# 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.

### Biography

#### CHARLES FENNO HOFFMAN. By Ho-MER F. BARNES. Columbia University Press. 1930.

After minute and thorough investigation of the life of the almost forgotten New Yorker, Charles Fenno Hoffman, son of Judge J. O. Hoffman, and founder of The Knickerbocker, Professor Barnes might have written a delightful biography of the so-cial, fascinating author of "Sparkling and Bright." Hoffman lived in the New York of Irving and Willis, knew everybody, and exercised an influence in the magazine coteries which Poe recognized. In his youth there was romance and tragedy, and his career was terminated by insanity. Just now, however, these minor figures have fallen under the sway of the academic detectives: a biography of James K. Paulding has appeared, and in the fall, Fitz-Greene Halleck will revisit the upper air. Professor Barnes has, therefore, given us an exact factual record of Hoffman's life and writings. Yet, however heavy reading, as his book is at times, he has elected wisely to do this. What he has done, he has done completely, and the facts about Hoffman are here for all ages, however indifferent the ages. Let the picturesque writers now poetize him as "Hoffman: the Enraptured Knickerbocker," or as they will. This spade-work still stands

Perhaps a via media between the two types of biography is what we most need, and Professor Barnes's book is frankly undigested in many portions, is reminiscent of the seminar, and is, in fact, essentially a dissertation as it comes to weary committees at the end of the university year. The question whether or not Professor Barnes would not have done better to wait, select, analyze, and publish in a sharper, more readable form can hardly be debated. Yet, as it is, the book has great value to the specialist in American literature.

- A VICTOR. By Charles H. Brent. Marshall
  - \$1.50. ID HIS BIOGRAPHERS. By Oscar Lewis,
  - incisco: Westgate. FATIVE MEN. By Ralph Waldo Em-
  - Houghton Mifflin. \$1. ADA AND THE SPANISH INQUISITION.

'ael Sabatini. Houghton Mifflin. \$1. CATION OF HENRY ADAMS. Houghton . \$1.

#### Education

- SHORT STUDIES IN MUSICAL PSYCHOLOGY. By Charles Hubert Farnsworth. Oxford University Press. \$1.50.
- ARGUMENTATION. By James A. Winans and William E. Utterback. Century. \$2.25.
- CENTURY READINGS IN THE ENGLISH NOVEL. Selected and annotated by John W. Cunliffe. Century. \$3.50.
- GERMAN PLAYS OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY. Edited by Thomas Moody Campbell. Crofts. \$4.
- SOCIAL SCIENCE LESSONS FOR JUNIOR WORKERS. By Clarence P. Davey and James Cameron. Century. 76 cents.
- LA PRINCESS DE CLÈVES. By Madame de La Fayette. Edited by H. Ashton. Scribners. \$1.
- MANON LESCAUT. By L. Abbé Prévost. Edited by Louis Landré. Scribners. \$1.

### Miscellaneous

ELEMENTS OF THE FREE DANCE. By ELIZABETH SELDEN. New York: Barnes. 1930. \$1.50.

Dance that is free belongs to the spiritual dynamics of the universe, we are taught in this brilliant brochure which admirably marks out for laymen as well as students THE BOOK OF THE WHITE MOUN-TAINS. By JOHN ANDERSON and STEARNS MORSE. Minton, Balch. 1930. \$5.

No seasoned White Mountaineer really needs this book and only a seasoned lover of the region will derive full enjoyment from it. For, "dear as remembered kisses after death," the mountains yield their enchantment when out of reach only to those who can fill out description of them with memories of the actuality. We kindled as we read the authors' portrayal of Jefferson to recollections of late summer afternoons with the smoke hanging in lazy spirals above the train crawling the distant slope of Mt. Washington, and we drank again of the delicious waters that signalized the near surmounting of the headwall of Tuckerman's Ravine as we followed their instructions for its climbing. An immense nostalgia seized us-for the Gulfside Trail and for Huntington Ravine and for the Hut on Madison, for Carter Notch and for the road that winds through aromatic forests from Gorham to the Glen, for Randolph Hill and Cherry Mountain and Franconia.

Mr. Anderson and Mr. White know their White Mountains and have selected with discrimination those features of the region most likely to appeal to the vacationist in search of the stimulation of the open. Theirs is no guidebook to fashionable hotels or golf courses, but rather a chronicle by means of which the motorist and climber can discover the beauties of a mountain playland which despite its large hostleries and much travelled roads still offers to those who know how to search it out the exhilaration of untamed nature. It contains enough of the history of the White Hills to furnish a background of human interest for the scenery, and it is embellished with a number of most admirable photographs. An appendix presents a comprehensive list of hotels with their rates, a list of summer camps, public camp grounds, and golf courses, a whopsis of the motor vehicle laws of New Hampshire, and a bibliography.

