

The Clearing House

Conducted by AMY LOVEMAN

Inquiries in regard to the choice of books should be addressed to MISS LOVEMAN, c/o *The Saturday Review*. A stamped and addressed envelope should be enclosed for reply.

WHEN ROMANCE IS SWEETEST

ALL these many weeks since we recommended to her EVELINA and PRIDE AND PREJUDICE, THE LAST OF THE MOHICANS, THE SPY, and THE HOUSE OF SEVEN GABLES, we've, in a manner of speaking, had our eye on the maid of thirteen whose days on a farm T. S. of Highland Park, Michigan, wanted to enliven with interesting fiction. Mentally we've been watching her progress and, to be perfectly honest, we fear she has got ahead of us. For we've allowed an undue amount of time to elapse without sending her further titles. Here's a second instalment now, and we hope she'll get as much joy out of reading the books we name as we did when we were her age. For it was when we were about thirteen that we first cried deliciously over DAVID COPPERFIELD, and that we puzzled over Rowena's threat to cast herself from the window in IVANHOE, and that our blood ran cold when "the human hyena reared itself on two feet" in JANE EYRE. It was then, too, that we tasted the gentler delights of Mrs. Gaskell's CRANFORD (Macmillan), and that we first revelled in Jane Austen's PERSUASION and NORTHANGER ABBEY and EMMA, and that we couldn't tear ourselves away from PENDENNIS and KENILWORTH and ROB ROY. So much for the classics, except for that later classic which we read with enormous enjoyment, and whenever possible late at night so as to increase our sense of excitement, Conan Doyle's THE ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (Doubleday, Doran). We'll not mention the older books further lest we have no space left to suggest for our young client some more recent ones which we think would please her mightily. She'd enjoy, we're quite sure, REBECCA OF SUNNYBROOK FARM (Houghton Mifflin), by Kate Douglas Wiggin, RICHARD CARVEL and THE CRISIS (Macmillan), by Winston Churchill, TO HAVE AND TO HOLD (Houghton Mifflin), by Mary Johnston, Booth Tarkington's PENROD (Doubleday, Doran), MARTIN PIPPIN AND THE APPLE ORCHARD (Stokes), by Eleanor Farjeon, itself a story of a young girl on a farm, and a charming tale of Japan by Frances Little, which was immensely popular some years ago entitled THE LADY OF THE DECORATION (Appleton-Century). Happy days to the little maid!

THE GEOLOGY OF MICHIGAN

From H. S. of Detroit, Michigan, comes an appeal for titles dealing with the geology of Michigan. If our brother, who is a mining geologist and now at a distance, and who began his career in Michigan's neighboring state of Wisconsin, weren't the most obdurately silent person in the world in the face of all inquiries which involve correspondence, we'd wait to reply to H. S.'s query until we had secured for him an authoritative list of references. But we're afraid if we did, Michigan would have entered upon a new geological period before he'd received the necessary information, so we'll make shift as best we can with catalogues and cyclopedias. So far as our investigations disclose, the most extensive material on the subject is to be found in the volume entitled MICHIGAN GEOLOGICAL AND BIOLOGICAL SURVEY, issued by the Michigan Historical Commission, which embodies the geological reports of Douglass Houghton, first state geologist of Michigan, 1837-1845. The University of Michigan has issued a volume by R. C. Husey on THE RICHMOND FORMATION OF MICHIGAN, and Macmillan has published a pamphlet by R. Ruedemann and G. M. Ehlers on THE OCCURRENCE OF THE COLLINGWOOD FORMATION IN MICHIGAN. If H. S. will write to the United States Geological Survey in Washington, D. C., we think he will be able to secure not only ample information but literature as well. And if he wishes a brief summary of the geology of his state he will find it under the article "Michigan" in the NEW INTERNATIONAL ENCYCLOPEDIA (Funk & Wagnalls).

RUSSIA IN BOOKS

If there's one subject of which the American public still seems avid of interest it's Russia. The flood of books upon that country seems not at all to diminish and, choosing from the mass a few for recommendation is in all probability to leave out many others that should have been mentioned. However, we think that L. M.

