

## The Reader's Guide

Conducted by MAY LAMBERTON BECKER

Inquiries in regard to the selection of books and questions of like nature should be addressed to MRS. BECKER, c/o *The Saturday Review*.

*S. S. H., (no address) asks for books on Hawaii for a family intending to live there.*

"HAWAII Past and Present," by W. R. Castle (Dodd, Mead), a widely-used guide and source of general information for tourists, has this season been reissued in a new and revised edition. Not long before this came "Hawaii To-day," by R. C. Wriston, a fine big book from Doubleday, Doran, and Katherine F. Gerould's travel sketches in "Hawaii" (Scribner). F. G. Carpenter's *World Travels* includes a volume on "Through the Philippines and Hawaii" (Doubleday, Doran), that like all the books of this series is as good as a travelogue. There is a new, revised edition of Charmian London's "Our Hawaii" (Macmillan). "Hawaii the Rainbow Land," by Katherine Pope (Crowell), has a pleasant style and shows wide acquaintance, and in the "Spell" series published by Page there is one by I. W. Anderson on "The Spell of the Hawaiian Islands and the Philippines." "Hawaii's Story by Hawaii's Queen," by Liliuokalani, is published by Lothrop. "Hawaii: Our New Possessions," by John R. Musick (Funk & Wagnalls), is an account of customs and institutions, history, scenery, and matters of general interest. A. W. Palmer's "The Human Side of Hawaii" (Pilgrim Press) is a description of the islands as one of the most extraordinary social experiment stations in the world. The "History of Hawaii," by R. S. Kuykendall (Macmillan), is issued both in school and in trade editions; the American Book Company publishes a "Brief History of the Hawaiian People," by W. Alexander, and the American Book Company M. C. Alexander's little "Story of Hawaii." "Hawaiian Days and Holidays," by M. E. Frear (Stratford), combines travel with history, and there is a collection of "Hawaiian Folk Tales," compiled by T. G. Thrum (McClurg), and one of their "Historical Legends," by W. D. Westervelt (Revell). Nor should I close this list without the first reading-matter that introduced me to this part of the world, the chapters on Hawaii in Mark Twain's "Roughing It" (Harper).

*J. M. S., Rockford, Ill., asks how to pronounce the name of A. A. Milne, saying that she never questioned it till she recently heard several people giving it two syllables. It is curious how much trouble some people will take to get things wrong. Most British surnames take the line of least resistance, and Mr. Milne's has made no struggle to preserve more than one syllable. R. L. A., Grandview, Mo., asks for a book called "The Rivers of America," author and publisher unknown. I have not found one with just that title; may it not be John T. Faris's "Romance of the Rivers" (Harper), a large and expensively illustrated work lately issued? Or perhaps Zane Grey's "Tales of Southern Rivers" (Harper)?*

*M. C., Augusta, Ga., suggests (from Milton), "A great book is the life-blood of a master mind." George Allen and Unwin, Ruskin House, Museum Street, London, says: "In view of the enquiries you are receiving concerning books on graphology, may we draw your attention to the works of Robert Saudek, 'The Psychology of Handwriting,' published by The George H. Doran Company in New York, and 'Experiments with Handwriting,' published by us." D. W., Boston, tells T. A., Gainesville, Fla., to get Arthur Elson's "Book of Musical Knowledge" (Houghton Mifflin), which has 600 papers and covers all departments of the subject. B. O. E., New York City, read the list of books for one going to the Holy Land, and as she has made the journey once and is just going again, sends word that the book that gave her the most pleasure was "Au Pays de Jésus," by Matilde Serao, a translation from the Italian, "not new, but so delightfully written." C. H., Scarsdale, N. Y., and several others who asked me last year if the proceedings of the Wittenberg Symposium at Springfield, Ohio, would be published, are informed that they are now accessible in one large volume "Feelings and Emotions" (Clark University Press, Worcester, Mass., \$6 postpaid). The importance of this book to those interested in psychology or even in pedagogy is very high. The papers were read or sent by the world's greatest authorities, from Adler, Aveling, Bekhterev, to Weiss and Woodworth, and present the most comprehensive*

discussion of the general problems of feelings and emotions that is now available in any language. It also contains a discussion of the latest experimental work in Cannon's laboratory at Harvard.

*A Toronto inquirer wishes something to serve as introduction to general science for a family of children, something simply written and profusely illustrated. A children's encyclopedia or general compendium is not what this reader looks for, but a work altogether given to scientific matters.*

THE children might have "Compton's Pictured Encyclopedia" for all that, even though its science is scattered in with history and other matters; the science in this work is uncommonly sound and abreast of the times. For a large, many-pictured work altogether given to the subject, I have found that "The Outline of Science," edited by J. Arthur Thomson (Putnam) is highly stimulating when added to a family library. It is indeed the best comprehensive work on popular science that we have, far and away ahead of the other "Outlines" of the world's activities so popular at the time this book appeared. It is, however, somewhat uneven, the best articles being those by the editor himself, and it might be questioned whether psychical research has reached the point that the inclusion of an article by Sir Oliver Lodge would indicate, especially as the bibliography he appends is made of books all on the side of spiritualism. But this is a matter outside the present question: the "Outline of Science" reports on all the subjects on which this family wishes information, from geology to astronomy, and of the great number of pictures in the large volumes many are in colors.

