- LORD SHAFTESBURY. By J. Wesley Bready. Frank-Maurice. \$5 net.

- THE FATHER OF LITTLE WOMEN. By Honoré Willié Morrice. Little, Brown. \$3 net.

- A PIONEER OF 1850: GEORGE WILLIS READ. Edited by Georgia Willis Read. Little, Brown. \$1.50 net.

- GEORGE TICKNOR: LETTERS TO PASCUAL DE GAYANGOS. Edited by Clara Louisa Penney. Hispanic Society of America.

- PRESOTT. UNPUBLISHED LETTERS TO GAYANGOS. Edited by Clara Louisa Penney. Hispanic Society of America.

- THE LIFE AND WORKS OF EDWARD MOORE. By John Horace Caskey. Yale University Press. \$5.

- AS GEORGE WILSON STAINED THE MOUNTAIN WITH HIS "BOS." Edited by Don's Tilden Lynch. Boni & Liveright. \$4.

- THE LIFE OF STEELE MACKAYE. By Percy Mackaye. Boni & Liveright. 2 vols. \$10.

- SIR CHARLES SEDLEY, 1639-1701. By V. De Sola Pinto. Boni & Liveright. \$6.  
MEMOIRS OF THE BASTILLE. By Latude and Linget. Brentanos. \$4.  
MACKENZIE. By Hume Wrong. Macmillan.  
PAGES FROM MY LIFE. By Feodor Ivanovitch Chaliapine. Revised and edited by Katharine Wright. Harpers. \$5.  
THE WOMEN OF THE MEDICI. By Yvonne Maguire. Dial. \$4.  
THE HERITAGE OF WOMEN. By Alice Ames Winter. Minton, Balch. \$3.  
SOLITARIA. By V. V. Rozanov. Translated by S. S. Kotliansky. Boni & Liveright. \$4.  
THE SCHUMANNS AND JOHANNES BRAHMS. Dial. \$4.  
THE TURKISH LETTERS OF OGIER GHISELIN DE BUSBEQ. By Edward Seymour Forster. Oxford. \$2.50.  
THE LOCOMOTIVE GOD. By William Ellery Leonard. Century. \$4.  
THE WOLF CUB. By Maurice Soulié. Bobbs-Merrill. \$3.  
MY BELIEF. By Luther Burbank. Avondale.

### Drama

- MARINERS. By CLEMENCE DANE. Macmillan. 1927. \$2.

"Mariners" follows something of the same formula that Miss Dane clothed so effectively in "A Bill of Divorcement." Youth, faced by a problem, is helped to a solution by witnessing a parallel problem, at a more advanced stage, molding the lives of Age. The difference between the plays is nevertheless considerable. In the earlier play the chief interest lay in the young heroine. Now, in "Mariners," the stress is reversed and our attention dwells less on the younger generation and more on the older people of the play. Miss Dane's story, in itself, is simple. Her chief character, an English parson, marries unsuitably, and his wife, a coarse and violent woman, virtually destroys not only his career but also his position in his parish. He contrives by sheer gentleness and beauty of character to make himself loved in spite of social obstacles, and further to disarm much of the unpleasantness caused by his situation. Not to recount the various incidents in a powerful and carefully woven plot he finally dies from over-exposure during an epidemic. The "moral" of the play is that, in spite of all contrary appearances, he loved and was loved by his half insane wife. The application of this to the case of Joan Shepperley and the young man, her lover, who cannot "make good" after the war, is a shade too strained to be absolutely convincing when the play is read. What one would feel if it were acted is another matter. But Miss Dane's dialogue and characterization are masterly, her situations never lack power, and she holds her material together with the grip of a genuine imagination. The new play is a fine and worthy successor to those which have already made her name famous among the younger British dramatists.

- THE ELF OF DISCONTENT. By Rita Benton. Doran. \$2 net.

- THE NATURE OF A CRIME, ETC. By Joseph Conrad and Ford Madox Ford. Doubleday, Page. \$2.

- THE LETTER. By W. Somerset Maugham. Doran. \$2 net.

- THE QUEEN OF NECTARIA. By Francis Neilson. Viking Press. \$1.50.

- THE PLAYGOER'S HANDBOOK TO THE ENGLISH RENAISSANCE DRAMA. By Agnes Mure Mackenzie. Macmillan.

- ONE MORE RIVER. By Ashley Dukes. Doran. \$1.25 net.

- THE PRIEST AND HIS DISCIPLES. By Kurata Hyakuso. Translated by Glenn W. Shazo. Doran. \$2.

### Economics

- THE LEGAL STATUS OF AGRICULTURAL CO-OPERATION. By Edwin G. Nourse. Macmillan. \$3.

- READINGS IN TRADE UNIONISM. By David J. Saposs. Macmillan.