F. of Salem, Mass., who wishes "a list of recent publications, fiction and non-fiction, regarding Russia," will find her purposes served if she reads only a moiety of the books which have appeared. If she wants a vivacious and vivid account of Russia as it is at the present moment, she can do no better than to read Maurice Hindus's THE GREAT OFFENSIVE (Smith & Haas), a volume which is none the less authoritative in its findings for the highly interesting manner of its presentation. Still more recent, in fact just off the press, is DURANTY REPORTS ON RUSSIA (Viking), by Walter Duranty, who, though unlike his friend Maurice Hindus not a native of Russia, is one of the most informed of the correspondents from that country. Another book which has just been issued, also by a competent observer and a trained internationalist, is Sherwood Eddy's RUSSIA TODAY (Farrar & Rinehart), and equally recent is Allan Monkhouse's MOSCOW 1911-33 (Little, Brown). Mr. Monkhouse, it will be remembered, was one of the persons figuring in the recent trial of the British engineers; his book is the work of a man conversant with technological advances in Russia. If L. M. F. wants a comprehensive and accurate survey from the business man's point of view, she should turn to Elisha M. Friedman's RUSSIA IN TRANSITION (Viking), an engineering analysis and scientific criticism of the work accomplished up to the end of the third year of the Five-Year Plan, packed with statistics and highly informative. Another work which will cast light upon economic conditions is the symposium edited by G. Dobbert, entitled RED RUSSIA (Houghton Mifflin). Then there's Ella Winter's RED VIRTUE (Harcourt, Brace), and special studies like F. E. Williams's YOUTH AND RUSSIA (Farrar & Rinehart), K. Menbert's YOUTH IN SOVIET RUSSIA (Harcourt, Brace), WOMEN IN RUSSIA (Viking), by Fannina Halle. As to the more superficial aspects of Russia, such phases as are apparent to the traveller, there is an interesting record in Irina Skariatina's FIRST TO GO BACK (Bobbs-Merrill), an account of the impressions of an émigrée who returns to visit her native land. L. M. F., of course, if she had not already known of them, has had her attention called by the awarding of the Nobel Prize to Ivan Bunin and his stories, THE GENTLEMAN FROM SAN FRANCISCO and THE VILLAGE (Knopf). A new novel by him has just appeared, THE WELL OF DAYS (Knopf), which is said by those familiar with Russia to be a graphic portrayal of the country and its people. A lengthy tale, but one impressive in its scope and handling, is Sholom Asch's THREE CITIES, the story of a Jewish family, playing in Saint Petersburg, Moscow, and Warsaw under the Czars. And then (we don't say finally, as there are a dozen others that might be named) there is Valentine Kataev's TIME FORWARD! the chronicle of one day under the Five-Year Plan on the scene of a great construction project in the Ural Mountains. This list, extremely episodic as it is, should do for a beginning at any rate.

STORIES IN NEGRO DIALECT

And now we come to the request of J. W. of Berea, Ky., who is in search of "a collection of stories in Negro dialect, short enough to be used as illustrations in sermons or serious talks." It may take a bit of skilful compressing to bring them within the limitations of her talks but we think that J. W. will find just the material she needs in CONGAREE SKETCHES (Scribners), by Edward C. Adams, a collection of scenes from Negro life in the swamps of the Congaree, and of tales by Tad and Scip of heaven and hell with other miscellany. These are authentic portrayals of the Negro mind, written in flavorful dialect, and having both point and humor. Probably J. W. has seen GREEN PASTURES and knows how admirably bits of Roark Bradford's OL' MAN ADAM AN' HIS CHILLUN (Harpers), from which the play was taken, would fall in with her needs. These sketches, of course, are tales "about the time when the Lord walked the earth like a natural man." Mr. Bradford's THIS SIDE OF JORDAN (Harpers) and OL' KING DAVID AN' THE PHILISTINE BOYS (Harpers) should also be grist for her mill. It might be wise, too, to have a look at Mr. Bradford's JOHN HENRY (Harpers), and at Marc Connelly's GREEN PASTURES itself.

By the Author of
"PAGEANT"

THE WORLD IS YOURS

By G. B. LANCASTER

A magnificent story that will leave you with a glowing memory of great romance.



