

# 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.

## BALLET DANCING

A. W. E. of Detroit, Mich., is looking for a book on the subject of ballet or interpretative dancing which he can bestow upon a girl of fifteen or sixteen who has been "taking lessons." She is not, A. W. E. says, bookish, and, though he wants something adult, he doesn't think the first book which of course springs to mind, NIJINSKY, is the thing.

THE MODERN DANCE (Barnes: \$1.60), by John Martin, which represents an account of the origins of the dance of today together with an analysis and description of its characteristics will perhaps serve his purposes. Only a few weeks ago there appeared a volume which offhand I should think would be just the Christmas gift for his young friend; unfortunately its cost is more than the sum named in his letter. This is BALLETO-MANIA (Simon & Schuster: \$3.75), which its publishers describe as "a book of gossip and history, of comedy and tragedy, of triumph and disaster." It is a discussion of the art of choreography, and incidentally a gallery of pen portraits of many individual dancers, both as artists and personalities.

## A LYMAN ABBOTT "OUT OF PRINT"

"Please inform me," writes W. H. McC. Jr. of Marshall, Texas, "where I may obtain a copy of SILHOUETTES OF MY CONTEMPORARIES, by Lyman Abbott. I have made numerous inquiries of book dealers and been unable to find a copy."

Alas, it is long since out of print. Perhaps some one of our readers who has a copy he no longer desires, might be willing to part with it. It was published by Doubleday, Page in 1921, and there certainly ought still to be copies extant in the bookshops. Incidentally, I am still getting letters from readers who have a copy of THE COURTS OF MEMORY they are ready to give up.

## HISTORY OF MODERN EUROPE

F. A. H. of Sausalito, Calif., wants the names of good histories covering the period from the French Revolution to the present day in Europe.

There's always, of course, whatever other works may be mentioned, the Cambridge history of any period to be kept in mind as a reference work. Though the CAMBRIDGE MODERN HISTORY is not as satisfactory in all its volumes as the ANCIENT, nevertheless it should never be forgotten. Volume VIII contains the French Revolution and from that point on, of course, the series deals with events in the different European countries. But if F. A. H. wants a history of comfortable length that she can keep on her table and read as the winter wears on she cannot do better than to get Carlton J. H. Hayes's POLITICAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY OF MODERN EUROPE (Macmillan). This is in two volumes, the first of which, since it runs from 1500 to 1815, F. A. H. will need for the short period between the French Revolution and the Battle of Waterloo. Volume II covers the stretch from 1815 to the present. Mr. Hayes has focussed his discussion around the rise of the bourgeoisie, and lays emphasis on economic factors as well as political. His work is lucid, well-knit, and interesting, and in addition to tracing the

main currents of European history follows the side streams in America, Asia, and Africa. It has chapters on the World War, on the Peace, and on post-Armistice conditions, and is provided with good critical bibliographies. In case F. A. H. wants something still more concise than Mr. Hayes's volumes, there is Charles Downer Hazen's well-conceived and well-executed EUROPE SINCE 1815 (Holt), and if she wishes a volume that will give her not only European but world annals Edward Fueter's WORLD HISTORY, 1815-1920 (Harcourt, Brace), is an excellent choice.

F. A. H.'s question was a double-barrelled one. I'm saving the other half of her inquiry for answer in a later Clearing House.

## POSITIONS FOR WOMEN

N. B. J. of Los Angeles, Calif., wants information as a member of a vocational guidance committee which is interested in building up a library of books containing facts on women's professions which are pertinent to the condition of the professions today. The committee wishes books which explain the requirements, advantages, disadvantages, and opportunities of vocations which though not necessarily exclusively feminine are open to women.

This is a field which has been much tilted of late and in which there is a constantly growing literature. I'll start N. B. J. off now with a few titles and as others come to my mind or my attention I'll jot them down, and keep on sending them to her for her possible library list. But, first, before I mention a few books, let me tell N. B. J. that the North Carolina College for Women issues a bibliography entitled OCCUPATIONS FOR COLLEGE WOMEN, by C. Woodhouse and R. F. Yeomans, which ought to be very helpful to her. If she'll get that, and then investigate for her purposes H. R. Cades's JOBS FOR GIRLS (Harcourt, Brace), D. E. Fleischman's OUTLINE OF CAREERS FOR WOMEN (Doubleday, Doran), and BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN (Harpers), by C. Oglesby, she'll get off to a good start.

## WHO WAS THE HERO

C. de V. Mack, of London, Canada, in a letter asking for some information which I shall forward shortly, asks if I know of a children's story which, alas! I myself have never read nor those of my friends whom I have asked concerning it.