POWER AND UTILITY OF MONEYS. By Master Gabriel Biel of Speyer. University of Pennsvlvania Press. \$2.50.

RECREATION IN AND ABOUT BOSTON. Houghton Mifflin. \$1.50.

TENURE OF OFFICE UNDER THE CONSTITUTION. By James Hart. Johns Hopkins Press. \$3.50. EVERYMAN AT WAR. Edited by C. B. Purdon. Dutton. \$2.50.

- CRIME AND CURE. By E. T. Wellford. Stratford. \$1.
- LITERARY LEAVES 1930. By Tomorrow's Writers. Columbus: American Education Press.
- THE CLOSE OF WOODROW WILSON'S ADMINISTRA-TION AND THE FINAL YEARS. By Bainbridge
- Colby. Kennerley. WOMAN. By Evangeline Booth. Revell.

## Murder Will Out

By WILLIAM C. WEBER

ONE has only to read "Memoirs of a Murder Man" (horrible title) by Ex-Inspector Arthur A. Carey of the New York Police Department to realize how puerile most mystery and detective fiction is when compared with the actual exploits of the Homicide Bureau. No Sherlock Holmes, Philo Vance, or Dr. Thorndyke ever started from such meager clues as confronted the New York police in a score of famous cases that were successfully solved. Inspector Carey's connection with the New York Police Department began in 1889. He retired in 1928, having seen crime detection grow from a rule-of-thumb affair to a highly scientific study. His memoirs done in collaboration with Howard McClellan, and published by Doubleday, Doran, are continuously thrilling, filled with more amazing feats of deduction than a dozen detective fictioneers ever imagined, elearly and modestly written, and dotted with portraits of New York police worthies from the days of Inspector Byrnes of the old Central Office to Arthur Woods and George V. McLaughlin. But the murders are the thing-the Molineux case, the Elwell case, the Dot King murder, the Rice-Patrick affair, the gang wars in which Jack the Dropper and "Little Orgie" Orgen figured, the Wall Street bomb explosion in 1920, right down to the Gray-Snyder case and that of the Radio Burglar. Inspector Carey concludes with two very wise and interesting chapters on "The Philosophy of Murder" and "Murder as a Spectacle," in which, among other matters, he pays his respects to lawyers, the law, and the press. For those who take their murder neat, this is a prime prescription. The latest Edgar Wallace story-"The (Continued on next page)

These belong on every vacation reading list

## My Life by Leon Frotsky

"No student of contemporary history will want to miss the fascinating and true romance that this life of Trotsky relates."-The Nation. 600 pages. \$5.00

## The Unknown Washington

### by John Corbin

"His book is of signal importance in the history of the founders of this government. It throws needed light in many dusty corners." -Rupert Hughes in Current History.

454 pages. \$4.00

## Xenophon: Soldier of Fortune

by Leo V. Jacks

"Few more stirring narratives could be added to any library." -Emporia Gazette. 236 pages \$2.00

## Brawny Wycherley: Courtier, Wit, and Playwright

**by Willard Connely** 'Mr. Connely has brought his hero vividly to life."—Walter Prichard Eaton in

the New York Herald Tribune. \$3.00

## Long Hunt by James Boyd

author of "Drums," etc.

'Mr. Boyd writes better historical novels than any other American \$2.50 to-day."-Edward Weeks in The Atlantic Monthly.

### The Scarab Murder Case A Philo Vance Story by S. S. Van Dine

"The best story we have yet read by Mr. Van Dine." -Outlook and \$2.00 Independent.

## She Knew She Was Right

by Jesse Lynch Williams

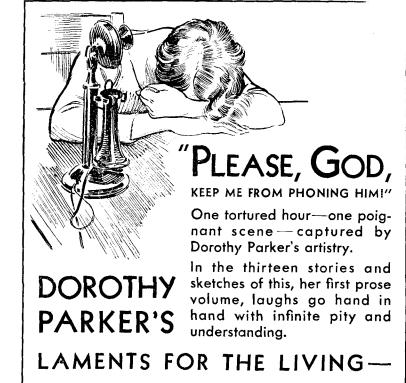
"Here is pure satiric comedy."-New York Herald Tribune. \$2.50

## The Heir by Roger Burlingame

author of "Susan Shane," etc.