Appleton-Century announce a distinguished new novel in which the author of "Pageant" unfolds a memorable narrative of the raw, vigorous pioneer Yukon of the 1920's. It is a haunting love story in a setting of magic quality. Second printing \$2.50

Absorbing Historical Romance

WING OF FAME

By LOUISE WALLACE HACKNEY

Colorful novel based on the little-known life of James Smithson, founder of the Smithsonian Institution. A picturesque and most readable chronicle of character, background and action in 18th Century France and England. \$2.50

New "Appleton Biographies"

"Fresh viewpoints and unconventional treatment."—N. Y. Times. "A brilliant series of books."—Fanny Butcher. "Excellent series."—N. Y. Herald Tribune.

WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR

By Hilaire Belloc

The noted author of "Charles I of England" and "Marie Antoinette" gives a glowing picture of the Norman who conquered Britain. Frontispiece. \$1.50

HARUN AL RASHID

By H. St. John Philby

The extraordinary life of the great eighth century Caliph, who was such an amazing blend of cruelty, treachery, loyalty and generosity. Frontispiece. \$1.50

SARAH BERNHARDT

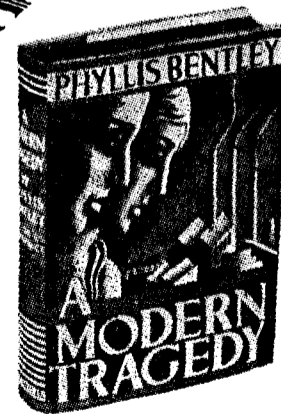
By Maurice Baring

In this brilliant work a distinguished writer and critic of the drama portrays the Divine Sarah as a great dramatic artist. Frontispiece. \$1.50

These are Appleton-Century Books

D. APPLETON-CENTURY COMPANY
35 WEST 32nd STREET NEW YORK

A MODERN TRAGEDY



by
Phyllis Bentley

Author of
"Inheritance"

Dorothy Canfield

Book-of-the-Month Club News

says it is—

"of impeccably sound workmanship, an intellectual pleasure to read . . . theme like George Eliot . . . details presented with mastery."

At all bookstores, \$2.50

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY

We laugh at
the fussy
Victorians

... but

here is a novel that balances the account by showing us the good that died with Victoria. By potent magic, through the life story of Mundy, a groom, its author recaptures the mellow mood of a pleasant way of life now entirely gone from the world.



"An earnest and whole-hearted return to the past... A true picture of the age."—*N. Y. Times*

Book-of-the-Month Club recommendation

FAREWELL VICTORIA

by T. H. WHITE

\$2

Harrison Smith and Robert Haas

I have sent

FREE

copies of *The Black Mountain* by Alan Hillgarth to the first 100 persons who wrote me in answer to the notice in the *Saturday Review* of February 3. I received 342 requests, all of which I have acknowledged. I am hopeful that this experiment will stimulate interest in a very fine novel.

ALFRED A. KNOPF
730 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

HERVEY ALLEN'S The Sources of Anthony Adverse

An attractive 16-page pamphlet, designed to fit inside a copy of the novel, containing the illustrations which originally appeared with the article in *The Saturday Review* of January 13th. Price 10 cents. If your bookseller cannot supply you, write, enclosing ten cents, direct to

The Saturday Review
OF LITERATURE
25 WEST 45th ST., N. Y. C.

The New Books

Biography

THOMAS JEFFERSON. By Gene Lisitzki. Viking. 1933. \$2.50.

From a note at the beginning of the bibliography one may assume that this book was written especially for "the young people." Considered as such it is an excellent popularization, not a vulgarization, of the life story of the most written about and most enigmatic figure in American history. The author has given a vivid and on the whole correct account of the extraordinary career of the son of a Virginia planter and surveyor who rose to the first office in the land, and was the most cultured American of his days. A few flaws can be picked out here and there. Jefferson could not have sent to his friends "each volume of the famous French Encyclopedia as they came out," as the last volume of Diderot's "Encyclopédie" was published in 1772; what he did in fact, was to purchase for them the volumes of a somewhat different publication, less philosophical and more practical, the "Encyclopédie Méthodique." Jefferson was interested in standardizing the parts of the matchlock used in army rifles and not the parts of watches. Those who are familiar with the Jefferson-Adams correspondence would hesitate to share the opinion that "Jefferson's views on religion were exactly the same as Adams's." The story of the "midnight judges" and of Levi Lincoln dramatically entering Judge Marshall's office holding Jefferson's watch in his hand has been satisfactorily disproved by Senator Beveridge; but old legends die hard. Deliberately Mr. Lisitzki has dismissed in three short paragraphs the difficulties with England and France which led up to the Embargo, and in general he has paid only slight attention to Jefferson's foreign policies and to the origin of his ideas. He is at his best, however, in his description of the "domestic life of Thomas Jefferson," and has made good use of Mrs. Sarah Randolph's little book. He is also thoroughly at home in Virginia.