For speeding up an interest in science as it affects the life of to-day, nothing is better than "Snapshots of Science," by E. E. Slosson, not long from the press of the Century Company; this is in the cheerful contemporary vein of the author's preceding "Chats on Science," and has the same effect of making the reader take a sharp interest in news from the scientific front as it appears in the papers and magazines. "Junior Science," by John C. Hessler (Sanborn), is a text-book for the junior high school, but is unusually interesting. Waldemar Kämpf-fert's "A Popular History of American Invention" is a grown-up's book, but is fascinatingly written and may be safely added to a home library. Indeed the "Outline" is over the head of the ordinary child, but it does him good to stand on tiptoe. He may continue such exercise with "The New Natural History," by J. A. Thomson (Putnam), which was by no means too grown-up for a group of boys in New Jersey some months ago, I was told.

*C. M. R., Waynesboro, Va., asks for literature on the subject of Susan B. Anthony.*

THE best of it is comprised in the admirable new biography, "Susan B. Anthony: The Woman Who Changed the Mind of a Nation," by Rheta Childe Dorr (Stokes), which adorns my best shelf of selected American biographies, such as are in the true sense histories as well. Miss Anthony makes a brief and somewhat grim appearance in another biography of the season, "The Terrible Siren," in which Emanie Sachs displays the incredible career of Victoria Woodhull, "firebrand of the seventies" (Harper). This is a gorgeous book about a grand old time, when sinners certainly had the courage of their convictions—notice, for example, the career of another notability of the period, "Jubilee Jim Fisk," as set down by Robert H. Fuller (Macmillan). But Victoria Woodhull lost the courage of hers later in life, and the most amazing part of the record is her evident belief that all one had to do to destroy a past record was to forget it.

Susan B. seems to have been suspicious of the brilliant Woodhull-Clafin interest in suffrage, from the first; she figures but briefly in the Sachs biography, but in Mrs. Dorr's she is shown at full length and to the life.

*S. S. D., Rifle, Col., asks if I recall a book of which I wrote two years ago that it was so full of humor that if read casually to a group of people they would soon be in gales of laughter? I can't remember two years back on this information, but if anyone recalls either this book or any other that would surely qualify on these terms, the library at Rifle would like to get it.*

(Continued on page 655)

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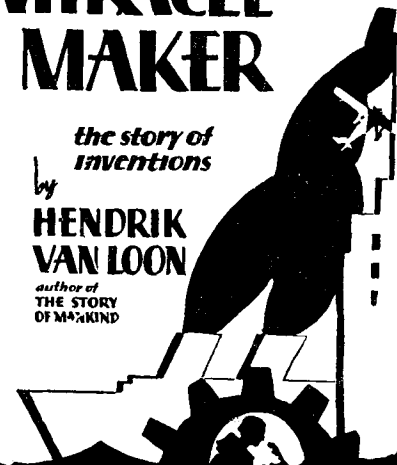
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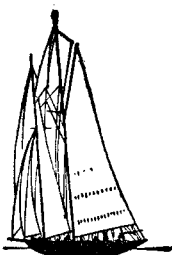
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### Jerome Kern Sale

THE second part of the Jerome Kern sale catalogue (J-Z) serves to emphasize the criticisms of the first. As a collection, the library lacked a focal point; it suggested the bookseller urging association copies of anything upon the customer, largely because they were association volumes, not because they fitted in to any considered plan of the purchaser's. Keats, Kipling, Lamb, an early eighteenth century Indian manuscript in Telinga characters written on both sides of 325 palm leaves, George Moore, an extraordinary number of Pope items, Allan Ramsay, the Rossettis, Sir Walter Scott, the second, third, and fourth Shakespeare Folios, Shelley, Smollett, Stevenson, Swift, Swinburne, Tennyson, Thackeray, Whittier, Wilde, Wither, and Wordsworth—all these appeared jumbled together with nothing but the English alphabet to keep them in order. There was little attempt at consistency: the nineteenth century group of novelists completely omitted Maria Edgeworth, Mrs. Gaskell, and Captain Marryatt, and dismissed Anthony Trollope with four novels in the original parts (none of them unusual), while Mary Shelley was included with eleven items, and Dickens with one hundred and eleven, and his marriage license. Mr. Kern had, of course, every right to purchase whatever he liked, but in comparison with other American collections, the Chew, Hagan, McCutcheon, and White libraries, for example, his must naturally suffer: it possessed marvellous sections, but it lacked the perfection, the almost entire realization of an ideal, that made the others truly great in their own ways.

