

HIGHLIGHTS of MANHATTAN

by Will Irwin

Illustrated by E. H. Suydam

A new edition, with new added chapters, of one of the most famous and comprehensive books about New York City. Beautifully illustrated by E. H. Suydam, this volume in word and picture catches the very spirit of the world's greatest city. \$5.00

BIRDS AROUND THE YEAR

by Lorine Letcher Butler

A widely known authority and lecturer on bird life has written a practical and companionable book for all seasons, tracing the birds and their habits through Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter. Foreword by Thomas Gilbert Pearson. Illustrated. \$2.00

EMMY UNTAMED

by Helen R. Martin

The delightful story of a young Pennsylvania-Dutch girl who struggles proudly against the tyranny of a mean tempered foster-father. By the author of "Tillie: A Mennonite Maid." \$2.00

At All Booksellers

D. APPLETON-CENTURY COMPANY
35 West 32nd Street, New York

ANDRÉ MALRAUX

author of *Man's Fate*
and leader of the International Air
Squadron of the Loyalist Government
and

LOUIS FISCHER

Foreign Correspondent of The Nation
will discuss

"Spain's Battle for Democracy"

at Mecca Temple
130 West 56 St., New York
on Thursday evening, March 11, at 8 o'clock
Admission: \$.55, .35, and .25

Tickets at
NORTH AMERICAN COMMITTEE
TO AID SPANISH DEMOCRACY
381 Fourth Avenue, New York City
MUrray Hill 5-0477

ODD NUMBERS VOLUMES AND SETS

Of All Magazines Supplied Promptly
and Reasonably

THE H. W. WILSON COMPANY
950 University Avenue New York City

The Clearing House

CONDUCTED BY AMY LOVEMAN

Inquiries, accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope, should be directed to Miss Loveman, in care of The Saturday Review.

A BALANCED RATION FOR A WEEK'S READING

NATIONAL VELVET. By Enid Bagnold. *Morrow.*

R. E. LEE. By Douglas Southall Freeman. *Scribners.*

MURDER FOR PROFIT. By William Bolitho. *Harpers.*

Eli Perkins

I am anxious, writes P. E. B. of Butte, Montana, to get something on Eli Perkins . . . an American humorist of many years ago. I have never been able to even find his name or mention of him in a library.

ELI PERKINS, though he was born as long ago as 1839, died as recently as 1910. Perhaps P. E. B.'s difficulty in getting on his traces is due to the fact that his real name was Melville de Lancy Landon and Eli Perkins a pseudonym which he adopted for the humorous writings he contributed to the *New York Commercial Advertiser*, and which he afterward used as author and lecturer. Landon served in the Civil War but resigned at Secretary Chase's request to take up cotton growing in Louisiana and Arkansas with free labor. He traveled extensively abroad, and was there in 1870, publishing on his return to the United States a volume entitled *THE FRANCO-PRUSSIAN WAR IN A NUTSHELL*. Next he turned to journalism, sending humorous correspondence from Saratoga to the *Commercial Advertiser* which he signed first "Lan" and later "Eli Perkins." He made a great reputation for himself, being in wide demand as a lecturer and toast-master. His book, *ELI PERKINS AT LARGE: HIS SAYINGS AND DOINGS* is, I believe, no longer in print, but should be easily available at libraries or through second-hand dealers. It may very well contain the particular quotation for which P. E. B. is looking. The *DICTIONARY OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY* contains a column or more on Eli Perkins (under Landon); there was a biographical entry in "Who's Who in America" for 1908-09, and the *New York Times* (as well as other papers, of course), printed an obituary notice on December 17, 1910.

Early Christian Martyrs

J. W. L. of Hagerstown, Md., wishes books of fiction dealing with the period of Roman history that has to do with the persecutions of the Christians.

Since J. W. L. enumerates among the books in the field which he has already read most of those which come to mind at once I find a poor grist to add to his list. Novels of the period seem to have had short life, for many of them are out of print. This is true, for instance, of the tales by Alfred John Church, once

popular, to *THE LIONS* (Putnams), a story of the persecution of Christians under Trajan; *THE BURNING OF ROME* (Macmillan), which plays in Nero's day, and *THE CROWN OF PINE* (Scribners), laid in Claudius's reign. All of these books, I am sure, can be found in libraries and second-hand shops. Donn Byrne's *BROTHER SAUL* (Appleton-Century), a fictional study of St. Paul from the time when he was a youth at Tarsus up to his death in Rome, should yield background material, and G. J. Whyte Melville's *THE GLADIATORS* (Longmans, Green) is a picture of Rome under Vitellius and Vespasian. Incidentally, J. W. L. might insure himself a few hours of entertainment by re-reading Shaw's *ANDROCLES AND THE LION* (Dodd, Mead).

