The New Books

Fiction

A WINTER IN MALLORCA. By K. T. Knoblock. Harpers. 1934. \$2.

If goings-on like those in Mr. Knoblock's fantasia were common in Mallorca, the wonder is that irate Mallorcans did not throw the whole foreign colony into the Mediterranean. Mr. Knoblock spent a winter on the island, and he evidently enjoyed himself so well that wild horses could not have prevented his writing a novel about it. His sympathies were all with the populace against the vandal foreigners; the latter, in general, had come to get cheap living or to inflate their art, and had remained to make donkeys of themselves. Mallorca is, of course, physically beautiful, and the free vaudeville show of human folly was continuously played against a charming backdrop. Small wonder that Mr. Knoblock, in appreciation and with a great deal of gusto,

transformed his winter into a novel.

There is no plot in "A Winter in Mallorca." Peter and Jerry (Geraldine) are two young Americans on their honeymoon, accompanied by Jerry's mother, whom they call "The Matriarch." They write a bit, learn a little Spanish, and lap up all the eccentricity within miles. A Mrs. Oppenheimer from Iowa spends almost the whole winter with them; she has persistent delusions of intellectual grandeur. Two especially peculiar couples—the Wieszkes and the Titmases-, who live just down the road, provide assorted aspects of individualism gone haywire. And there are other semi-lunatics in abundance, a fresh batch in very nearly each chapter. As the winter goes by, nothing happens, and yet almost everything happens; and everything is bizarre and quaint, and shrill with a determined, alcoholic

With a narrative like this, much depends on the reader's willingness to go along with the author. If the reader resists, Mr. Knoblock will seem thin and dull, and the characters cheap literary tricks. But if met with a modicum of sympathy and like-mindedness, the book becomes amusing.

R. B. M.

FAITH, HOPE, AND CHARITY. By Irvin S. Cobb. Bobbs-Merrill. 1934. \$2.

Cobb is not ashamed to be his age. He came to the surface at a time when the object of short fiction was to give pleasure to the customers, and he keeps on giving it even after the majority of critics has decided that a good short story must be a carbon copy of Chekhov. There is one glory of the moon and another glory of the stars; Chekhov, whether aged in the wood or cut and blended, is all right, if that is what you want, but there is as yet no law requiring everybody to want that kind of story. If you simply want somebody to sit down and tell a tale, to make you keep wondering what is going to happen, and eventually to make some-thing happen more neatly and satisfactorily than it usually does in life, then "Faith, Hope, and Charity" is your meat. Most of the fiction stories in the volume are frankly artificial, so far as the plot goes; but it is the function of one kind of fiction to give you something more pleasing to the senses of justice and proportion than the sort of thing anybody can see for

himself, and Cobb does it well. And, curiously, a quarter of a century after "The Escape of Mr. Trimm," he is still at his best with the theme that introduced him to fiction.

E. D.

THE GREAT ADAM. By George Dixon Snell, III. Caldwell, Idaho: The Caxton Printers. 1934. \$2.50.

Mr. Snell has written here a novel definitely worth consideration. Its locale is a small town in the eastern part of Idaho, where Adam Bullhurst, the "great" Adam of the title, banker and landowner, has built a miniature empire for himself and his son. At the opening of the novel Adam Bullhurst is at the height of his powers, and the progress of the narrative is the story of his decline to solitude, penury, and self-destruction. The pattern of the novel is ancient: the Great Man come to a tragic end through the flaw in his character, the tragedy being all the more touching because the protagonist falls from a high worldly place. The flaw in Adam Bullhurst was his blindness to everything save his own lust for power; he could not sense the dangers to himself that lurked in events and in people. His tragic fall is amply documented by Mr. Snell; the social and economic scene at the turn of the century is solid and complete. The town of St. Anthony, the citizens, the climate, the farming country, the distant Tetons, the more distant, almost fabulous, Salt Lake City-all these are background and verification for the tragedy of Adam Bullhurst.

