The New Books

(Continued from preceding page) ware can hardly fail to grasp the parallel between the fictional career of Mr. Hart's Bayard Stuart and that of a prominent Senator who died in 1920. The accuracy of the portrait, which presents Stuart as a monument of selfishness and a master of all the arts of political corruption, may be left to the experts. Certainly he is not a sympathetic figure and has not even the excuse, in Mr. Hart's version, of believing in himself.

Meanwhile, judged purely as a novel "The Great One" calls for more than usual indulgence. The author has an unconventional and often thoroughly interesting point of view. He possesses something of the indignation and talent for melodramatic narrative which would be necessary in the making of an ironic novel of American politics. But technically his work still seems unsure, and the effect of many excellent passages is almost completely spoiled by the inclusion of other useless and discordant ones. The story is abnormally slow in getting under way; the hero's political career, for instance, does not begin until a third of the book is past. Finally, when a recognizable outline of the young man has been filled in and the first real climax of the book reached, Mr. Hart appears to have found his material overabundant, and has been reduced to skipping the rest of Stuart's life giving us only the deathbed memories of the dying Senator to end an already voluminous novel. There should be room these days for a good satirical portrait of an American politician, but this isn't it.

T. P., JR.

THE PHANTOM EMPEROR. By Neil H. Swanson. Putnam. 1934. \$2.50.

One quite extraordinary feat that Mr. Swanson has accomplished is the building of a long novel upon the few facts that are known about an actual American character, James Dickson, who proclaimed himself an emperor and raised a private army to conquer a kingdom for himself in the American southwest. He is probably one of the most mysterious characters in American history. He succeeded in enlisting sixty men in his Indian Liberating Army, mustered them in Buffalo, N.Y., issued commissions, sailed westward through the Great Lakes, and was defeated by the Minnesota wilderness in winter. The scene of "The Phantom Emperor" is the Great Lakes region. The story begins with a bang in the Newport Elegant House, in 1836, switches to the Bear's Head Tavern in Buffalo, and proceeds at a rattling pace with all the proper historical trimmings. For "love interest" there are a young American frontiersman and a French girl who has grown up in Army camps. President Jackson has sent Guerdon Warrener to see what one Phil Dufresne is up to, who has first cut a swath in Washington, then become strangely interested in the Indian service and in Indians that came to Washington, then in hiring young men in Canada to go upon a western expedition, and finally has signed a proclamation to the Indians in Spanish territory, calling himself commander-in-chief of the Indian Liberating Army, Montezuma Second, and Emperor of North America. President Jackson is worried. He thinks Dufresne may be in the pay of the British. Warrener has suffered from the Indians in the past, they killed his father and raped his mother; for revenge he has acquainted himself with Indian ways; has lived with the Dacotah, because thus he could revenge himself on the Ojibways. For these and other reasons Jackson has picked him for the present mission.

It would not be fair to give away the omplicated plot of this long historical romance, save to say that there is-among other matters of derring-do-a grand seafight in the book. There is plenty of excitement and battle and blood and love. "The Phantom Emperor" is a better book than most of its kind. It has action enough to satisfy the most action-seeking of readers, and besides that it has a great deal of interesting historical detail and a decided knack on the part of the author for the re-creation of an historical period. Neil Swanson may yet achieve a Sabatini audience. He has abilities in that direc-W. R. B. tion.

servers who are either less informed or more impartial. Mr. Guggenheim is no exception to this tendency, though he refers comparatively little to his own activities; his book is a relatively new approach to the various elements which have prevailed in the relations between the United States and her island neighbor. He likewise outlines a proposal for treaty revision which, being based upon the best advised estimates, is probably a close approximation of the next moves in the conciliatory policy now in force.