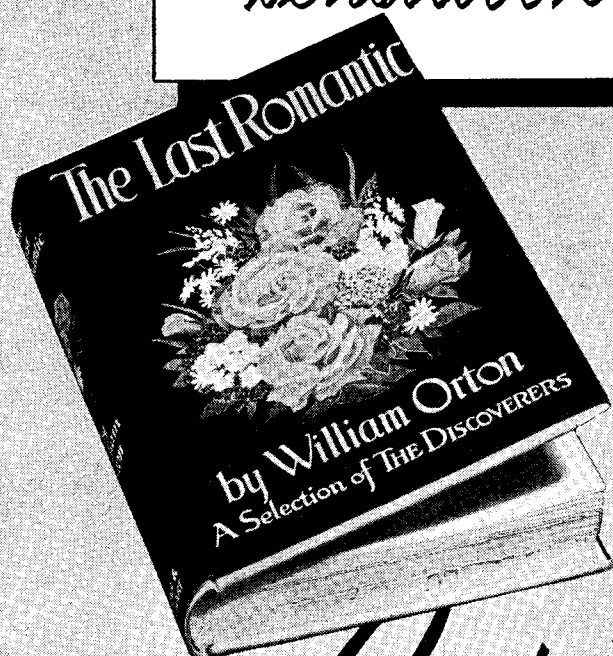
Thanks All Round

Edward Chandler of Brookline, Mass., has called my attention to an unfortunate slip by his courteous statement: "As every good Janeite should know, Lyme Regis is not in Devonshire but in Dorsetshire. The Devonshire travel bureaus may try to claim it but the County Council would surely not take the matter to Parliament." And a correspondent who wishes to be nameless supplements the list of books on Guatemala I published not long ago with the following:

Perhaps P. J.'s friend who is planning to visit Guatemala next summer would be interested in two other books that I enjoyed both before and after my own trip there. Lilly de Jongh Osborne's "Guatemalan Textiles," published by the Department of Middle American Research, Tulane University, will add to her appreciation of the native dress, and help her in selecting the huipiles that I know she will want to buy. The chapters on Mayan art and on Chichicastenango in Aldous Huxley's "Beyond the Mexique Bay" are excellent. This was published by Harper in 1934. There is also a very good article on Guatemala in the October issue of the *National Geographic Magazine* (pp. 429-460), by E. John Long.

Further, Bernard Smith of Alfred A. Knopf sends me word that his firm has recently published a volume by Erna Fergusson, author of *DANCING GODS AND FIESTA IN MEXICO*, entitled simply *GUATEMALA*, and Gertrude Blumenthal of Macmillan writes that after all her research and reading a few years ago in preparation for a visit to that country, "the book that was most useful to me before and during my trip . . . was a little juvenile of Elizabeth Coatsworth's, *THE BOY WITH THE PARROT*," published by Macmillan. To the books recommended in a recent issue to J. S., who wanted works which would give information on instructing a young child regarding sex, Jessie Welles of Toledo, O., suggests that Frances B. Strain's *NEW PATTERNS IN SEX TEACHING* (Appleton-Century) be added, and W. H. Bonner of Buffalo, N. Y., that Karl de Schweinitz's *GROWING UP* (Macmillan) be appended.

*"It is that rarest of books,
an honest biography of a
sensitive being..."* -ZONA GALE



THE Last Romantic

by WILLIAM ORTON



A SELECTION OF THE DISCOVERERS

notable: "A strange and haunting book. It is a novel, and yet it is built around and includes copious quotations from Orton's own journal. The story is sensitively told, beautifully realized. As an account of growing up in England in those fervid, disturbed prewar days, it is notable."

—Philadelphia Ledger

beautiful: "A beautiful and sensitive book. It defies classification; but its spiritual significance will haunt you long after you have laid it down. The final chapters, written with remarkable restraint, will deeply move the reader."