The writing is good, for Mr. Snell seldom wavers from a discreet path of relevance and appositeness. In general the novel has a distinct air of competence. It is, to be sure, frequently melodramatic, and sometimes it seems to be almost too violent. But in the fine old tragic formula this is thoroughly respectable. Adam Bullhurst keeps our sympathy through most of the book; but, with the exception of the lawyer Qualtrough, the other characters are a despicable, mean-spirited lot. So much the better does Adam Bullhurst fare. All in all, Mr. Snell has written an excellent novel, well rounded and conservative.

It is a pleasure to find a specifically American novel, with local color not in the least condescending, that follows so worthily one of the great narrative patterns. Thomas Hardy comes especially to mind. "The Great Adam" is built to much the same framework as "The Mayor of Casterbridge." Mr. Snell shows that we are getting able to do these things over here without self-consciousness.

R. B. M.

Drama

RACES. A Drama by Ferdinand Bruckner. Knopf. 1934. \$2.

This play, hot from the Nazi persecution of the Jews, was translated by Ruth Langner and produced by the Theatre Guild last season in Philadelphia. We believe it never reached New York. It contains the love story of a young German and a beautiful and exemplary Jewess; a hysterical scene of Jew-baiting, and several scenes of mob violence and enthusiasm. The young German is forced to (Continued on next page)

Over the Counter

The Saturday Review's Guide to Romance and Adventure

Trade Mark	Label Contents		Flavor
THE WHITE PARADE Rian James (King: \$2.)	Romance	A movie scenarist picks up the current craze for hospital scenery with the story of the hard-working nurse and the wealthy poloboy.	Holly- wood
SATAN'S PLAYGROUND Crump & Woodyatt (Dodd, Mead: \$2.)	Jungle Drammer The one about the officer on the African station, the beautiful gal in England, and the dark-complected temptress.		Old stuff
WASN'T THE DEPRESSION TERRIBLE? Otto Soglow & D. G. Plotkin (Covici, Friede: \$2.)	Picture Book	Not very funny cartoons with accompanying gag lines. Soglow should not be confined to one subject.	Punk
THE TRAIL OF DANGER William McLeod Raine (Houghton Mifflin: \$2.)	Adventure	The author of Westerns does a yarn about the shanghaied Easterner who jumped ship into the back yard of Spanish gal in time to save her from one of the villains of the gold-rush days.	Oke

New Scribner Books—

End of The Chapter

the last trilogy by

John Galsworthy

This 800-page volume contains the three full-length novels, "Maid in Waiting," "Flowering Wilderness," and "One More River" (which is in this book given its original English title, "Over the River"). "End of the Chapter" presents in its entirety the story of Dinny Cherrell, most charming of all Galsworthy heroines and offers an unsurpassed picture of changing social life and conditions in England of today. \$3.00

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Stark Young

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"A novel which no American who wishes to know his country's past can afford to let go unread."

J. Donald Adams in The New York Times

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The Monkey's Tail by Rebecca Scarlett

A girl's fearless quest for happiness in a "man-made world," rich in incident, glowing with emotion and a revelation of feminine character that is continuously engrossing. \$2.50

The Passing Chapter by Shane Leslie

An epigrammatical record of the author's opinions on men, women, and events in England and America since the World War. Not only Mr. Leslie's razor-keen analysis of men and motives but also the brilliant fashion in which he polishes them off make this book completely enjoyable. \$2.00

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Don't Miss the September Issue

DON'T BLAME THE MUNITIONS PEARY DID NOT REACH THE POLE MAKERS

by F. C. Hanighen & H. C. Engelbrecht The authors of the recent "Merchants of Death" here discuss further the munitions racket, bringing forward many new ideas. They point out that doing away with arms manufacturers would do no good, because they do not make wars. Governments make wars, and in the end capitalism and nationalism make wars. War, therefore, cannot be abolished until capitalism and nationalism are abolished.

HERBERT LEHMAN: "SILENT DYN-

AMITE" by Saul Levitt & Allan Chase When Governor Lehman was elected all factions, liberal and conservative, were jubilant. It seemed that the ideal Governor had been found. Especially were the liberals happy, because they thought that he was interested in the lot of the underdog, and would push through legislation in his favor. This has proved to be far from the truth, as Messrs. Levitt and Chase point out in a close examination of his record. Mr. Lehman was, is, and always will be a banker.

