

## BOOKS TO READ

*Carnivals and Creoles  
Voodoo and Black Magic—*

The very strange story of a strange American city, beautifully illustrated by E. H. Suydam.

By LYLE SAXON  
Author of *Father Mississippi*

### Fabulous New Orleans

Illustrated \$5.00

*Prowl Through Europe  
by Night—*

See the picturesque cities of the Old World in the intimate dress that only their natives know.

By  
KONRAD BERCOVICI

### Nights Abroad

Illustrated \$4.00

*The Last Independent  
Kingdom in Africa—*

A delightful traveler tells of his adventures hunting game and discovering the charms of Abyssinia.

By GORDON MACCREAGH  
Author of *White Waters & Black*

### The Last of Free Africa

Illustrated \$4.00

*A book that is stirring the  
thought of two continents—*

A challenging and heartening call to a more optimistic conduct of life, by a vigorous modern thinker.

By HUGH A.  
STUDDERT KENNEDY  
**The Impatience  
of a Layman**  
\$2.00

*A searchlight over  
two hemispheres—*

"A straightforward, frank and convincing discussion of the difference between Western and Oriental manners and conventions."—*Harry Hansen*

By MAURICE PARMELEE

### Oriental and Occidental Culture

Illustrated \$4.00

*Other Distinguished Books*

#### THE NEW TEMPLE

By JOHAN BOJER \$2.50

#### A LITTLE CLOWN LOST

By BARRY BENEFIELD \$2.00

#### DAY OF FORTUNE

By NORMAN MATSON \$2.50

#### MEXICO AND ITS HERITAGE

By ERNEST GRUENING  
Illustrated \$6.00

#### A-RAFTING ON THE MISSISSIPPI

By CHARLES EDWARD RUSSELL  
Illustrated \$3.50

#### The CHEVALIER BAYARD

By SAMUEL SHELLABARGER  
Illustrated \$4.00

#### The Century Co.

333 Fourth Avenue New York



Conducted by MARION PONSONBY

### The Bible and the Classics

IN this country, where the system of public school education has resulted in divorcing the curriculum from religious instruction, where church-going and Sunday-school attendance are no longer the *sine qua non* of respectability, where changes in college entrance requirements have made it possible for the educated man to emerge from the university entirely ignorant of the classics, it is inevitable that unless something is done to supply what has gone out of our training, literature must lose part of its content for future generations. We are not here at all concerned with the question of Bible study as religion, or with the study of Latin and Greek as mental discipline, but solely with their importance for general culture. What is to happen to our understanding of literature if allusions which once were the commonplaces of writing are to become as cryptic as a chemical formula? What is to happen to our authors if in order to make themselves intelligible to the public they must prune their works of references to the Bible and the classics?

The present generation of young parents, godless though their predecessors might regard them, are still living on the accumulated knowledge of their elders. At least, if they themselves never read the Bible, or labored through Homer and Vergil, their early reading was annotated for them by those who still had the information which they lacked. Poetry and story could be made to yield the content of their allusions if read aloud. But now mothers are frequently as unable to supply the incident back of a name as their children, and some of the richest literature of the world is to them a partially closed book. What is to be done about it?

Well, since formal education is not at present likely to make acquaintance with the Bible and the classics obligatory in later years, it would seem that the intelligent mother should lay her stress on them in the plastic period of childhood in the home. The child will absorb Biblical and classical lore with the same interest as he does the story of adventure or the fairy tale if it is properly presented to him. It will become part of the warp and the woof of his imagination, and will dwell in memory to illuminate literature for him in later years. Illustrated editions, abridged versions, anthologies—anything that serves to make reading attractive to the young without degrading the originals—should serve to stimulate and feed the knowledge that will add pregnancy to the reading of mature years. If half the pains went into presenting the Bible in attractive format that goes into furbishing forth Mother Goose, youngsters would be as familiar with its characters as with Jack and Jill.

### Reviews

THE HOUSE AT POOH CORNER. By A. A. MILNE. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co. 1928. \$2.

Reviewed by JOHN BENNETT

EVER since the appearance of that inimitable contribution to the gayety of nations, "When We Were Very Young," each new book by A. A. Milne has been greeted by a chorus of delight. And, as ever, when a starlike book dawns on the reader's dull horizon, the inevitable question has arisen in the minds of the lovers of Milne: can he maintain the subtle charm which enchanted a world from London *Punch* to the nursery?

The prose adventures of "Winnie-the-Pooh" enchanted maturity a little bit less, but enchanted the children more. "Now We Are Six" was received with trepidation, lest the enchanter's gold wear thin. Yet, though difficult for even genius to recapture the first fine careless rapture which caught the world all unaware in "When We Were Very Young," in full fair measure the volume did so. Then, with a keen sense of disappointment one regarded the pedestrian course of a syndicated story by A. A. Milne, the thin-drawn humor of which, if any, was headed not by a title legitimately or derivatively its own, but by the name of the author alone, thus doing its dull, destructive business under the promissory device of a happy name. While thus killing the goose for the golden egg, came a "Fourth Volume by the same Author

and Artist," "The House at Pooh Corner."