- THE LABOR MOVEMENT IN A GOVERNMENT INDUSTRY. By Sterling Denhard Spero. Macmillan.

- THE RURAL INDUSTRIES OF ENGLAND AND WALES. IV. WALES. By Anna M. Jones. Oxford. \$1.75.

- POLITICAL MYTHS AND ECONOMIC REALITIES. By Francis Delaisi. Viking. \$4.

- VOICES OF REVOLT: KARL LIEBKNECHT, FERDINAND LASSALLE, JEAN PAUL MARAT, MAXIMILIEN ROBESPIERRE. International. 4 vols. 50 cents each.

- WHAT THE EMPLOYER THINKS. By J. David Houser. Harvard University Press. \$2.50.

- THE AMERICANIZATION OF LABOR. By Robert W. Dunn. International Publishers. \$1.90.

- COMPANY UNIONS. By Robert W. Dunn. Vanguard Press. 50 cents.

- KROPOTKIN'S REVOLUTIONARY PAMPHLETS. By Peter Kropotkin. Vanguard Press. 50 cents.

- INDUSTRIAL PROSPERITY AND THE FARMER. By Russell C. Engberg. Macmillan. \$2.50.

- EQUITABLE SOCIETY AND HOW TO CREATE IT. By Warren Edwin Brothman. Vanguard. 50 cents.

(Continued on next page)

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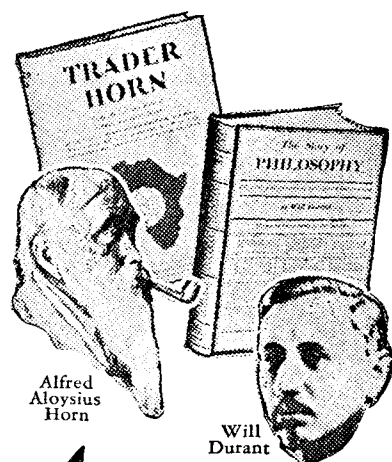
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## The New Books Fiction

(Continued from preceding page)

THE MAN IN THE SANDHILLS. By ANTHONY MARSDEN. A. & C. Boni. 1927. \$2.

There are novel features in this ingeniously fashioned mystery tale which should commend it strongly to discriminating readers of detective fiction. The principal character, instead of a master sleuth, is the culprit fugitive from justice, hunted by the police of two countries for killing a man with a tremendous blow of his fist. That fatally ended fight, the outcome of a card-sharper's unmasking, compels the slayer to flee from England to France, where for months he is hounded from hiding-place to hiding-place along the coast. He escapes his pursuers repeatedly by assuming various disguises, once even venturing to impersonate the British Sherlock who is tracking him. It is but a question of time and his agility as to how long the outlaw will remain free, for his ultimate apprehension is always inevitable. The puzzle, however, that most urgently goads one's curiosity, is to foresee what possible evidence the author will uncover, after the quarry is taken, to establish convincingly the protagonist's complete innocence of the murder.

THE ENTERTAINMENT and Other Stories. By E. M. DELAFIELD. Harpers. 1927. \$2.50.

A new book by E. M. Delafield is a stylistic event. Her words shimmer over the subjects she treats of, lighting them to reality and remembrance. This working with light, etching on a luminous background, is especially adapted to shorter sketches, and "The Entertainment" is a collection of such. The title story is typical of Mrs. Delafield's method. Four characters out of nowhere, more like automata than human beings, move before us in their spiritual poverty, and disappear. There is no touch of explanation, nor any need of it; stripped, these worldlings cringe before the reader. Mrs. Delafield can catch and sustain a mood, an atmosphere, or a temperament as few writers can: the comparison with Katherine Mansfield is inevitable. "This Is One Way Round . . ." is so fragilely blown, so iridescently colored, that its two commonplace characters, whose yearnings lead them only to clichés, reflect for an instant that radiance which has glanced off lovers down the cycles. That they will sink into stodginess when Mrs. Delafield's pen leaves them is irrelevant; they are caught eternally in their moment. "The Tortoise" might have been excerpted from "To the Lighthouse" with no appreciable let-down from the Woolf field. (Which is not to say that Mrs. Delafield could have maintained this level through novel length). Many of the selections in the volume are less successful, but the good work is much more significant than the bad. The book deserves a wide reading in America (Mrs. Delafield is English-French) where the short story has, for the most part, taken so different a turn.

MORNING THUNDER. By NALBRO BARTLEY. Doran. 1927. \$2.

