from THE INNER SANCTUM of SIMON and SCHUSTER Publishers, 386 Fourth Avenue, New York



Last Summer the itinerant half of *The Inner Sanctum* sauntered down to the Poitiers country of France—an undulating and sun-lit province inseparably associated with the memory of Jean d'Arc, Rabelais, and the most succulent of all cheese. There, in a venerable little university town, rich in legends and traditions going back to the twelfth century, your correspondent visited JEAN-RICHARD BLOCH, author of —*And Company*, a novel which was published just one year ago, amid ardent homage from PAUL VALERY, ANDRÉ MAUROIS, ROMAIN ROLLAND, PAUL CLAUDEL, ARNOLD BENNETT, VAN WYCK BROOKS and scores of others equally noted and equally discriminating.

To-day a new book of JEAN-RICHARD BLOCH is published, under the title *A Night In Kurdistan*, and here at *The Inner Sactum* there is high jubilation, for in all truth this tale of "the continent of passion" is a glamorous and strangely exotic chip of the old Bloch.

A Night In Kurdistan has been out several months both in France and in England. The critical reception has matched the paeans of praise which greeted the publication of "—And Company." Once again JEAN-RICHARD BLOCH seems destined to have that highest type of world-wide best-seller—a book-store triumph which is an Event in national academies, learned societies, and literary journals. The popular press has joined the most erudite reviewers in saluting a magnificent story—a novel with a plot! Mark well such tributes as these:

Says ROMAIN ROLLAND: "To the massive structure, the superabundant, compact realism endowed with flesh and brilliant colorings of AND COMPANY there is opposed the clear, glowing atmosphere, the sharp lines, the proud contours, the incisive phrase, vibrating like a slender rapier, the flame and light of ANIGHT IN KURDISTAN."

It is a return to "story-telling in the grand manner," says *The Daily Telegraph* of London, adding, "The roses of Anatolia, the glitter of burning sun on scimitar and lance . . . . here is a story of men who still ride free and unashamed."



In the immortal words of *The New York Herald Tribune*, all America is breaking out in a NASH ... *Hard Lines* became a bestseller at the crack of the gun. ... All the necessary phenomena of instantaneous fame clicked with spectacular precision: "raves"

from the first-line critics on publication date, some of them even in the form of prepaid telegrams, some in Nashist verse ... immediate re-orders from key booksellers, making the book "out of stock" overnight and necessitating a rush order for a second edition ... Window displays, interviews, news stories, wholesale orders from retail customers, proud bulletins from the city of Nashville, and twenty-one gun salutes from the colum-



THE lecture tour of Florence Ayscough ought to interest a great many people in this country. She knows the real inner China. She is one of the most distinguished sinologues of our time. Of New England ancestry, she was born in China and that is the country of her heart. Her books are published by Houghton Mifflin, and anyone wishing to know the dates and places of her lectures should apply to her publishers or to the Pond Bureau at 25 West 43d Street. Mrs. Ayscough collaborated with Amy Lowell on "Fir-Flower Tablets," a book of Chinese poems in translation, and also recently wrote "The Autobiography of a Chinese Dog." She herself possesses a Chinese Dog whose name is Yo Fei . .

The latest novel of Sarah Salt, published by Brewer & Warren, is entitled "Strange Combat" and reflects Miss Salt's deep interest in prize-fighting. She has witnessed many a tough battle in such East End halls as she describes in her crisp and exciting novel, in which she also uses as background the Fitzroy Tavern, that well-known haunt of the London literati and frequenters also of the prize-ring. Last year, crossing on the Aquitania, we witnessed with Miss Salt the boxing bouts that were staged aboardship. She also showed us the Fitzroy Tavern when we were in London. Its chief feature is a ceiling peppered with paper darts which are later collected for a benefit. You twist a coin in a paper and shoot it at the ceiling, where it sticks. "Strange Combat," incidentally is one of the best novels she has done. There is excellent ironic salt in her fiction and she knows how to handle tragedy. . .

What does one make of the name of *Calvin B. Hoover?* And yet it is a real name, not a mere combination of ex-President and President. It is the name of an author, the author of "The Economic Life of Soviet Russia," just published by Macmillan. Calvin B. Hoover is Professor of Economics at Drake University, in North Carolina, and last year spent some months in Russia as a Fellow of the Social Science Research Council of the United States. . .

We have not ourself yet read Arnold Bennett's "Imperial Palace," but we are printing herewith the following interesting letter about it received from Katherine Morse of New York City.