\$2.50

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS, NEW YORK



"Intelligent, powerful and intense."—Philadelphia Ledger. at your bookstore

how bodily rhythm of the Isadora Duncan school is distinct in principle from ballet, folk, national, and all other forms of dancing. Miss Selden has achieved here an excellent piece of writing, to be relished by all cultured minds, in dealing with a subject always regarded hitherto as matter only for a class. The free, or barefoot, dance is the eternal kinesthetic because the sole dance which, while yielding to the urge to soar in space throughout all time, would leave not one whit of itself or of nature behind.

Large practical returns come from reading this work as it is marked by a ripe scholarship in the ritualism of all dancing. Much of the dance technology is explained, making the book fit into the dance instruction scheme which has today become so widespread. It particularly marks out the chasmal differences between the barefoot dance and the ballet dance, in principle no less than in accoutrements. The author contends, in fact, that the ballet is dependent upon equipment, whereas the free has hardly any and should have none.

### She has here created a new gallery of living characters. Little Curtis, Big Blonde, Mr. Durant, the lady in the petunia hat and the others will be the chief topics of 1930 conversation. At all bookstores \$2.50 THE VIKING PRESS, NEW YORK

### JIZOKOVIIZOKOVIIZOKOVIIZOKOVIIZOKOVIIZOKOVIIZOKOVIIZOKOVIIZOKOVIIZOKOVIIZOK

## **TO SUBSCRIBERS-IMPORTANT**

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Murder Will Out

(Continued from preceding page)

Green Ribbon" (Crime Club)—is, for Edgar, a quiet book. Beside "The India Rubber Man" it is a pink tea, even though there

is one murder, a kidnapping, and some miscellaneous gunplay. The interest in "The Green Ribbon" lies in its descriptions of the

great English racing meets and how "Trigger's Transactions" (whose trademark was a bit of twisted green ribbon) made money for thousands of bettors and drove the

bookies mad. Trigger was above reproach, but his helpers were not, and the way three

of them fixed races, etc., until the final coup that failed, was something outrageous. But

Scotland Yard was on their trail in the usual

efficient Wallace manner and all went well

in the end, even to Scotland Yard marrying

the girl. The biggest mystery in this book

is the omission of the few tantalizing pages

of the next Wallace thriller from the end of

technique is excellent, with a slightly foreign

And now the anti-religious campaign of

the Soviets makes the mystery story grade.

"Stranglehold" (Crime Club), by Mrs.

Baillie Reynolds, involves a communist plot

to blow up the great cathedrals of Europe

and England. There is hardly any doubt

about the identity of the criminal after the

first hundred pages, but the charm of the

English country background, the amusing

comedy of the secondary characters, and the

excellent sleuthing of the detective in charge

hold up the interest until the end-when

there is a surprise that bids fair to upset the whole yarn. Another good dollar's worth.

There are three-perhaps four-Mr. J.

S. Fletchers. There is Mr. J. S. Knopf-

Fletcher, Mr. J. S. Putnam-Fletcher, and

Mr. J. S. Doubleday-Fletcher. One recalls

dimly, but not to a certainty, a Mr. J. S.

Dodd-Fletcher, Mr. J. S. Knopf-Fletcher

serves his public with brand new detective

yarns, one about every eight months or so;

the other Messrs. Fletcher serve up, gener-

ally speaking, old mystery stuff, or pleasant

"straight" novels of English life, or collec-

tions of short stories. "Behind the Mon-

ocle"-by Mr. Doubleday-Fletcher-is a

collection of short stories. Most of them

are not bad, but none is very good-though

to some readers they may be worth their

"The Square Mark," by Grace M. White

dollar.

flavor that makes it even more interesting.