Apprehensively one turned to the "Fourth Book," suspiciously scanning the patent appeal of its uncapitalized title. And met . . . ah! isn't it a grand and glorious feeling, once more not to be disappointed by expectations of delight?

Making every allowance for the fact that this is Milne's fourth volume of similar substance, and that readers cannot expect to be surprised by what they anticipate, one is charmed to find that "the house at pooh corner" grades well up to Milne's high level of whimsical laughter and charm.

Perhaps there is not so often the almost uncanny revelation of a child's mind, that marvellous intuitive piercing of childhood's mental process in action, which before so delighted the adult, winking and sparkling along the page.

There is a change, not a decline; but something has gone, with the dancing music; the tale departs perceptibly from the naive humor of child psychology to narrative more wholly concerned with the adventures and misadventures of those quaint small beasts, the astute and poetical Pooh, the melancholy Jaques, Eeyore, the bouncy Tigger, Piglet, Rabbit, Kanga, Roo, and W O L, the burlesque tragic fall of the house of Owl, the mysterious fog in the Hundred Acre Wood, the diverting conversations and recreations of the storied Forest around Pooh Corner, and, comedy of errors, the building of a new house for Eeyore.

All is as ever whimsically laughable and delectable. And though, perhaps, the appeal to the old is less, the appeal to the young is undoubtedly greater, with more exciting adventures and droll events, and less psychological quiz, which, after all, is but matter-of-fact to a child, though diverting to its elders.

Almost on the level, and comparing well with Milne's first and best, "the house at pooh corner" will be welcomed by the young of all ages wherever Milne's books are known.

The drawings by E. H. Shepard are, as always, animatedly droll, and Christopher Robin's adorable legs are as irresistible as ever.

THE PIGTAIL OF AH LEE BEN LOO. By JOHN BENNETT. New York: Longmans, Green & Co. 1928. \$3.50.

Reviewed by WILLIAM ROSE BENÉT

IT was in the pages of "the old *St. Nicholas*" that I first made the acquaintance of John Bennett, via his silhouettes and rhymes. We older people have a way of speaking of "the old *St. Nicholas*" as though the period in the past during which we subscribed to that famous periodical, still extant, were the period of its heyday. Nevertheless, permit me, for one, still to think so. There were serials in it like "The White Cave" and "Jack Ballister's Fortunes" and "The Lakerim Athletic Club." To my mind the extremely affluent novelist, Rupert Hughes, has never done anything better than his fully-rounded portraits of the various boys in the last-named story. But I am concerned with John Bennett in this instance.

How various are John Bennett's gifts. One of his long stories for children, "Master Skylark," a story of Elizabethan England, is now a classic. His beautiful novel of old Charleston, for adults, deserves the same ranking. He is as clever in drawing as in writing, deft both in verse and prose. This present collection is the result of years of the highly individual entertainment he furnished my generation when they were younger, and today, as I turn the pages, there is the same glamor about his work.

"Ben Ali the Egyptian," with its clever intricacies of rhyme, and the brief jingle with the beautifully contrasted pictures, of "Granger Grind and Farmer Mellow," remain two of my old favorites. Others are "Hans the Otherwise" and "Ye Old-Tyme Tayle." But there is abundance in the book, abundance of caliphs and giants and fools who were wise and wise folk who were fools, plenty of beautiful and funny silhouettes, plenty of nonsense, plenty of good ballad measures; knights and scullions, peddlers, tailors and piemen; barbers,

(Continued on page 342)

### A Noble Rake

By ROBERT S. FORSYTHE

All the great figures of the early eighteenth century file through the pages of Professor Forsythe's book as they do through the pages of Thackeray's *Henry Esmond*; for this is a true account of the somewhat sordid career of the mediocre profligate who served Thackeray as the original of the villain of his great romance. To add to the attractiveness of the book to anyone who cares for eighteenth-century things, there are fifteen reproductions of rare mezzotints and a wealth of antiquarian footnotes.

\$3.50 a copy.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
PRESS

2 RANDALL HALL,  
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

### For Younger Readers

N. C. Wyeth has done  
17 color pages and  
46 drawings for the  
1928 title in the  
Scribner \$2.50  
Illustrated Classics

## DRUMS

By James Boyd



James Boyd's famous story of the American Revolution has been a favorite with younger readers since its publication. This new edition, superbly illustrated by N. C. Wyeth, will be the perfect gift book for every occasion. \$2.50

### Other Arabian Nights

by H. I. Katibah

Illustrated in color by W. M. Berger.

Fantastic and enthralling fairy-tales and folk-lore with all the strange Oriental charm of "The Thousand and One Nights," told by a man who heard them first as a boy in the Orient. \$2.00

### The Treasure Cave

edited by Cynthia Asquith

Editor of "Sails of Gold," etc.