The hypothesis, widely accepted in most Latin-American countries, that the United States is still an imperialistic power, receives careful attention, as Mr. Guggenheim is at some pains to prove that American penetration of Cuban economy was at first gradual, even necessary to rehabilitation, and that after the 1921 collapse (Continued on next page)

Highlights in the Scholarly Journals

By J. DELANCEY FERGUSON

MERICAN LITERATURE (Duke University) for March scored a ΖΙ genuine scoop with "Emily Dickinson's Earliest Friend," by George F. Whicher. A hitherto unpublished letter which Emily wrote to Edward Everett Hale in January, 1854, identifies past question the "tutor" whom she mentions in several later letters, and incidentally deflates half a dozen picturesque and ro-mantic theories about her. The tutor proves to be not Leonard Humphrey but Benjamin F. Newton of Worcester, Mass., who from 1847 to 1849 was a law student in Edward Dickinson's office. Newton, who died of tuberculosis in March, 1853, has previously been mentioned in accounts of Emily only as the donor of Emerson's "Poems" in 1849. Mr. Whicher's summary of his conclusions is fully supported by his facts:

From a careful reading of her own factual statements it is difficult to avoid two leading impressions: first, that not one man, but several men in succession were of great importance to her; and, second, that tenderly as she was attached to them all, the relationship that she demanded of each in turn was not that of lover, but of teacher. Not for nothing was she brought up in a New England college town.

The January issue of this journal was also excellent. Edward Laroque Tinker's "Cable and Creoles," like Mr. Whicher's article, departs from the academic norm by being well-written as well as informative.

The two people most heartily hated by the Creoles of Louisiana were "bloody" O'Reilly, who, when governor, executed five of their compatriots for conspiring against Spanish rule, and George Washington Cable, who had the temerity to write of their race. Although these offenses would appear to differ materially in degree of moral turpitude, they seem to have differed not at all in the amount of vindictive rancor they engendered in the Creoles... The real root reason for this deep-seated spleen ... was that [Cable's] every hope, habit, thought, and even his religion, were in direct conflict with the Creoles....

The article continues with a brilliant analysis of Cable's character and literary achievement, and concludes by claiming that by virtue of his first two books Cable

is the legitimate father of the literary movement which is producing such splendid fruit in the South today. Cable first, among Southern writers, treated objectively and realistically the life he saw about him, and was first to break the taboo against writing about the Negro... He may well be called the first martyr to the cause of literary freedom in the South.



Famous Writers and Critics Recommend It

J. Donald Adams in the N. Y. Times:

"She is a lovely creation, this Maria Paluna, with her courage, her sensitive spirit, her understanding heart, and the tale of her love for the young Spanish caballero whose child she bore has an idyllic quality."

Herschel Brickell

in the N. Y. Evening Post: "The whole novel is informed with sympathy and understanding; it has warmth as well as color and a glowing love story—a glamorous and well-done novel."

Gertrude Atherton:

"It is brilliant. I have an idea this will soon be a best seller."

John Chamberlain

in the N. Y. Times: "Her narrative throbs with color, a sense of clarity of hard outline. It should have wide popularity." Lewis Gannett

733

in the N. Y. Herald Tribune: "It succeeds uniquely in re-creating the contemporary emotion of the most romantic moment in the history of America."

Heywood Broun in the

Book-of-the-Month Club News: "It is a fine book. What a magnificent woman Maria is!"

Margaret Ayer Barnes

Pulitzer Prize Winner: "I have read Maria Paluna with the greatest possible pleasure. Mrs. Niles writes with beauty and distinction."

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BOOKSELLERS—Don't Miss These The Saturday Review

International

THE UNITED STATES AND CUBA. By Harry F. Guggenheim. Macmillan. 1934. \$2.50.

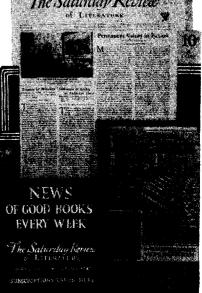
When a former diplomat writes about the country to which he has been accredited, the resulting work is apt to differ considerably from the conclusions of ob-

In the same number, Randall Stewart, whose recent edition of Hawthorne's "American Notebooks" will be remembered, reprints for the first time seven brief articles, mostly book reviews, which Hawthorne contributed to The Salem Advertiser between March 25, 1846, and May 10, 1848. The most interesting are reviews of "Typee" and "Evangeline." Fannye N. Cherry discusses the sources of the supernatural elements in "Young Goodman Brown"; John A. Kouwenhoven analyzes Hawthorne's use of material from his notebooks in "Dr. Grimshawe's Secret,' and W. L. Werner records several new "points" by which second editions of "The Scarlet Letter" may be distinguished from firsts. Other items are a slight uncollected sketch by Washington Irving, and an autobiographical letter from Paul Hamilton Hayne to William Dean Howells.