FIRST ENCOUNTER by Sigrid Undset This is a new and very moving piece of autobiography by the celebrated Nobel Prize author. It deals with Madame Undset's first encounter with poverty in her childhood, and it is told with high effectiveness.

MUSSOLINI IS TOTTERING

by Anthony M. Turano Mr. Turano has just returned from Italy, where he talked on intimate terms with members of various professions, and here reports in detail what they told him about their real feelings with regard to Il Duce. All of them—lawyers, farmers, engineers, business men—are bitter against Mussolini. He has brought his country only misery, and it is now in worse condition than it has been in twenty years. That Il Duce is definitely on the way out seems to be beyond doubt.

A PLEA FOR SOCIALIZED

by George W. Asbin Dr. Aspinwall's "The Plight of the Doctor" in the May issue will be remembered. In the present article he presents the chief arguments for socialized medicine. He thinks that socialized medicine is the only form of medical service that is equitable both to physicians and to the public.

by Henshaw Ward Confidentially, most of the living American explorers have always had doubts that Peary reached the Pole. Many of them are convinced that as an explorer he was a fraud, but for various reasons they have not thought it wise to say so in public. Mr. Ward here rehearses all the evidence, and comes to the conclusion that Peary did not reach the Pole, and that his own accounts belie his claim.

THEY BROKE OUR STRIKE

by John Mullen Mr. Mullen was until recently an active strike organizer, and here he tells what he saw in the picket line in the recent strike in Carbon, Pennsylvania. His brief sketch is one of the few truly excellent pieces of proletarian writing to come out of the present labor unrest.

COWS AND HORSES ARE HUNGRY by Meridel Le Sueur

What the drought has done to the cattle and the men and women and children of the West. Miss Le Sueur writes about them all in grandly tragic lines.

MENTAL CRUELTY by Sally Benson A first-rate short story, dealing with the jealousy entertained by two divorced women of a friend's husband. After denouncing him violently, they admit that he is handsome "in an animal sort

THE AMERICAN KARL MARX

by George Simpson A full-length portrait of Daniel DeLeon, the one truly great intellect of the American labor movement. Lenin had the utmost respect for him, and used many of his ideas in the establishment of the U. S. S. R. He also said that DeLeon was the greatest Socialist thinker since Karl Marx. Dr. Simpson tells about his heroic life, and expounds his chief ideas.

BUSINESS MEN ARE BEWILDERED

by John L. Spivak Mr. Spivak, in the August issue, revealed the plight of the American laborer and farmer in his article, "Bitter Unrest Sweeps the Nation." This was written after a tour of the entire States. The present article is his report of the plight of the smaller business man. and is based upon intimate conversation with hundreds of them. Mr. Spivak finds that while their attitude and outlook for the future cannot be defined as absolute discouragement, it is one of bewilderment and helplessness.

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(Sat. R.)

The New Books

(Continued from preceding page) desert the Jewess, but seems lukewarm to his Nazi comrades, and is executed. The author attempts to adopt a judicial and reasonable attitude, and there is much talk of humanity. He shows us a rich Jew who betrays his race, as well as splendid and martyred Jews. But he fails to make anything but emotional special pleading out of his play, and he fails to conceal the fact that his theme and his emotion (and the grand "thoughts" he summons for the occasion) depend on the quickly-staling headlines of contemporary newspapers. One may sympathize with the author's agonies and bewilderments without pretending to enjoy his play. It is more difficult to sympathize with the Guild, which continues, year after year, and with the most intelligent and spiritual air, to trot out these "significant" and "thought-provoking" dramas.

F. F.

Miscellaneous

SONS OF EPHRAIM AND THE SPIRIT OF WILLIAMS COLLEGE. By Mac-Gregor Jenkins. Houghton Mifflin. \$2.50.

There should be many persons who will delight in this warm and affectionate history of Williams College, and they should include not only alumni but also men who never saw its portals but who attended a small college and have a deep feeling for what it means. Wild as it may sound, they should include even men who went to Amherst, the immortal rival of the Berkshire College, for there is a similarity of tradition, custom, and spirit of the two institutions which is truly remarkable.