And if ever books were over-catalogued, and had all the wrong points of interest stressed in the ill-concealed hope of obtaining record prices, it was in this instance: item 1179, for example, headed "Original Draft of Stirring Poem to his Wife," described the first draft of a poem by Stevenson—six stanzas of four lines each with autograph corrections—in this manner:

"A PASSIONATE POEM OF THE SOUTH SEA ISLANDS, written by Stevenson for his Wife. The contents indicate that it belongs to the earlier years of the South Sea Islands period. Mrs. Stevenson had in her something both of the color and temperament which is suggested by the name Tiger Lily, and this accounts for the introduction of that flower in the third stanza; while, of course, the phrase 'dusky woman' refers to the bronze complexion that she attained under the Southern Suns."

It is useful to learn that Mrs. Stevenson's temperament resembled the tiger lily's, and to discover the effect of the Southern Suns upon her complexion, but what earthly connection it all has with the presentation of a manuscript in a catalogue passes comprehension. In other cases, the bindings were dwelt upon lovingly—"Dark red crushed levant morocco, with rich rose borders, gilt tooled, sides all-over pattern of roses and bees, gilt tooled, centre medallions of same design with gilt lettering: 'The Flower for Me, the Honey for Thee', inside gilt borders, doublures and end leaves of green China silk." It is slightly ironic that this should enclose one of the twenty-five proof copies of Tennyson's obscure poem, "The Victim."

There is no especial need to comment at present upon the prices brought at the sale—the newspapers have given them the attention they deserve. It can only be hoped vainly that book-dealers throughout the country will not instantly adopt so false a standard of values, and feel themselves fully justified in advancing their charges whenever they acquire any of the books included in this collection.

On January 30th the library of early Western history, literature, and narratives formed by the Right Reverend Nathaniel S. Thomas was sold at the Anderson Galleries. Without pretense and without boasting, this collection fulfilled its purpose admirably.

### AUCTION SALES CALENDAR

American Art Association, February 5-6, Americana; English Literature of the sixteenth to nineteenth centuries, the property of William W. Cohen. One of the outstanding auction catalogues of the year, illustrated with unusually good facsimiles. The Americana section includes an original document signed by John Alden, several items relating to Major John André, letters of Benedict Arnold, Christopher Colles's "Survey of the Roads of the United States," N. Y., 1789, in perfect condition; letters of Robert Fulton illustrated with sketches; a remarkably fine series of Washington letters, including his own defense of his treatment of Captain Agassiz; and a letter of Martha Washington to her sister. The English literature portion includes twenty-five letters from Robert Browning to R. H. Horne; several Shelley items; the Huth copy of Spenser's "Colin Cloute," London, 1595; the inevitable Stevensons; and an unusually fine group of Walt Whitman first editions and autograph material. Although it does not belong to either part, there is also a complete, authenticated file of *La Libre Belgique*, 1915-1918, very well catalogued with an historical outline of the paper's career that is especially interesting and well-written.

American Art Association, February 11. The private library of Mrs. Albert E. Solomon. Hardy's "Desperate Remedies," a superb copy, the 1903 "Dynasts"; a long run of the Grolier Club publications; Hearn; George Moore, and Mark Twain.

February 19. The collections of Clara Tice and W. S. Hall. French illustrated books of the eighteenth century; Nonesuch and Golden Cockerel Press books.

February 23. A private library of English books. Dickens, Galsworthy, Barrie, an especially fine collection of Shaw, and Trollope.

The American Art Association recently by means of its catalogue of the Count Pepoli collection of Italian Art, sold a short time ago under its auspices, placed everyone in its debt. Beautifully printed and illustrated, with descriptions that are almost matter-of-fact in their conciseness, the catalogue is a most impressive and distinguished volume.

G. M. T.

### MAGAZINE TYPOGRAPHY

**T**YPOGRAPHY of magazine pages is fascinating and—beyond all reckoning—aggravating. There is the continual novelty of the problem, first in the random length of headings, authors' names, etc., second in the possibility of changing the size at the beginning of some new volume. Pictures offer a never-ending opportunity. And besides there is the faint possibility (or there was, before editors took to chopping up articles like so much cord-wood to placate the advertising department) of making the magazine "compose" as a whole. On the other hand there is the definite aggravation of having one's very fine plan spoiled by last minute exigencies or by stupidity on the printer's part. For the printer has abdicated his just position as printer, and has become, in almost all cases where magazine typography is given any thought at all, merely the workman endeavoring to carry out someone else's ideas. The printer ought to arrange the whole design and lay-out of the magazine in his own shop, just as the composition and printing are done there. So only will magazines be well printed. The ideal arrangement is perhaps something of the sort which existed between the Century Company and the De Vinne Press in the earlier days of the *Century Magazine*.

American magazines have been endeavoring of recent years to spruce up. The *Dial* was planned in its present style by Bruce Rogers, and the style is admirable. The printing has not been uniformly good. *Harper's* passed across the drawing-board of W. A. Dwiggins, and went back to New York to take its place as perhaps the most successfully designed of the magazines in its