I wonder how Evelyn Orcham in Arnold Bennett's "Imperial Palace" strikes your imagination. He seems to me the worst English prig since Sir Charles Grandison. The solemnity with which he regards himself! How any man in that Paris flat with the adorable and adorning Gracie yearning to love him could in cold blood tell her to sit down and be quiet while he judiciously reads her manuscript passes credibility. And his constant concern as to what the world might think of him !--- If he wear a paper cap on New Year's Eve; if he were to seen at the Shaftsbury Avenue restaurant riotously eating oysters at a counter with Gracie! One feels like saying with Chimmie Fadden, "Wot tell! Suppose they do see you." But the funniest thing about the extraordinary mass of detail is its much ado about little We read of colossal undertakings-wells 500 feet deep in the basement to hold the dynamos; vast floors of sumptuous suites; tremendous go ings on involving the entire time and thought of supermen like Orcham and Cousin, to say nothing of other highly organized individuals including a millionaire or two; dynamic energy and all this astuteness neede to manage-not a colossus like the super-hotels we are accustomed to view indifferently in America-but a pigmy of eight floors! When this detail appeared we did laugh aloud. It would be hard to convince an American that an eight-floor hotel in London is the "greatest luxury hotel in the world." To read of such tremendous energy given to the management of an eight-story hotel is like looking through the small end of a telescope-to one reader. I wonder what you think of it.

the Road?" (privately printed) and "The Daisy Pin" (Transition)....

Hugh Walpole is cruising to the West Indies, having put in Doubleday, Doran's hands a new novel, a melodrama of Piccadilly, "Above the Dark Tumult," which they will bring out in late March. He will continue the series he began with "Rogue Herries" with another novel for next fall, "Judith Paris."...

We have received "The Passionate Pilgrim," a life of Annie Besant by Gertrude Marvin Williams, published by Coward-McCann. A Victorian child, a vicar's wife, she was later "the first woman publicly to endorse the use of contraceptive devices and she did it in a day when there were few men brave enough to take such a stand." In view of all this talk of birth control at the present time this is an interesting fact. Her early radical life is exciting to read about. She has certainly been a woman of the most phenomenal intellectual courage, Today we are apt to associate her only with Theosophy and India and a good deal of mystical discussion that seems to us rather vague and even perhaps faddish. But before she became interested in Gurus she went through many radical battles for better social conditions with a force and earnestness that win respect, even though one cannot at times restrain a slight smile. . . .

On the sixth of February a biography by *Edgar Lee Masters*, "Lincoln the Man," will be published by Dodd, Mead and Company. Mr. Masters was reared in the part of Illinois where *Lincoln* lived and has known many men and women who knew the real Lincoln...

George Santayana has a book coming out through Scribner's, entitled "The Genteel Tradition at Bay." Guess what it is! The essays our own periodical has just been publishing....

The new American Caravan will be published by the Macaulay Company on February 25th. It will include three short novels, a scenario which seems to indicate the development of a new literary form, a five act tragedy, a posthumous volume of ironic verse by the late Harry Crosby, and such contributors as Evelyn Scott, Doris Peel, Jonathan Leonard, Isidor Schneider, and William Carlos Williams. . .

Random House received in the mail one morning a letter from a lady in Cranbury, New Jersey. She wrote to reserve two rooms and bath for over the week-end. They answered that though they were publishers and not inn-keepers hers was the best order they had received on that day....

Louis Untermeyer and his wife are in Bermuda for a two months stay. Louis has finished a companion volume to "Modern American Poetry," entitled "Early American Poetry." . . .

Lincoln Steffens is to have his autobiography published by Harcourt, Brace early in March. He is in New York now, completing its preparation and will then return to his home in Carmel, California....

During the sixty days his wife was traveling in Europe Richardson Wright completed for Lippincott his "The Bed Book

## The Reader's Guide

(Continued from preceding page) thetic study, "The Village Doctor" (Dutton), may be supplemented by Phyllis Hambleton's "The Paved Path" (Crowell), the story of a doctor's office in a little English town, while Helen Ashton's "Dr. Serocold" (Doubleday, Doran) is a remarkable portrait of a hard-working general practitioner.

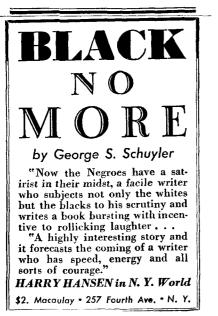
From the continent we have in transla-tion Balzac's devoted "Country Doctor"though not all his physicians are so virtuous -and the charming medical attendant at the convent in Sierra's "Cradle Song" (Dutton). The central figure of a marvellous sequence of novels, "The Book of the Small Souls," by Louis Couperous, is "Dr. Adriaan" whose grown-up name is the title of the concluding volume (Dodd, Mead). "The Surgeon's Stories," a famous old collection by Zakarias Topelius, are told by a lively and sociable quack doctor. In the last volume of the Rougon-Macquart series, "Le Docteur Pascal," Zola permits this physician to sum up the fortunes of the family, good and bad, and to keep track by medical record of his own fatal illness moment by moment to the end. In "The Night Cometh," by Paul Bourget (Putnam), an atheist surgeon and a Catholic officer face death. The hero of Johan Bojer's "The Face of the World" (Century) is a doctor, Maurice Duplay, the author of "Our Doctors" (Harper), is the son of one, and its translator is Dr. Joseph Collins. Boris Sokoloff, author of "The Crime of Dr. Garin" (Covici-Friede) is an authority on endocrine glands.