It is not remarkable, of course, after the reader discovers that one of the early presidents of Williams seceded with a group of about twenty students and moved a little eastward and southward to found below the Pelham Hills the college called Amherst. Amherst men can never blame him for this secession. They can easily understand the motive and approve the

But Mr. Jenkins, who is so much more than what is usually meant by a loyal alumnus, has not only paid a devoted tribute to his Alma Mater; has not only revealed the riches of its origin and the cumulative wealth of its progress,-but he has done what is extremely rare in a college history. He has revealed the Williams of today. By writing the story around a boy named Ferguson and taking him through the four academic years, he has been able to show how the spirit of Williams has survived, what awaits the matriculated student, and what it may become under the historian, Tyler Dennett, its new president.

From time to time the author recalls his own undergraduate days, which is a throwback of several generations. From time to time he recounts the very earliest history of the college. By jumping across the years in this way he has been able to draw a penetrating picture and to give real substance to the subtitle of the book. The book is never dull. The author's affection continually vibrates through all its pages. It is a wise and critical book written with great charm, and the least a Williams man should do is buy it.

S. S.

Travel

AN EXCURSION TO LITHUANIA. Bu A. A. Sachs. Hudson Bay Press.

Mr. Sachs's account of his return to his native land after twenty years in the United States is good-natured, detailed, and reminiscent of the letters which small-town newspapers used to publish from local dignitaries with literary tastes on their first trip to Europe. It will be read with interest by his friends, but the author, who "has a burning desire to write," still has much to learn about what is significant and the art of reporting it.

Brief Mention

The Champlain Society (Toronto), which has already sponsored valuable historical publications, now issues the recently discovered journals of Samuel Hearne and Philip Turnor who between the years 1774 and 1792 made extensive geographical explorations through the Canadian Northwest. These journals, with their careful detail, observation, and maps, will be of great geographical importance. The book is carefully prepared and embellished by an appendix of maps. Herbert H. Gowen continues his study of religion begun in The Universal Faith by A History of Religion (The Morehouse Publishing Company, Milwaukee: \$3.50). A technical but most informative and elaborate study of church unity has been issued by the In-

stitute of Social and Religious Research of New York. It is by Paul Douglass. It is entitled Church Unity in the United States. An interesting special study of a little nation within a nation is The Rise and Fall of the Choctaw Republic, by Angie Debo, published by the University of Oklahoma Press (\$3.50). This is substantially a history of the tribe to date illustrated with many photographs and other pictures.

Latest Books Received

BELLES LETTRES

The Intellectual Milieu of John Dryden. Univ. of Michigan Pr. William Shakespeare, Poet. B. Atkinson. Peekskill, N. Y.: Watch Hill Press. \$2.50.

BIOGRAPHY

Franklin Paine Mall. F. R. Sabin. Johns Hopkins Pr. \$2.75. Love Can Open Prison Doors. Starr Daily. Los Angeles: De Vorss. \$1.50.

DRAMA

Elizabethan and Stuart Plays. Ed. C. R. Baskerville, V. B. Heltzel, and A. H. Nether-cot. Holt. \$5. Understood Betsy. Adapted by S. N. Cleghorn. Harcourt. 75 cents.

HISTORY

Constitutional History of England. G. B. Adams. Revised R. L. Schuyler. Holt. \$3.

INTERNATIONAL

Fundamental Laws of the Chinese Soviet Republic. International. 75 cents.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Cathedrals of England. H. Batsford and C. Fry. Scribners. \$2.75. The Old Inns of England. A. E. Richardson. Scribners. \$2.75. Public Addresses of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Los Angeles: De Vorss. \$1.50. The Indian Theatre. R. K. Yajnik. Dutton. \$3. Prizes and Presents. E. T. Hamilton. Harcourt. \$2.50.



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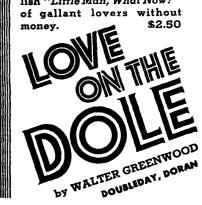
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PERSONALS

ADVERTISEMENTS will be accepted in this column for things wanted or unwanted; personal services to let or required; literary or publishing offers not easily classified else-where; miscellaneous items appealing to a and intelligent clientele; exchange and barter of literary property or literary services; jobs wanted, houses or camps for rent, tutoring, travelling companions, ideas for sale; communications of a decorous na-ture; expressions of opinion (limited to fifty lines). All advertisements must be consonant with the purposes and character of The Sat-urday Review. Rates: 7 cents per word, including signature. Count two additional words for Box and Number. Address Personal Dept., Saturday Review, 25 West 45th Street, New York City.