Perhaps some of my readers can tell her for me so I print her inquiry. It is in regard to a book which is the "tale of a little girl's attempt to reach a castle. She is helped by a fox, called Florizel or Floris, who later turns into a prince. The last great obstacle in her way is the walking on a rope which is her only approach to the castle. It widens out miraculously as she walks on it. It is a lovely book full of satisfying details such as the clothes she wore and the food she ate. I think there was a picture of the castle on the cover, and I remember one illustration of the heroine, clad in a middy suit, bravely walking the rope. This book used to thrill me as a child, about fifteen years ago. It cannot be so very long out of print."

Can anyone tell C. de V. MacK. the title of the book and the name of its author?

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## Over the Counter

The Saturday Review's Guide to Romance and Adventure

Trade Mark	Label	Contents	Flavor
ASEFF THE SPY Boris Nikolajewsky (Doubleday, Doran; \$2.50)	Nonfiction	The story of the man who joined the Nihilists in 1892, alternately betrayed them and the Russian police for years. Photographs.	Interesting
MR. UNDERHILL'S PROGRESS Elizabeth Corbett (Reynal & Hitchcock; \$2.)	Novel	The author of "The Young Mrs. Meigs" takes an older man for her hero, does very well by him.	Good
BROTHERS ON THE TRAIL Max Brand (Dodd, Mead; \$2.)	Western	"Well, the Chief was born to shoot quick and shoot straight. That's the only trouble with him."	Standard
AGENT B-7 Ared White (Houghton, Mifflin; \$2.)	Spy Story	Jack Dalton—or rather, we should say, Fox Elton of the American Secret Service, chases Zumbusch, the German agent, to save the Allied Forces.	Terrific



THE MACMILLAN CO.



## The Compleat Collector

FINE PRINTING

CONDUCTED BY CARL PURINGTON ROLLINS

In alternate weeks this Department is devoted to Rare Books and is conducted by John T. Winterich.

### The Constitution

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. New Rochelle: Peter Pauper Press. 950 copies. 1934. \$2.

THE laborer is worthy of his hire, but one cannot say as much for the entrepreneur. Take books. The cost of publicity and distribution is all out of scale with the shop costs, making excessive prices and tremendous discounts part of the burden the purchaser has to bear. One would hardly think of doing away with the book store, and it is but one element in a complicated situation, but there ought to be some method of distribution which costs less to operate. I don't know what that method is, but I do know that a book like the Peter Pauper Press edition of the Constitution at \$2 is a good book at a low price. It is fair to hope that the most of the two dollars goes to the compositor and pressman, for they have done their work well. Good and attractive paper, Centaur type, red rules and blue eagles, in a sound cloth binding, make an attractive whole. This is the first of a projected series of six such moderately priced, desirable books.

### Danvis Folks

DANVIS FOLKS. By Rowland E. Robinson. Foreword by Walter P. Eaton and Introduction by John Farrar. Rutland: Tuttle Co. 1934. \$2.50.

This is the third volume in the Centennial Edition of Robinson's works, and it includes, besides the well-known "Danvis Folks," a lesser known juvenile, "A Hero of Ticonderoga." We have noticed these books as they have come out, and are delighted to have a reprint of stories which are too little known. It seems a bit superfluous to load up such a book with two introductory essays, but if it has to be done the two men here represented were good ones to choose. As in the other volumes, some of Robinson's own drawings are reproduced.

### Books of Various Sorts

THE BOOK OF THE MACHINE. San Francisco: The Windsor Press. 200 copies. 1934. \$4.

A dithyrambic on the machine as a great emancipator of humanity. If you like that sort of thing it is just the sort of thing you like. But for collateral reading see Austin Freeman's "Social Decay and Regeneration," Samuel Butler's "Erewhon," and Porter Garnett's "Fine Books."

Shakespeare's "Venus and Adonis" with Rockwell Kent's illustrations, hitherto available only in a limited edition, has been issued by the Printing House of Leo Hart, Rochester, in a trade edition at \$2.75. It is a well printed and attractively bound book, though perhaps Caslon type is not the best helpmeet for Mr. Kent's drawings.

"Never Say Goodbye," "the first Play-Novel," has been printed by the author "George Hetherington" and 95 copies have been bound with a special colophon and signed. The book is midway between the usual type-printed affair and the future photographed book which will not employ metal types: it is printed by lithography from hand-press proofs of each page which had been hand-set.