The most careful and generally successful study of a physician in American fiction and the only one I know of a research physician -is Sinclair Lewis's "Arrowsmith" (Harcourt, Brace), and a country doctor compels the admiration of every reader of his "Main Street." "A Country Doctor," by Sarah Orne Jewett (Houghton, Mifflin), is based on memories of her own father, who took her often upon his rounds. In "Dr. Lavendar's People," by Margaret Deland (Harper), and her "Old Chester Tales," the physician Willy King shares honors with the clerical hero. "Dr. Breen's Practice" is W. D. Howells's contribution; Elizabeth Stuart Phelps's "Doctor Zay" is a woman in a New England village; G. W. Cable's "Doctor Sevier" (Scribner) practised in New Orleans before the Civil War; Edward Eggleston's "The Faith Doctor" figures in the history of our copyright law. Mary Roberts Rinehart's "K" (Doubleday) is a trustworthy study of life among doctors and nurses. The hero of H. S. Harrison's "V. V.'s Eyes" (Houghton Mifflin) is a slum doctor, Helen R. Martin's "The Fighting Doctor" (Century) a city man among Mennonites, Rose Young's "Henderson" (Houghton Mifflin) a country doctor in Missouri, Ida A. R. Wylie's "The Hermit Doctor of Gaya" (Putnam) an Anglo-Indian. H. K. Webster's "Mary Wollaston" (Bobbs-Merrill) is the daughter of a surgeon, the hero of Lloyd Cassell Douglas's "Magnificent Obsession" (Willett) is a brain specialist, and "Doctors' Wives," by H. and S. Lieferant (Little, Brown) are iealous of their husbands' absorption in work. I must not leave out the doctors in "Spoon River Anthology" (Macmillan), whose lives are upon their tombstones.

Several well-known plays hinge on questions of medical ethics, though these are not always matters open to question in actual practice. For instance, Bourget's "Un Cas de Conscience" asks whether a doctor is justified in keeping a man alive long enough to make a most mischievous disposition of his estate; one might ask whether a doctor can ever say to a minute just when a man will die, or he would not treat pneumonia just as readily whether it were contracted en route to carry jelly to a sick friend or to waylay a leading citizen. Thus "The Doctor's Dilemma," by Bernard Shaw, is not likely to impale an actual physician upon its horns. But when a doctor writes the play, as in Arthur Schnitzler's "Professor Bernhardi," there is likely to be a real problem -in this case, whether a physician is justified in keeping from a patient news of imminent death, if-as in this instance-the approach of extreme unction will frighten her straightway out of the world. There is an even more poignant situation in François de Curel's La Nouvelle Idole, and the discussion goes deeper than in any other "medical" play; in Brieux's "Damaged Goods" it concerns venereal disease. Molière's attitude to doctors and his relations with them are among the matters admirably set forth in John Palmer's "Molière" (Brewer & Warren): the last of his medical satires, "Le Malade Imaginaire," was his last play; "Three days after these words had been first delivered from the stage Molière died without benefit of medicine."

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#### Essandess



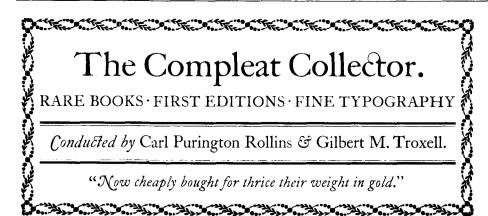
Eugenia M. Frost of Washington, D. C., has written us mildly counselling us not even to mention again our "alcoholic life," as she puts it. We have her permission to drink all we want "only for heaven's sake don't tell your public about it." Probably she's right. It's a shame to make other people thirsty! She asks us if we have seen Kathryn Hulme's "Arab Interlude," which was published last fall by Macrae-Smith. We have written her to send on a copy and we will look it over. We learn that Miss Hulme is a young Californian who was at one time an editor of The San Franciscan. Her other published work includes "How's

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of Travel." The same firm will bring out "Sea Legs," by Oliver Herford....