GIRL IN SCARLET waist, white skirt, coat, and hat, who sat with man in field box opposite first base at Polo Grounds on Saturday, August 11, and left after game through centre field, could do a kind deed for the week by telling bachelor, presentable and serious (not solemn), could furnish references, how he could get the chance to meet her. "Steve." Box 912.

TEACHER, 33, private school, will act as governess or companion to young person. Will go abroad. References. P. O. Box 609, Washington, D. C.

R. B. Bilious young woman desires correspondence course. Can you help?

SWISS MEADOWS-Small, old, beamed, paneled mountainside farmhouse; also separate cabin; wide fireplaces, library, 500 acres woods, fields, brooks—vegetables; modest swimming pool; meals not always regular but ample, served on terrace overlooking Greylock and Berkshire valleys, or beside crackling fires. \$5 a day, \$25 week, including afternoon tea. Cornelia Stratton Parker, Williamstown, Mass.

WANT work with small but swanky florist's, book, or bric-a-brac shop. Could swing some-thing secretarial. Moderately educated, literate-minded; desirous of contacts, things harmonious with calmly civilized existence. Employed. Ratanchat.

ATTORNEY New Jersey. Studied and traveled Europe. Interested in literature and languages. Desires position with law firm or as private secretary. Will travel. Box 911.

YOUNG WIDOW, new in East, doing professional work, needs to find private family near Ithaca, interested in caring for 5 year old son. Must be able to give him understanding, love, and security of normal home and be more interested in him as an individual than in money. Box 910.

WILTON.-Christian family, hospitality guests appreciative; delightful country home. Excellent food. \$15. References. M. B. Nelson, Cannondale, Conn.

HONESTY REQUIRED? College instructor wants employment in position requiring Honesty. Executive or secretarial work, educational, cultural or book guidance, travelling companion, tutor of speech, history, piano and 20th century literature. Qualifications: Master's Degree, world travel, musical education, good health. References exchanged. Walter Sam Weeks, 438 South Lake, Los

LADY, good housekeeper and companion, would like position. Any location. Box 913.

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BUDDING HISTORIAN wishing to pursue a sixteenth century gentleman in the Public Record Office offers her services in return for a room in London. Will cook, type or tutor. Box 914.

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POLAND TO THE FORE

"I am a high school English teacher," writes E. H. T. of Wallace, N. Y., "in a community which is predominantly Polish. I would like a list of books written by Polish authors and also a list concerning the geography and history of Poland. Some biographies of famous Poles would also be

UT E. H. T. doesn't want a life of Conrad, which rules out one of the few Poles of contemporary times on whom there exists biographical material in English (and I interpret E. H. T.'s letter as meaning that this part of the literature he wants he is ready to take from non-Polish sources). The other contemporary Polish celebrity on whom there are several books is, of course, Paderewski. Only this year two have appeared, Charles Phillips's PADEREWSKI (Macmillan) and R. Landau's IGNACE PADEREWSKI (Crowell), both of which suffer from the undiscriminating hero worship of their authors. As Mr. Carl Engel, writing of the latter not long ago in the columns of this magazine pointed out, there is a far more illuminating characterization of the great pianist and less great politician in Marcel Schwob's imaginary conversations (Boni & Liveright) than in the longer works. It's curious how little material exists even on personalities so famous to Americans as Kosciusko and Pulaski. THE DICTIONARY OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY (Scribners), like all encyclopedias, of course, has an article on the former and will, when it reaches that point, no doubt have one also on Pulaski in whose memory so many American towns have been named. There's a charming little city nestled away on the bank of Richland Creek in Tennessee which comes to my mind whenever I see the name. I went on a pilgrimage there a few years ago to see the place where my parents set up housekeeping, and was quite enchanted with this thoroughly American town which perpetuated the services a Pole had rendered to our country. Incidentally, while I was looking for bibliographies on Kosciusko and Pulaski in the BRITANNICA I pulled out the volume which I supposed would contain a biography of Sobieski, and couldn't believe my eyes when I couldn't find an entry under that name. Only after exhausting what seemed every possible spelling without success did it occur to me to look under John, and there, wedged in with the popes. the John of England, and other Johns, hid John III (Sobieski). But not even a crossreference! If E. H. T. wants biographies in Polish, he will find that there is a life of the king and also one of Kosciusko by T. Korzon. As to the annals and description of Poland, there's an excellent short history in English by Julia Orvis, entitled BRIEF HISTORY OF POLAND (Houghton Mifflin), and another, outlines of Polish His-TORY (Oxford University Press), by R. Dyboski. A long work in Polish, DSCIEJE POLSKI, by Jósef Sznjski, is written largely from the point of view of the democratic school which looked back upon republican Poland with an admiration which ascribed its downfall to its external enemies rather than to the seeds of destruction it carried in its own constitution. This is regarded as a masterpiece of literature as well as history. The best geographical work on Poland is Romer's GEOGRAFCSCNO-STATYSTYCZNY ATLAS POLSKI (Geographical and Statistical Atlas of Poland).