This is a retelling of the old tale of youth confined seeking freedom, of youth in ugliness seeking beauty, of youth provincial seeking the world. Abby Bryant of Newfane is the youth in this case and her seeking leads her no farther than New York, but in New York and Newfane she finds adventure enough to fill two novels and love enough, fortunately, to end one. There is never an idle moment in the three hundred and twelve pages. The action skips about among small town tempests in tea-pots, shot-gun marriages, hall bedroom life in New York, the "wild life" of the theatrical world, passionate Italian baritones, amorous impresarios, thwarted virgins inclined amok, wives leaving home, wives returning home, and much more. In spite of this list, Miss Bartley really makes a specialty of the intimate note in fiction. The theme of family life appeals to her, and she handles with ease a mother, father, and any probable number of offspring. She succeeds particularly in reproducing the stultifying atmosphere of homes with too many people and too little money. Certain phases of character she catches to the life, other phases lie beyond her so that her people are often either narrow or unfinished. When she seems nearest to reality she is most likely to collapse into the stereotyped. She asks vital questions, but she gives sawdust answers. It is obviously easy for her to write, it is well known that she has a large audience; perhaps these are not likely to bring upon an author that chaos which alone, according to Nietzsche, can give birth to a dancing star.

COASTER CAPTAIN. A Tale of the Boston Waterfront. By JAMES B. CONNOLLY. Macy-Masius. 1927. \$2.

Hardly a sophisticated tale, this "Coaster Captain," and yet it contains two characters and one episode of definite interest. We enjoy Captain Jan Tingleoff and his friend Jack Hoey; we recognize them as members of the Joseph C. Lincoln school of bluff old sailors with hearts of gold. These two would be more agreeable if we were not always so certain of their unsullied virtue, but still their characters are individualized enough to lend an air of truth. The episode of interest is the gradual foundering of the Boston-Portland night boat. We grow apprehensive as the danger-signs increase; the imminent tragedy seems genuinely fearful. But in all else, "Coaster Captain" is merely tolerable. Sometimes Mr. Connolly fairly runs amuck with irrelevant detail; now spurious sentiment occasionally enters. In general, the novel is fair entertainment without being skilful in any large way. Its subtitle, "A Tale of the Boston Waterfront," promises more local color than is delivered.

THE YELLOW CORSAIR. By JAMES W. BENNETT. Duffield. 1927. \$2.

Good, substantial melodrama, fleetingly touched by the faint, soft light of sentiment, occupies Mr. Bennett's second novel of modern China, "The Yellow Corsair." Evidently the narrative comes from one who is thoroughly familiar with customs and manners in the large Chinese seaports; we never hesitate about accepting the local color and the atmosphere, for they are always persuasive. Furthermore, Mr. Bennett is gentleman enough to refrain from cursing either Oriental or Occidental civilization; the novel is no tract, contains no brief for this party or the other. To find such a dispassionate use of the Chinese scene is surely gratifying. The main incidents are concerned with the abduction of an American girl by Chinese pirates, and her rescue, after genuinely startling and imaginative adventures, by the mysterious though highly efficient Gregory MacDonald. Scenes during anti-foreign demonstrations are vivid, and the old crack-brained missionary to the pirates is a remarkably effective character. All in all, we can recommend this novel as a pleasantly unconventional adventure story that does not outrage common sense. In view of this year's troubles in China, Mr. Bennett's work has the added value of timeliness.

YOUNG LOW. By George Dorsey. Doran. \$2.50 net.

THE CASEMENT. By Frank Swinnerton. Doran. \$2.50 net.

I PRONOUNCE THEM. By G. A. Studdert Kennedy. Doran. \$2 net.

GOBLIN MARKET. By H. de Vere Stacpoole. Doran. \$2.50 net.

CHIVALRY PEAK. By Irwin S. Cobb. Cosmopolitan. \$2.

TRAVESTY. By Clare Thornton. Cosmopolitan. \$2.

THE HOUSE OF FULFILLMENT. By L. Adams Beck. Cosmopolitan. \$2.50.

THE WORLD'S BEST SHORT STORIES OF 1927. Doran.

MOOR FIRES. By E. H. Young. Harcourt, Brace. \$2.50.

THE TRAITOR'S GATE. By Edgar Wallace. Doubleday, Page. \$2 net.

ALAS, POOR YORICK. By Alfred H. Bill. Little, Brown. \$2.50 net.

THE RED DRAGON. By Lewis Stanton Palen. Houghton Mifflin. \$2.

COME TO MY HOUSE. By Arthur Somers Roche. Century. \$2.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION. By Clara Sharpe Hough. Century. \$2.

THE MASTER MIND. By Cleveland Moffett. Appleton. \$2.

HER CLOSED HANDS. By Putnam Weale. Macmillan. \$2.50.

## History

THE DEFENCE OF PIEDMONT 1742-1748. By SPENSER WILKINSON. Oxford University Press. 1927. \$7.