### "Trade" Books

The term "trade books" gives no better clue to the character of a book than does the ambiguity of "limited edition." And any "complete collector" of books is as much interested in trade books, that is, editions not definitely limited to a small number of copies, as he is in the others. A look around the bookstore is always exciting, and usually reveals some attractive items worth seeing and owning. For example:

"A Journey into Rabelais's France," by Albert J. Nock, (New York: Morrow. \$3.50), is not only satisfactory and alluring reading, but well printed, and illustrated

with pen and ink drawings by Ruth Robinson.

"The Scandal and Credulities of John Aubrey," a selection of half a hundred of the best of the *Lives*, edited with an introduction by John Collier, has been issued in good, readable format by Peter Davies.

### Typographic Matters

The Overbrook Press has been established by Mr. Frank Altschul in picturesque surrounding overlooking the Mianus River near Stamford, Conn. A small book of Types, borders, rules, and devices has been printed as a keepsake. Other and more ambitious projects are in hand.

The "Catalogue of an Exhibition of Books Printed at the Cambridge University Press" and now on exhibition in this country has been printed by the Press as a comely, thin octavo—marred by the growing tendency to place the period and comma outside of the quotation marks.

Recent issues of that incomparable small magazine, *Philobiblon* (Herbert Reichner, Vienna), include matter either textual or pictorial on Johannes Boehland, on Wagner's difficulties in publishing and selling his musical setting for *Die Beiden Grenadiere*, on mineralogical books, on first editions of German music composers, and on the Stellfell Music Library in Antwerp. There have been several reprints, one of a German translation, *Der Bücher-narr*, of Flaubert's *Bibliomanie*. In 1929 Professor Theodore W. Koch of Northwestern University Library issued a translation in English. The original MS. is in possession of Dr. Stefan Zweig of Salzburg.

### The New Books

(Continued from page 316)

childish cynicism; Tade, the Everywoman's dream of a lover; all are but puppets surprisingly like our dolls in the attic.

Yet the writer has talent, and soon we shall expect her to grow up. In the meantime her book should be a great success in the loan libraries. Did we neglect to say that the story is about a lady's search for "ideal love"?

M. S. U.

MY NEXT BRIDE. By Kay Boyle. Harcourt, Brace. 1934. \$2.50.

Kay Boyle has achieved a considerable, if intensive, reputation, perhaps more for her short stories than for her novels. Her peculiar ability to express obscure intuitions in sudden lyric flashes makes her shorter work brilliant, but leaves her novels static. Many readers will be puzzled by the present book, which tells the story of a jobless American girl in Paris, her weird experiences in a pseudo-art-and-craft colony, her attenuated love affair with a wealthy but wraith-like young Bostonian; everything is seen obliquely, in a stream of unconsciousness. Kay Boyle's characters are always intense and vivid at first, particularly the two starving Russian women; but they do not develop. Her situations are well presented, so that one begins the book with expectancy; but half way through, the imaginative possibilities are submerged in the development of a *roman à clef* which may have its own meaning to a few, but will do little to keep the general reader interested. Meanwhile, there are pages that light up with perceptions and phrases which are Kay Boyle's, and which make one regret that they exist, like the American expatriates to whom they apply, in a vacuum.

G. S.

### Latest Books Received

#### BELLES LETTRES

The Essence of Plotinus. Based on translation by S. McKenna. Compiled by G. H. Turnbull. Oxford Univ. Pr. \$2.50. *Longinus and English Criticism*. T. R. Henn. Cambridge Univ. Pr. (Macmillan). \$2.25. *The Art of Walking*. Ed. E. V. Mitchell. Loring. \$1.75. *The Neo-Classic Theory of Tragedy in England During the Eighteenth Century*. C. C. Green. Harvard Univ. Pr. \$2.50. *Undercurrents of Influence in English Romantic Poetry*. M. Sherwood. Harvard Univ. Pr. \$3.50. *Shakespeare*. G. Saintsbury. Macmillan.

#### BIOGRAPHY

From Then Till Now. J. Barnes. Appleton-Century. \$4.

#### DRAMA

L'Aiglon. E. Rostand. Adapted C. Dane. Doubleday. \$1.75.

#### ECONOMICS

The Theory of Economic Development. J. A. Schumpeter. Harvard Univ. Pr.