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The New Books

(Continued from preceding page) of the sugar market, the bankers found themselves in a controlling position that was both unsought for and unpleasant. Former conflicting interpretations of the pertinent articles of the Platt Amendment provided no single instrument adequate to solve such a situation, either politically or economically; it is thus implied that the Hoover Administration adopted the most charitable of these, non-intervention, and clung to it throughout.

It is pointed out that, since 1898, getting the United States to intervene in favor of one side or another has been a tradition on which much enthusiasm and ingenuity have been lavished. As for the strictures to which the former Ambassador has been subjected at the hands of other writers on Cuban affairs, they are left almost unrefuted, as the book is not a personal justification but a rather fully documented "study in international relations."

R. G.

DO WE WANT FASCISM? By Carmen Haider. Day. 1934. \$2.50.

The full consequences of a disciplined public life in the United States have received but random attention in the many discussions of things political which have followed every step of "Recovery." This book, however, summarizes the probable results of a strictly centralized government, under the dominance of capitalist ideology, and examines the opportunities for the establishment of such control. It is obvious that, though most Americans may agree with the author in not wanting to accept this system, it will be hard to forestall unless the essential elements of such an oligarchy may be quickly recognized, wherever and under whatever name they appear.

To this task of redefinition, almost half the book is devoted; the German and Italian movements are carefully analyzed, and it is made clear that, in these countries, the manual and intellectual workers combined with the unemployed to surrender their individual rights in favor of a planned society which has not yet materialized, and under which their position is as precarious as ever. Here also appears the reason for the paradox that such governments, committed to the ideal of selfsufficiency, must likewise endorse policies of expansion: if all profits were reinvested at home, overproduction and crises endangering state rule would result. The critique of the NRA which follows is informed with the same renunciation of capitalism, with all its public works and private consequences; Miss Haider feels that the codes have done comparatively little to improve the condition of the wage-earners. Fascism, however, would do even less, though it might promise more. As for the chances of a fascist regime in this country, the author hopefully believes them to be small, as they would be indeed, if every one could command so urbane and direct an understanding of its essentials as her own. R. G.

Miscellaneous

THE EXPLORERS OF NORTH AMER-ICA, 1492-1806. By John Bartlet Brebner. Macmillan. \$3.50.

In this volume the narratives of early North American exploration have been presented for the first time in their proper relation to one another, namely as efforts by nationals of several European states to reveal a new-found continent to the world. Mr. Brebner has made a real contribution by dismissing political and nationalistic considerations and bringing the story of North American exploration into an appropriate geographical focus. He makes no pretension of adding new of importance to tales that have already been told many times. An unexpected deficiency in the volume is the dismissal of Bering and the Russian fur traders on the northwest coast with three perfunctory pages. For the most part, however, the exploits of the explorers are told in such a manner as to make these actors in a wilderness drama live again. The scholarship is careful and sound. The bibliographies at the end of each chapter are well selected and useful. Mr. Brebner has produced a workmanlike and depend-R. H. G. able book.

Double-Crostics: Number 10

By ELIZABETH S. KINGSLEY

or American

DIRECTIONS

To solve this puzzle, you must guess twenty words, the defi-nitions of which are given in the column headed DEFINI-TIONS. The letters in each word to be guessed are numbered (these numbers appear at the beginning of each definition) you are thereby able to tell how many letters are in the req word. When you have guessed a word each letter is to be wi in the correspondingly numbered square on the puzzle diag When the squares are all filled in you will find (by reading left to right) a quotation from a famous author. Reading up down the letters mean nothing. The black squares indicate of words; therefore words do not necessarily end at the right of the diagram.