Hooray! There's another Reggie Fortune book out. If you know anything about detective stories you know all about this creation of *H. C. Bailey's*, *Dr. Reginald Fortune*, one of the most original detectives in the business. Says the author, "Mr. Fortune is nothing if not the natural man. He says so himself." The new Dr. Fortune book is called "Mr. Fortune Explains," and is, of course, to be published by Dutton, on our birthday, February 2nd, which we consider quite a compliment!...

The latest Swedish novelist of importance is Gustaf Hellstrom, author of "Lacemaker Lekholm Has an Idea." They say that the long novel resembles "The Forsyte Saga" in that it is a family chronicle covering several generations. It is even accompanied by a genealogical table. It runs from about 1850 to the present day. Lincoln MacVeagh is its American publisher. . . Thanking you for your kind attention. THE PHOENICIAN.



## Miscellaneous

## The Primavera Press

Messrs. Jake Zeitlin and Leslie Nelson Jennings have established the above Press at Los Angeles for the publication of poetry collections by California authors, biographical works, and works of regional and historical interest. The typography of the Primavera Press books will be under the direction of Mr. Bruce McCallister.

## Introduction to a Conclusion

The "Introduction" is by Mr. T. N. Fairbanks, and the "Conclusion" is the final summing up by William Blades in his "Enemies of Books," first published in the Printers' Register of 1879 and later issued in book form. This issue is a Christmas book in attractive format.

## Christmas at Little America

From extracts originally printed in the New York Times, and photographs of the Byrd expedition at the South Pole, William Edwin Rudge III and Hobert Oliver Skofield have arranged and printed a very comely little Christmas remembrance. It is a thin twelve mo, edited, set in type, and bound by the two youthful printers. They did everything except the actual presswork

-even to dyeing the cover paper, which they have christened "Antarctic vellum." Good fun has resulted in a comely little book

## The Ideal Book

Mr. S. A. Jacobs has planned for the Stratford Press-American Book Bindery, as a Christmas present to their friends, a reprinting of Cobden-Sanderson's well known essay on The Ideal Book. It is a convenient and pleasant form in which to possess this essay-which must be known to anyone interested in printing-though the title page is a bit misleading at first. Linotype Estienne type has been used.

## More Advertising Horrors

"Modern Advertising Art." I am always being told by a teacher-friend that art can be either good or bad. If this is so, then advertising art is almost always bad. The times when it approaches most nearly to "good" is when it adopts the form of posters. Otherwise its constant uneasy straining and posturing annoys, aggravates, and This book has been reverently irritates. compiled-it is dedicated to the author's mother-but on ranging back and forth through it I find only one example which

really intrigues me-that of an exhibition of Secession painters in Vienna, done in red and blue sans-serif letters.

## Elynour Rummynge

The rowdy ballad of Elynour Rummynge by John Skelton has been set in type and printed by Helen Gentry at San Francisco. Big type and a very small page combined with decorations by Claire Jones produce a good example of a book which the Lxiv mo enthusiast will welcome.

## Hypnotic Poetry

There are those who still love poetry, despite the wildest efforts of imagists and lunacists to spoil poetic form. There are those even who sometimes like the hypnosis of poetry instead of synthetic gin and hashish. Such people will enjoy this little, well printed book from the University of Pennsylvania Press, with its hypnotic binding. A companion volume of hypnotic verses may be in order.

## Monuments of Printing

The Rosenbach Company has issued a small catalogue of books printed between 1455 and 1500 which are typographical monuments. The notes, while all too scant, are valuable, and the list as a whole is a good check-list of early printed books. The first editions of many classical and medieval authors are included.

## Within the Compass of a Print Shop

We recommend to those interested in illustration a new magazine of small dimensions under the above title, issued by Holman's Print Shop, Boston. It is not ostentatious, and being Mr. Holman's method of advertising his wares it is free. But that should not deter one: the small bibelot is full of readable matter concerning prints, is freely illustrated, and compact. Incidentally I wish some printers would notice that here is the precise use of "print shop," to designate a place where prints are soldsomething which a "printing office" is not!

## A New Garamond Type Face

There are at least a half dozen version. of roman letter, in this country alone, posing as "Garamond," besides numerous Eu ropean variants. That they can't all be genuine is apparent, though each possesses meritorious qualities. Incidentally, most of them are none too successful as book faces, and it seems likely that the face as a book face will soon cease to have validity. Now comes from the Ludlow Typograph Company another version of Garamond, with some considerable claim to authenticity. It is based on the specimen sheet of Conrad Berner of Frankfort, issued in 1592, which contained several sizes of type ascribed di-rectly to Claude Garamond. What interests in this new design is a certain plausible bookish quality about the shape of the letters, which makes for easy and pleasant reading. Mr. McMurtrie has written an historical treatise on the provenience of his rendering which will be of value to students of typography.

## Announced for Publication

#### The Pelican Press, Glen Rock, Penn.

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