#### EDUCATION

A Guide to Good English. G. B. Woods. Doubleday. *Conversational French*. A. Mann, Jr. Macmillan. \$2.50. *Sex Education*. Child Study Ass. of America. 25 cents. *Experience in English Composition and Literature*. Vol. II. Grade IX to XII. Chicago: Francis W. Parker School. \$1. *Grady-Klapper-Gifford Childhood Readers*. Third Reader Workbook. Scribners. 28 cents. *The Teaching of College English*. Compiled O. J. Campbell. Appleton.

#### FOREIGN

Die Grosse Fahrt. H. F. Blunck. Munich: Langen & Müller.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Citizens of Long Ago. A. B. Hawes. Oxford Univ. Pr. \$2.50. *The Universe Around Us*. Sir J. Jeans. Macmillan. \$4. *Economic History of the People of the United States*. F. A. Shannon. Macmillan. \$5. *The Theatre in My Time*. St. John Ervine. Loring. \$2.50. *Literature in My Time*. C. Mackenzie. Loring. \$2.50. *Here's England*. D. Hartley. Loring. \$3.50. *Political Power*. C. E. Merriam. Whittlesey. \$3. *Beasts and Saints*. Trans. H. Waddell. \$2.50. *The Meaning of Unintelligibility in Modern Art*. E. F. Rothchild. Univ. of Chicago Pr. \$1.50. *The Hands of Dr. Locke*. R. Beach. Farrar. \$1. *Selection and Training of the Polo Pony*. G. Culum. Scribners. \$5. *A Woman's Best Years*. A. B. Wolfe. M.D. Long. \$2.25. *Christian Church at Dura-Europos*. C. Hopkins and P. V. C. Baur. Yale Univ. Pr. *The Human Machine*. L. M. Breed. M.D. Stratford. \$1.50. *Oriental Brasses*. I. Ingersoll Lockwood. Glendale. Calif. Clark. \$7.50. *Who Gets the Money?*

W. Rautenstrauch. Harpers. \$1. *Stranger than Fiction*. By "The Voice of Experience." Dodd. \$1. *Notes and Queries: Relating Chiefly to Interior Pennsylvania, 1878-1900*. A. M. Aurand. Harrisburg: Aurand. *The Man With the Hoe and Other Poems*. E. Markham. Trans. into Pennsylvania-Dutch dialect A. M. Aurand, Jr. Harrisburg: Aurand. *Cape Cod Akoy!* A. W. Tarbell. Little. \$2. *Guess Who*. Pliny the Younger. New York: Empire. *Limited Capitalism*. L. W. Allen. New York: Strand, 18 East 41st St. *The Book of Dogs*. J. G. Lawson. Rand McNally. 50 cents. *English Costume of the Seventeenth Century*. I. Brooke. Macmillan. \$2. *An Anthology of World Poetry*. Ed. M. Van Doren. Blue Ribbon. *Intercollegiate Debates*. Ed. E. R. Nichols. Noble. *Answers to Awkward Questions of Childhood*. T. F. Tucker and M. Pout. Kendall.

#### NEW EDITIONS

The Night Before Christmas. C. C. Moore. Dodd. \$1. *The New Background of Science*. Sir J. Jeans. Macmillan. \$2.50. *Dreamthorp*. A. Smith. Doubleday. *The Works of William Shakespeare*. Oxford Univ. Pr. \$3.

#### PAMPHLETS

From the Scrip of Eros. R. L. Mégroz. London: Fenland. Sir Walter Scott. D. M. Stuart. English Association. *The First Duke of New England*. A. Proteus. Boston: Satyr Pr. A Description of the "New Deal." F. R. Fairchild. E. S. Furniss. N. S. Buck, and C. H. Whelden, Jr. Macmillan. *Administrative*. G. S. Claire. Macmillan. *Contemporary Legislative and Banking Problems*. American Institute of Banking.

#### POETRY

The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam. Monroe. N. C. 50 cents.

#### RELIGION

The Episcopal Church. T. St. C. Will. Morehouse. \$1.50.

#### SOCIOLOGY

The Application of Scientific Methods to Sociology. J. C. Cobb. Boston: Chapman & Grimes.



\*December

# The American Mercury

## THE NEW DEAL VS. RECOVERY

by Benjamin Stolberg & Warren Jay Vinton

## ATTORNEY-GENERAL CUMMINGS

by Hugh Russell Fraser

Pan-Americanism: Myth and Failure

Robert Hammond Murray

Stupidities of the Military

H. A. De Weerd

The New Deal Woos the Army

Samuel Grafton

The Hindenburg Myth

S. Miles Bouton

Gone Native

John Collier

The Child Labor Disgrace

Anthony M. Turano

The Saar Plebiscite

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Singers Are Dumber than Fiddlers

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