The present volume was designed to show the debt which Napoleon as a general owed to his French predecessors in Italy during the War of the Austrian Succession. It deals, therefore, chiefly with the military movements and the tactics employed by Corti, Maillebois, and Bourcet to get at Italy through Piedmont. Underlying the story of military events is the determined effort of Elizabeth Farnese, the ambitious wife of Philip V of Spain, to obtain Italian thrones for her sons at the expense of Maria Theresa of Austria.

There is an interesting group of pages devoted to eighteenth century armies, which were so slow and deliberate in pursuing the set technique of war that the enemy often had time to march away while the attacking force was forming its line. The author might well have quoted the anecdote told of a certain commander of the French guard in one of these eighteenth century battles

who advanced in front of the line, took off his hat, bowed to his English opponents, and said politely: "Gentlemen of the English Guard: Fire first!" He does point out that it took Marlborough five years to bring to pass five battles, although they were deadly enough once they were joined.

The author, formerly Chichele Professor of Military History at Oxford, has already published works on military subjects, such as "Hannibal's March through the Alps," and "The French Army before Napoleon." He has visited personally the passes of the Western Alps where most of the events which he describes took place. Maps have been prepared in exhaustive detail showing all phases of the various campaigns. While it is an excellent book for the student of military history, it is probably somewhat too technical for the general reader.

THE CAPTURE OF OLD VINCENNES. By Milo M. Quaife. Bobbs-Merrill. \$2.75.

WHY ROME FELL. By Edward Lucas White. Harpers. \$3.50.

SOUTH AMERICA. By E. W. Shanahan. Dutton. \$3.75.

THE GREAT DAYS OF VERSAILLES. By G. F. Bradby. Scribners. \$3.50.

CHRISTIANITY AND THE FRENCH REVOLUTION. By A. Aulard. Little, Brown. \$3 net.

THE INDIANS OF NORTH AMERICA. From "The Jesuit Relations and Other Documents." Selected and edited by Edna Kenton. Harcourt, Brace. 2 vols. \$10.

THE PARIS EMBASSY. By Beckles Willson. Stokes. \$5.

## Poetry

CITADELS. By MARGUERITE WILKINSON. Macmillan. 1927. \$1.50.

Mrs. Wilkinson is not a poet who will be popular while our current poetical modes and manners remain in fashion. Much of her verse is religious and devotional and thus moves against the grain of the times. But it would be a miserably narrow criticism that could not recognize in these lyrics and sonnets the sound of a ringingly genuine voice; for Mrs. Wilkinson writes convincingly out of a conviction concerning the validity of her spiritual experiences. Most people who write poetry today, and many who read it, may disagree with her beliefs. A few, acquainted with the latest theories criticism has offered, would probably insist that such beliefs as Mrs. Wilkinson's automatically invalidate poetry. Most others will be sensitive and undogmatic enough to recognize the passionate honesty, the art, and therefore the quiet power of the "Sonnets of a New Birth." She is utterly unpretentious.

Gold, myrrh and frankincense—

Still I have none.

Oh, take the long and tense

Ache of my folly, Lord

From me of all Thy fools the sorriest one.

Her chief fault—if it can truly be called a fault in poetry of a religious character—lies in the almost unavoidable vagueness of innumerable abstract nouns. That these words (beauty, glory, love, etc.) have very definite meanings for herself one cannot doubt. But she does not seem to recognize what dangerous accretions have gradually altered the shapes of their meanings in recent years. What religious verse needs today is a new symbolism. Mrs. Wilkinson, like many a worse poet and a few better, persists in using the old symbolism and thus fails very often to individualize her personal experience for the reader who is not already in sympathy with her ideas. In short, the mood of her work is excellent, but some of the means she uses to utter it have the effect of a falsification. Nevertheless "Citadels" is an impressive little book.

PERSUASIONS TO JOY. By Earl Fisk. Doran. \$2.50.

SPORTING VERSE. By Adam Lindsay Gordon. Scribners. \$5.

SONGS AND BALLADS OF THE ANTHRACITE MINER. By George G. Kosson. Hitchcock. \$3.

THE LEGEND OF AMERICA AND OTHER POEMS. By Demetrios Michalaros. New York: American Hellenic Publishing Co.

THE FALL MAN. By Donald Davidson. Houghton Mifflin. \$2.

## Science

THE NATURE OF THE WORLD AND OF MAN. Edited by H. H. NEWMAN. University of Chicago. 1927. \$5.

This excellent book by a group of specialists in the University of Chicago was favorably reviewed by *The Saturday Review* on its first appearance. It is now reissued with changes and revisions resulting from "valuable constructive criticism" of the first edition. Obviously a symposium on the conclusions of contemporary science must be kept up to date, and this reissue is a step in a plan to keep the book "abreast of the most recent advances in science."