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Two Years Before the Mast. First edition, original binding,
No. 106 of Home Library. MELVILLE \$50
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(Pirated edition of Israel Pot- ter), Phil C1865.
MELVILLE Omoo.
New York 1847, 3rd edition, original binding. (Make offer.)
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London 1922, Mint condition with wrapper.
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Plain Dealer for Wednesday, the 30th of the volume. Is it possible that he is not go-January, 1861. As a story of life in primiing to write any more? Or have the plodtive Oregon, it contains all the horrors of ding presses at last caught up with his pen? a child's nightmare, the attack by hostile At least, the book is a good dollar's worth. Indians who killed as many of the whites as Continental Europe has produced few depossible, and made prisoners of the remaintective story writers whose works appeal to der; a missionary first turned into a kind of the American reading public. Gaston Le-Saint Sebastian, then burned at the stake; Roux, Maurice LeBlanc, Frank Heller-one running the gauntlet; an existence in capcannot recall any others that have created tivity lasting eleven years, and finally the more than a ripple in mystery circles. But hero's escape and return to the civilization now comes the American début of the of the east. The narrative is remarkable Danish writer, Sven Elvestad, with "The chiefly for its restraint and understatement; Case of Robert Robertson" (Knopf). This nothing is described in too great detail, and is in some ways a double-barreled yarn. even though the reader may wonder impa-Robertson is at once detective and criminal. tiently why pioneers ever start out from As the latter he preys not on honest citizens their homes in the first place, and then seem but on criminals themselves; as the former so disturbed to find themselves uncomforit is to his advantage to ferret out the pertable, the account as personal history is valpetrators of crimes so that he may feather uable. Mr. Heartman, one of the real his own nest. A certain Dr. Gravenhag is authorities on Americana, has done a useful found murdered. His face is smashed in, and interesting piece of work in adding and identification is possible only through James Kimball to the available number of a cross-shaped scar on his arm. The police "Indian Captivities." follow several clues, and then comes the Indian Captivities, it might be pointed news that the same Dr. Gravenhag has been out, can still be collected with a certain defound murdered in a Berlin hotel. Here gree of freedom from high prices-the field the trails of the police and Robert-Robertis large and not overcrowded with "highson cross, and the amazing mystery is at last spots," and the stories themselves have a deunriddled. The method used-alternative cided historical importance. Early last aulong statements by the author and by Robert Robertson-is a bit confusing, but the

M R. CHARLES F. HEARTMAN of Metuchen has had reprinted for pri-

vate distribution the "Short Narrative of

James Kimball, Eleven Years a Captive

among the Snake Indians," which appar-

ently he discovered in the Cleveland Weekly

tumn, Random House in New York printed, for the twenty-third recorded time as Mr. Elmer Adler remarked in his introduction, the "Narrative of the Life of Mrs. Mary Jemison," a lady who, at the age of twelve, was captured by Indians, and became so much a part of her adopted race that she had two husbands and several children, some of whom turned out very badly. In its modern dress, her "Narrative" was an especially delightful book, and deserved the attention of collectors, not only for itself, but for the entire class of books it represented.

G. M. T.

 $W^{\text{E}\ \text{are in receipt of the following}}_{\text{letter:}}$ 

#### Dear Sir:

An acquaintance has sent us your review of our last Catalogue—"The Romance of Letters."

In that review you mention lot 109, "Boswell's Johnson," and set forth the contents of that lot, except its most important item," viz: The Presentation copy from the Author to Sir Joshua Reynold's niece—the Countess of Inchiquin—of Boswell's Life of Dr. Johnson.<sup>2</sup> Obviously without that book, the price asked, £2000, is absurd.<sup>8</sup> Moreover, there would be no point in heading the collection, "Boswell's Johnson." Verb. sap.

Yours truly,

G. MICHELMORE & COMPANY. P.S. Perhaps you will publish this letter? lic libraries than the first edition." It was issued in blue-gray boards.

On the here with the second the s

The Compleat Collector.

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3. The price, with or without the Countess of Inchiquin's book, is still absurd.

4. There is always a certain amount of pleasure in disappointing questions of this kind. As there is no reason for concealing the communication, it is printed, with gratitude.

#### G. M. T.

THE annual summary of the American Art Association Anderson Galleries sales shows that the total of the past season for books, autograph material, and postage stamps was \$770,157.85. In the field of printed books, several new high price records were established: R. H. Dana's "Two Years before the Mast," sold February 19th, brought \$1,400; J. R. Lowell's "Poems," 1844, a large paper copy, \$450; Stephen Crane's "Maggie," a presentation copy of the first privately printed edition, \$3,700, and an uninscribed copy of the same novel, \$2,100; Hawthorne's "Scarlet Letter," \$1,550; Hariot's "Briefe and true Report of the new found land of Virginia," 1590, \$7,300; Henry Holland's "Baziliologia: a Booke of Kings," London, 1618, \$13,000 (these last two were in the library of the late John Camp Williams); Alken's "Roadster Album," \$3,900; Apperley's "Life of a Sportsman," \$1,800. A three-page letter from Keats to Miss Jeffrey sold for \$3,600; four letters by Edgar Allan Poe, \$3,500, \$2,100, \$1,500, and \$1,200; a letter from Abraham Lincoln to Henry J. Raymond, \$7,800; one from George Washington to General Benjamin Lincoln, \$600; the original rough draft of portions of Washington Irving's "Knickerbocker's History of New York," forty-four pages folio, \$4,100; the manuscript journal of the Third Overland Journey made by Robert Stuart, which Irving used for his "Astoria," \$2,700; a letter from Bernard Shaw, \$1,100. The two postage stamp collections brought \$78,695 -for the J. C. Williams collection-and \$38,456-for the Thomas L. Wells collection. The Currier and Ives lithographs continued to bring high prices. The little iron silversmith's anvil, 93/4 inches migh, on which Paul Revere shaped his pieces, sold for \$9,700.