The story of Jefferson's early years is told with great charm and without undue dramatization. Jefferson's manifold interests are duly emphasized. The author has walked around the university and Monticello, explored every nook and corner of the house, and described every piece of the furniture so cleverly contrived by the philosopher who took as much pleasure in tinkering, designing a model for a new plow, or a chaise longue as in rewriting the laws of his native State.

G. C.

Fiction

THE INNOCENT WIFE. By Colette. Farrar & Rinehart. 1934. \$2.

Here is the story of *The Innocent's* Progress. With her own delicately poisonous colors Colette portrays the witty and perverse group of teachers whose light-hearted diabolisms lead the Innocent step by step out of the safe, conventional paths of unquestioning wifehood into the disturbing and exhilarating ways of worldly wisdom. Here Colette leaves her, standing with anything but reluctant feet, where several brooks and rivers meet, but since one knows Colette of old in the matter of a fascinating heroine, we may surmise and hope that another volume will be devoted to the further adventures of the now less innocent wife.

A husband is forced to go on a business trip and leave his adoring little wife at home. But he hopes, with a aid of a carefully made out set of commandments, to keep her thoughts and her behavior in the docile grooves of habit during his absence. He is too optimistic. He has overlooked several factors in his simple planning. In the first place the sister who is to take his place as mentor of the wife while he is away reveals herself very quickly as a far from reassuring guide, philosopher, and friend. Even the most innocently closed eyes must open, kitten-wise, at last to the strange scenes continually presented, and the least heeding ears eventually guess out the meanings of too oft repeated whisperings.

And then the friends,—the little group of sophisticates into which the innocent wife is plunged all unprepared. With the delicate and impersonal precision of a surgeon Colette cuts through layer after layer of the morbid growths of personality and ego exposing in the end the meager souls that lie within. Not in every case.

Not with Claudine. She is the same intriguing bad child as of other days and other volumes. She still loves her husband to exaggeration but she still finds it difficult to withstand old temptations.

This particular book shows the gay Colette, the witty and ironical, making gestures that are far from flattering at the members of the circle she has selected for her purposes. She delights in shocking. She is pleased to leave no single shred behind which her characters may hide in their vain and vicious dervish dance. Of the other Colette who knows in tenderness the heart of some favored character, some young girl more complex than this innocent wife, or some young man too melancholy for the present post-war world, there is no trace in this brisk and vivid expose.

G. G.

Miscellaneous

DIGGING IN THE SOUTHWEST. By Ann Axtell Morris. Doubleday, Doran. 1933. \$2.50.

It is difficult to include a multitude of worthy facts in a book and yet leave the reader with the impression that he knows little more than he did before reading it. Yet Mrs. Morris, archaeologist and archaeologist's wife, through a possibly faulty assumption that she ought to be as discursive and informal as possible in order to get her subject across to the uninitiate, achieves just this goal. Her studied over-informality, which often leads her from her subject into amusing but unnecessary anecdotes, frequently tantalizes the reader by incomplete information on an interesting subject, fuller information being sacrificed to her personal story. Yet there are excellent chapters in this book, such as the discussion of the eight Indian cultures and the discovery of the tree-ring dating method. And there is no doubt as to Mrs. Morris's archaeological knowledge or ability. The subject of the book is Southwestern archaeology and everything possible attendant on it, treated usually from the witty personal viewpoint of Mrs. Morris. It is evident that an archaeological summer with the Morris would be paradise for the interested, and as a substitute for this actuality the book makes good reading.

C. C.

SKETCHES IN STABLE AND KENNEL. By Lionel Edwards. Scribners. 1933. \$3.75.