Either before (preferably) or after placing the letters in squares you should write the words you have guessed or blank lines which appear to the right in the column he

DEFINITIONS I. 112-10-90-26-3-79-54. Third son of a Biblical mariner.

. 107-131-124-12-27-84-145. Ex-cels, surpasses. п.

III. 69-119-24-127-38-7. Period of fullest vigor.
IV. 23-94-82-63-50-11. Required; was necessary.
V. 6-13-36-56-25-108-122-92-143. Famous pseudonym (two words).

VI. 22-95-33-60-81-138. During a space of time.

VII. 15-43-113-28-53-137. A poor carriage.

Carriage.
VIII. 100-46-72-111-118-125-99-18-58. Oviform (comp.)
IX. 49-8-129-41-104-120. The language of diplomacy.

. 78-21-106-70-65-74. Sub-diaboli-cal, mischievous.

XI. 5-30-101-73-98-75-61. Hearing distance

XII. 77-121-102-66. A bank in Paris.

XIII. 32-55-76-45-110-96-144-2-105. Straight to the point. XIV. 139-14-39-83-130-1-17-67. Fel-low-feeling, compassion.

xv.

V. 34-128-29-109-51-42-142-91-126. Compulsive idea or attitude. VI. 71-87-19-132-44-123. Wise counsellor of the "Iliad." XVI. XVII. 31-20-52-140-62-114-97-57. A new convert.

XVIII. 103-88-4-16-134-37-133. Ex-altation, transport. XIX. 116-35-136-89-9-86-141-64-117-68-48. A flavoring (comp.) XX. 93-135-40-47-59-115-85-80. Sturdy, valiant.

brings to the lay reader scientific information concerning our gaseous frontier, beyond which lies a still more baffling riddle space. Starting with the invention of the balloon, the author writes of its use as an instrument for obtaining information of the upper regions. The book carries on to our more recent and advanced technique of high exploring. Reading it is as though one were ascending, for the author moves upward, through the troposphere, the stratosphere, the ozone layer, the Kennelly layer, or Heaviside, and lastly the Appleton layer, one hundred and forty miles high, where short wave radio impulses are reflected. Not long ago all we laid claim to was air.

Now man feels with sound waves, and measures the ultra-violet and cosmic rays, bringing down a new and entrancing alphabet of symbols. Facts concerning celestial collisions, shooting stars, meteorites are discussed under "Projectiles of Space." The chapter on "Polar Lights" treats of the Aurora. The book is extremely inesting and timely. F. R.

Brief Mention

Among miscellaneous books we should note a new brief guide book called England for Everyman, by H. A. Piehler (Dutton, \$1.50) which is especially designed for motorists, with accompanying maps; Island India Goes to School, by E. R. Embree, M. S. Simon, and W. B. Mumford (University of Chicago Press, \$2), a study elaborately illustrated of methods of mod ern education in the East Indies; Useful Wild Plants of the United States and Canada, by C. F. Saunders (McBride, \$3), said to be "a welcome volume for nature lovers and students of botany, describing the wild plants that are useful as foods, beverages, soap, etc., together with much Indian lore regarding them"; Civic Education in the United States, by Charles E. Merriam (Scribners, \$1.75), a report on this subject sponsored by the American Historical Association; another book, by C. K. Ogden, on The System of Basic English which contains many examples and exercises; The Writing of Fiction, by Arthur S. Hoffman, formerly a magazine editor (Norton, \$3); a little book called Realism in the Drama, by Hugh Sykes Davies (Macmillan, \$1.50), which is a historical study, not a set of directions for writing, like the previous book; Thackeray's Literary Apprenticeship, by Harold S. Gulliver (Valdosta, Georgia), a study of the early newspaper and magazine work

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WORDS. The initial letters of this list of words spell the name

of the author and the title of the piece from which the quotation has been taken. Unless otherwise indicated, the author is English

SOLUTION OF LAST WEEK'S DOUBLE-CROSTIC (NUMBER 9)