#### G. M. T.

Sotheby & Company, London. June 30th-July 2nd: Printed Books, Illuminated and Other Manuscripts, Autograph Letters, the property of various owners. The sale opens with a selection of Hebrew books and manuscripts of the fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth centuries, continues with a section of French works, and concludes the first day with an outburst of German incunabula, Horæ B.V.M., and illuminated manuscript of Prayers in Flemish of the early sixteenth century, a collection of twenty-three Portuguese manuscripts (of about 1735) on Palmistry, ten works by Savonarola, De-Ouincey's "Confessions of an English Opium-Eater," 1822; Hardy's "Jude the Obscure," 1896, A. E. Housman's shire Lad," 1896, and George Meredith's "Evan Harrington," and "Diana of the Crossways." The second day is much less of a strain on everyone - there are: a Fourth Folio Shakespeare; Sterne's "Sentimental Journey," 1768; H. G. Wells's "The Wonderful Visit," 1895; two copies of Fielding's "Tom Jones," 1749; a "Missale ad usum insignis Ecclesie Sarum," Antwerp, 1528; Iudulgence granted by Alexander VI, 26 Feb. 1498, printed by R. Pynson; Indulgence of Pope Innocent VIII, printed by Wynkyn de Worde in 1498; Henry VIII's Ratification of the Treaty of London, 29th October, 1516, the original state paper, signed by the King; several autograph letters signed of Coleridge, Queen Elizabeth, Dr. Johnson, Mary, Queen of Scots, Samuel Pepys, and Sir Walter Scott, and General Robert E. Lee's farewell address, issued as "General Order No. 9," to his army the day after his surrender. The third day is quite simply English Literature. It commences with Sir James Barrie and Robert Brown-

tells how 8 famous editors, who are successing authors, train you to write stories for best-paying magazines. Most sensible way to learn. Get book today, and free writing test. POPULAR FICTION INSTITUTE. Dept. 116, 79 Fith Ave., N. Y. C.

To Booksellers:-Because the SATURDAY REVIEW reports on new books in every field. Because it brings to the attention of inght otherwise miss. Because the weekly reviews will infuence those of your patrons who read the SATURDAY Review to add more rapidly to their libraries. We believe you would find it profion sale at your shop. Bookstore Department THE SATURDAY REVIEW OF LITERATURE 25 West 45th St., New York, N. Y.

and H. L. Deakin (Dutton), is one of those leisurely English mystery yarns, in which everybody around the place is more or less involved and that winds up with everybody but the corpse getting married. A dead man is found in the garden of an English school. The only clue is a square indentation in the soft ground of a pathway. Ignored at first, this square mark finally leads the detectives to the solution of a mystery that unravels slowly but with plenty of action and enough false clues to throw the cleverest mystery solver off the track. "One of Us Is a Murderer," by Alan LeMay, and "The Avenging Ray," by Austen J. Small, are out-and-out thrillers. The first one includes some wholesale poisoning in a group of scientists, adventurers, etc., camping in the South American jungle, and is not marked by any exceptional detective work; the title of "The Avenging Ray" practically tells its story. The reader may write his own ticket for most of these scientific mysteries. This is a bit more preposterous than most, though it should thrill readers with 'teen-age minds. Both are Crime Clubbers and a dubious dollar's worth.

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1. It was, of course, inexcusably careless to omit the presentation copy of the "Life," but even the Michelmore Company did not, originally, emphasize it. The catalogue heading for item 109 reads, "Boswell's Johnson/JOHNSON (Dr.) THE PRE-CIOUS AND HIGHLY/IMPORTANT COLLECTION OF AUTOGRAPH/LET-TERS SIGNED, ORIGINAL LETTERS, AND/MSS, by and about Dr Johnson, including an unpublished Poem to Dr Johnson by Mrs Piozzi, a copy of/Boswell's Life autographed by Boswell, books from/Boswell's Library (Autographed) and Bronze Tokens of the period with Johnson's head." After five pages of description of other things, in paragraph "(d)" appears the Boswell "Life."

2. It should be remarked that the edition called the "First Octavo Edition" by the cataloguer is the second London edition. Dr. F. A. Pottle in his "Literary Career of James Boswell" says of it, "The book is not rare, but is less commonly met with in pub-