New stories by famous English authors, among them Rafael Sabatini, Walter de la Mare, Hilaire Belloc, and Algernon Blackwood. A big book of varied and enthralling interest. With many illustrations in black and white and color. \$2.00

### Wild Animal Interviews

by W. T. Hornaday

A famous writer on wild animals here interviews forty of them in their native haunts or the "Zoo." With forty illustrations by Lang Campbell. \$2.50

### Smoky

by Will James

This new Library Edition of the famous classic of a cow-pony is the only edition now available. With forty-three illustrations and new cover design by the author. \$2.00

at all bookstores

Charles Scribner's Sons, New York



Now Young People Have a Chance to Enjoy This Classic!

# ABE LINCOLN GROWS UP

By CARL SANDBURG

This includes the first 27 chapters of Carl Sandburg's "Abraham Lincoln: The Prairie Years," set in large, clear type and illustrated by James Daugherty. In a line and style all his own, the illustrator portrays incidents humorous and tragic in the life of young Abe, from his earliest appearance in a rude, home-made cradle to his departure, at 19, for New Salem to make his fortune. Text and pictures make this a volume that any American boy or girl should be proud to own, one that will be read and re-read until such time as its possessor is old enough to explore the further riches of the larger work from which it is taken.

\$2.50



## ADVENTURE WAITS

Edited by Helen Ferris

Miss Ferris, former editor of *The American Girl*, has collected here a dozen very different stories of definite literary quality—Bercovici's "Steel Against Steel," Zona Gale's "The Night of the Storm," Joseph Conrad's "The Lagoon," etc. Each story is preceded by a short page of introductory text.

\$2.50

## LONGSHANKS

By Stephen W. Meader

"I have not read so good a yarn of its kind in months: a journey down the Mississippi in 1828, legitimately exciting and quite sufficiently accurate for a good historical novel. Not until the last page do you find that the hero is Abraham Lincoln."—MAY LAMBERTON BECKER in *The Saturday Review*.

\$2.00

## A PAIR OF ROVERS

By John Lesterman

By the author of "The Adventures of a Trafalgar Lad," Jack Bankart and his friend Gerald were captured and sent to sea in the perilous days of Napoleon. From their first encounter with pirates and their entanglement in the sea-weed of the Sargasso Sea up to their final shipwreck, their adventures make a thrilling tale. Illustrated.

\$2.00

## THE DRAGON FLY OF ZUNI

By Alida Sims Malkus

Mrs. Malkus, whose Raquel of the Ranch Country was so well liked by girls, tells here the story of Squash Blossom, a young Pueblo Indian girl. This is a book written from first-hand knowledge, filled with the detail of Zuni customs, superstitions and ceremonies, and relating a stirring romance as well.

Illustrated, \$2.50



For Every Home with a Piano

## New Songs for New Voices

Selected by CLARA and DAVID MANNES  
and LOUIS UNTERMAYER

One hundred new songs for children, most of the music composed for this book by famous modern musicians. Among them are Daniel Gregory Mason, John Alden Carpenter and Leopold Damrosch. The authors of the verses include, A. A. Milne, Carl Sandburg, Walter de la Mare, Edna St. Vincent Millay, and Louis Untermeyer. Most of the songs children themselves can sing and all are within their grasp. 44 drawings by Peggy Bacon.

\$5.00



"'New Songs for New Voices' is by way of being an oasis in an especially arid desert."—DEEMS TAYLOR in *The Saturday Review*.

"Here is a book for children and adults which makes a reviewer fret at the lack of space in which to praise."—*Chicago News*.

## Do You Need Extra Copies of—

Louis Untermeyer, Editor	
THIS SINGING WORLD . . . . .	\$3.00
YESTERDAY AND TODAY . . . . .	\$2.50
Dorothy Canfield	
MADE-TO-ORDER STORIES . . . . .	\$2.50
Carl Sandburg	
ROOTABAGA STORIES . . . . .	\$2.00
ROOTABAGA PIGEONS . . . . .	\$2.00

## LENAPÉ TRAILS

By Clifton Lisle

A story of hunting and pioneering in the forests of Pennsylvania in 1728. Two English boys establish their land claim in spite of difficulties with pirates and Indians. They have for friend and guide Daniel Longbree, an old frontiersman, and Tarrecka, an Indian scout. Illustrated.

\$2.00

## GUKI, THE MOON-BOY AND OTHER PLAYS

By Beulah Folmsbee

Five plays which are interesting and practical for children to act. The first four combine humor and magic with the charm of fairy tales; the last is a sympathetic and original Christmas play. Illustrated by Decie Merwin.

\$2.00

## THE LITTLE PEOPLE OF THE HILLS

By Florence Choate  
and Elizabeth Curtis

Stories of dwarfs and elves, the household fairies of Scandinavia, and the witches of Scotland. The tales have been collected and rewritten from British legends, from Scandinavian mythology and German folk-lore. Illustrated by the authors.

\$2.50

## GREEN MAGIC

Edited by Romer Wilson

The first volume in a new series of fairy books. Among the twenty-three tales included are a few standard stories, but most of them are from new or unfamiliar sources. The series is edited by Romer Wilson, the distinguished British novelist. Illustrated.



Harcourt, Brace and Company ~ 383 MADISON AVENUE ~ New York