We like "Crascredo" (by the way, it's pleasant to find English sporting writers carrying on under a nom de plume like the celebrated Nimrod) for his good sense in saying what he does in his introduction to this latest volume of Mr. Edwards's pictures. What does it matter if it is so called "representational" art, if it represents things "truly" as they appear to mankind? Here is a welcome addition to the "hunting sketch books" and the Scottish collection, and a unique one. There is no doubt of it; knowledge of proper stable and kennel management is making a come-back. And the artist-author in

choosing a heretofore unpopular subject has caught in his sketches and colored drawings, "the virtue [to quote "Crascredo" again] which lies in those things partly of the sweat, partly of the spirit to which such knowledge is essential." He does not need to remind us that these are sketches intended for those to whom horses and even hounds, "are individuals with characters of their own," and seldom, if ever, idealized portraits. Indeed he exhibits his naturalism to the extent of doing an almost ugly drawing entitled "The Blood Bitch." None of his landscapes appears or should in this case. Among the best studies are those of clipping, bandaging, and shoeing horses, and of horse vans, and of hounds sweltering on a long summer day in their kennels. How, the reviewer asks, can he do an M. F. H.'s horse that so completely looks the part? We could wish that one work done several years ago, might have been included in this series. "Exercising in the Snow" is of some grooms riding and leading blanketed and very fresh horses along a road in a patchy, snow-covered landscape.

These pictures or illustrations have an astounding vitality, a verve, line, dash, coupled with delicacy and freedom which makes them quite memorable in their way. One closes the book with a sigh wishing there were at least as many more again.

E. L. V. A.

Latest Books Received

(Books of the week in Archeology, Architecture, Art, Belles Lettres, Biography, Business, Drama, Economics, Education, Government, History, International Affairs, Medicine, Music, Nature, Philosophy, Religion, Science, Sociology, Travel, are noted by title as received, unless reviewed in the current issue. Many of those listed will be reviewed later.)

ART

Nature in Design. J. Evans. Oxford Univ. Pr. \$5. *A History of American Graphic Humor.* W. Murrell. Whitney Museum. \$5.

BELLES LETTRES

English Critical Essays XX Century. Selected. P. M. Jones. Oxford Univ. Pr. 80 cents.

BIOGRAPHY

Circus Company. E. Seago. Put. \$3.25. *The Story of My Life.* C. Darrow. Scrib. \$1.

EDUCATION

Workbook in United States History. C. G. Vannest. Scrib. 48 cents. *Language for Living in a New Land.* L. K. Horton. Stratford. \$1.25.

FOREIGN

Bibliopolis. R. A. Arrieta. Buenos Aires. Viau y Zona.

MISCELLANEOUS

England's Quest of Eastern Trade. Sir W. Foster. Macmil. \$4. *Movie Making Made Easy.* W. J. Shannon. Nutley, N. J.: Moorfield & Shannon. \$2. *Alcohol.* H. Emerson, M. D. App. \$1. *The Roving Angles.* H. Palmer. Dutt. \$2.50. *Struggle.* L. Adamic. Los Angeles: Whipple. *The Book of Culture.* E. Peyser. New York: Esser-Frederick. \$4. *How to Succeed in Life.* G. Kleiser. Funk. \$2.

PAMPHLETS

Toward a Planned Economy. Sir A. Salter. Day. 25 cents. *The Consumers' Dollar.* E. A. Filene. Day. 25 cents.

RELIGION

The Message of the Parables. J. F. McFadden. Funk. \$2.

TRAVEL

Enchanted Ways Through England and Scotland. J. Prioleau. Morrow. \$2.50.

Over the Counter

The Saturday Review's Guide to Romance and Adventure

Trade Mark	Label	Contents	Flavor
RIFLED GOLD W. C. Tuttle (Houghton Mifflin: \$2.)	Western	Mr. Sleepy and Mr. Hashknife Hartley settle with the mysterious gold robbers very firmly indeed. The author is a vet at his racket.	Average
BED MANNERS Hopton & Balliol (Vanguard: \$1.)	Novelty	Under a catch-penny title we find a frequently amusing guide to bedroom etiquette for married folk, at home and visiting. All very respectable.	Fresh
GO INTO YOUR DANCE Bradford Ropes (King: \$2.)	Back-stage Stuff	The author of 42nd Street follows the ups and downs of an Irish lad on his way to fill Ziegfeld's shoes. Presumably we'll see another super-production with chorus girls in formation beneath the camera.	Grease paint
HAGAR'S CHILD Grace Naismith (Macaulay: \$2.)	Rental Plugger	Attractive young matron finds herself widowed without ability to support herself and youngsters, decides to pinch-hit for sterile wives of wealth in production of healthy heirs at \$25,000 per. First client proves last in happy ending.	Dull