And now for the novels. Sienkiewicz, of course, WITH FIRE AND SWORD, THE DELUGE, and PAN MICHAEL (Little, Brown), that exciting tetralogy which carries the tale from the revolt of the Ukraine Cossacks, through the invasion of Poland under Charles Gustavus of Sweden, to end in the final volume with the story of the war with the Tartars. The most significant fiction since Sienkiewicz's, at least so far as foreign countries know it, has been Zeromski's ashes (Knopf), a portrayal of Poland and peasant life in Napoleonic times, and W. S. Revmont's PROMISED LAND (Knopf) and THE PEASANTS (Knopf), the latter a picture of peasant life in four volumes, Autumn, Winter, Spring, Summer, which a few years ago won the Nobel

A BOOK OF SYNONYMS

Mrs. W. S. B. of Fort Worth, Texas, asks for "the name of the best book you know on synonyms. The book is for use in a particularly the college-going part of the family."

I have always had difficulty keeping Roget's THESAURUS OF ENGLISH WORDS AND PHRASES (Longmans, Green) on my reference shelf, but since the double-crostic enthusiasts in the office have discovered it, it is likely to be anywhere except where it belongs. I have it in the original form and in the edition prepared by C. O. Sylvester Mawson under the title, THE ROGET DIC-TIONARY OF SYNONYMS AND ANTONYMS (Putnam) and keep one at home and one in the office. It's one of those indispensable books which it is essential to have at hand, like the oxford dictionary, the world al-MANAC, and Bartholomew's HANDY REFER-ENCE ATLAS OF THE WORLD OF Chambers' GAZETEER.

GERMAN MONOLOGUES

W. A. S. of Rochester, N. Y., wrote in some time ago asking for books containing good German dialogue which would supply a young man with material for monologues to be used professionally.

W. A. S.'s request took me off guard, so knowing that no one of my acquaintance could better advise W. A. S. than my old associate of New York Evening Post days, Allen Porterfield, now professor of German at West Virginia University. I wrote to him for suggestions. Mr. Porterfield misunderstood my request and sent me a list of conversation books—the bread and butter kind-which I've filed away against the day when a correspondent asks for something of the sort. A second letter to him brought the following reply:

Largest monologue in world literature is in V. Hugo's Ernanie. No such thing in German. A. Schnitzler's Leutnant custl is wholly a monologue except about five lines at close. G. Brandes pro-nounced it "most humorous in whole range of German literature." There are some monologues in FAUST, tedious and profound. Apart from long poems by Schiller and other ballad writers, some addresses—dull in reproduction—I simply can't list any that would really serve any reasonable purpose. Sorry, GUSTL is your best chance.

BACK NUMBERS

BACK NUMBERS OF MAGA Abraham's Bookstore, 141 Fourt New York.

BOOKS ABOUT RUSSIA

BOOKS on Russian art in all languages, rare editions richly illustrated, and modern monographs. Rosen, 410 Riverside Drive, N. Y. C.

FIRST EDITIONS

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