R. L. STEVENSON-"THE CELESTIAL SURGEON" If I have moved among my race

And shown no glorious morning face; if morning skies, Books, and my food and summer rain Knocked on my sullen heart in vain,-Lord, thy most pointed pleasure take And stab my spirit, broad awake.

of Thackeray including previously unknown poems, sketches, and criticism; and from the University of California Press, The Modernist Trend in Spanish American Poetry, by G. Dundas Craig (\$4), a book containing an extensive anthology of modernist poetry in Spanish with translation on the opposite page and also criticism and comments on the modernist trend in this literature.

Latest Books Received

ECONOMICS Introduction to World Economics. K. Simpson. Harpers. \$3.50.

FOREIGN

Comment Marcel Proust A Composé Son Roman. A. Feuillerat. Yale Univ. Pr. Cuentos de Delfin de las Peñas. V. M. Rendón. Guaya-quil, Ecuador: Sociedad Filantropica del Guayas.

EDUCATION

Grammar Essentials. W. T. Wynn. Atlanta: Smith. Education in Latin America. H. L. Smith and H. Littell. American Book Co.

GOVERNMENT

A Political Paradox. H. Frease. Winston. \$2.

HISTORY

The Mississippi Question. A. P. Whitaker. Appleton. \$3.50.

INTERNATIONAL

Democracy and Nationalism in Europe. H. J. Stimson. Princeton Univ. Pr. \$1.25. The New Deal in Canada. E. Harris. Toronto: Ryerson.

JUVENILE

"Tony and His Pals." H. M. and F. M. Christeson. Chicago: Whitman. \$1. The Treasure of the Isle of Mist. W. W. Tarn. Putnams. \$2.

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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 select 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. Ad-dress Personal Dept., Saturday Review, 25 West 45th Street, New York City.

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WORDS

EXPLORING THE UPPER ATMOS-PHERE. By Dorothy Fisk. Oxford University Press. 1934. \$1.75.

Since Professor Piccard ascended into the stratosphere the world has become increasingly conscious of its vast and newly enthralling envelope of problems and possibilities.

"Exploring the Upper Atmosphere"

MISCELLANEOUS

MISCELLANEOUS MISCELLANEOUS Invalidation of Municipal Ordinances by the Supreme Court of Jowa. Iowa City: State His-torical Society. Some Aspects of the Finan-cial Administration of Johnson County, Iowa. F. O. Wilcox. Iowa City: State Historical So-ciety. Gardens in Glass. M. N. Andrews. Dodd. \$1.50. Oh, Ranger! H. M. Albright and F. J. Taylor. Dodd. \$2. Faith, Fear and Fortunes. D. Starch. Richard R. Smith. \$2. Songs of Wild Birds. A. R. Brand. Nelson \$2. Why I Quit Going to Church. R. Hughes. New York: Freethought Press. \$1. Socialism, Fas-cism, Communism. Ed. J. Shaplen and D. Schub. Ralph Waldo Emerson. Representa-tive Selections. Ed. F. I. Carpenter. American Book Co. Nathaniel Hawthorne. Representa-tive Selections. Ed. A. Warren. American Book Co. The Jewish Library. Third Series. Ed. L. Jung. New York: Jewish Library Pub. Co. \$2.50. Bibliography of Æsthetics and of the Philosophy of the Fine Arts from 1900 to 1932. Compiled and ed. W. A. Hammond. Longmans. Conclusions and Recommenda-tions of the Commission on the Social Studies. Scribners. \$1.25. The Lure of the Old Home-stead. C. G. Jordan. Revell. \$2. Public Opin-ion, Private Business, and Public Relations. S. Crowther. Liveright. 25 cents. Inter-national Law. C. G. Fenwick. Appleton. \$4. Determinants of Investment Practice. E. Brown, Jr. Macmillan. \$2. The Axiochus of Plato. Trans. E. Spenser. Ed. F. M. Padelford.

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J. M .--- Please write again--- hold the mood and sing your song.-M. B.

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