—Charles Hanson Towne

fascinating: "A curious and fascinating book, as baffling as it is memorable . . . There has been nothing else quite like it—nothing else at once so personal and impersonal, so positive and negative, so illuminating and puzzling . . . A moving transcript of experience."

—New York Times

325 pages, \$2.50

FARRAR & RINEHART
232 MADISON AVENUE, N. Y.

4th Printing
now ready

of the pioneer work
on the relationship
which has existed and
should exist between
courts, legislatures
and executives.

THE
**Twilight
OF THE
Supreme
Court**

By EDWARD S. CORWIN

"The best history and analysis
of our judicial doctrines."—
The New Republic.

"Recommended for lawyer or
layman who seeks to under-
stand what is happening to the
Constitution these stirring
days."—*University of Pennsylv-
ania Law Review*. On sale at
all bookstores. \$2.50

YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS
New Haven, Conn.

Whee!

**THE
Haunted
Omnibus**

832 pages of the best ghost
stories ever written. Illustrated
by LYND WARD. \$3. F. & R.

• Have you joined *The Discoverers*?

**A
MANUAL
OF
STYLE**

If you are an author, editor, print-
er, advertising man, typographer,
proofreader—be sure to get the new
Tenth Revised Edition of this au-
thoritative Manual of Style with
up-to-date rules on today's best
practice and specimens of book, dis-
play and foreign type faces. \$3.00;
postpaid \$3.15.

THE UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO PRESS
5750 Ellis Avenue, Chicago

Trade Winds

BY P. E. G. QUERCUS

A GREAT reader of courtroom tes-
timony (he has never forgotten
his astonishment when, as a col-
lege student, he looked up the files of
the *London Times* to read the procès-
verbaux of the Oscar Wilde trial) Old Q.
applauds the first volume of Doubleday's
Notable American Trials. It is a hand-
some volume, dealing with the Lizzie
Borden case, Fall River's gruesome mur-
der in 1892. Edmund Pearson, long
a devoted student of this sanguinary
butchery, has edited the volume to ad-
miration; his history of the affair leaves
no doubt that he believes Lizzie was
guilty, and he tells us with delighted
malice that the arms of the Borden family
carried as a crest: "a Lion Rampant, hold-
ing a Battle-Axe proper." Often we
wish we had time to follow up the curi-
ous reading suggestions found in book-
sellers' catalogues. In a pamphlet from
the Franco-American Book Co. (29 West
56, N.Y.C.) we find listed (\$50, "carefully
washed and sized, full Rose Du Barry
french levant") the 1485 edition of *De
Duobus Amantibus* written by Aeneas
Silvius; which cost him much embar-
rassment when he later became Pope
Pius II. Speaking of Fine and Rare, a
client of ours has discovered a young man
trying to support himself by making very
unusual (and original and decorative)
slip-cases for collectors' books. They are
beautifully made, uncostly, and so unique
in idea that if we described those we have
seen outsiders would immediately imi-
tate. If interested you can learn more by
writing H. G., 129 Columbia Heights,
Brooklyn, N. Y.

The National Book Awards, annually
conferred by ballot of the booksellers
themselves through a nominating com-
mittee of the American Booksellers' Asso-
ciation, were announced at an A.B.A.
luncheon held at the Hotel Astor, Feb-
ruary 25th. These choices, made by ma-
jority vote after very fair and careful pre-
liminary seeding, are of much interest as
the expression of the Trade itself. The
idea of the Award was first suggested by
Miss Virginia Kirkus who serves as chair-
man of the central committee. Christopher
Morley of the *SATURDAY REVIEW* ("a
periodical," as he modestly termed it in
his remarks) was invited by the A.B.A. to
make the announcement at the lunch-
eon.

The voting resulted as follows, for
books published in 1936:—

The Most Distinguished Biography:
An American Doctor's Odyssey, by Dr.
Victor Heiser. (Norton.) Most Distin-
guished Non-Fiction: *The Flowering of
New England*, by Van Wyck Brooks.
(Dutton.) Most Distinguished Fiction:
Gone With the Wind, by Margaret Mitch-
ell. (Macmillan.) Most Original Book:
The Country Kitchen, by Della T. Lutes.
(Little, Brown.) The Undeservedly For-
gotten Book: *I Met a Gipsy*, by Norah
Lofts. (Knopf.) Only one of the au-
thors was able to be present in person,
Mrs. Lutes, who had motored down from

Cooperstown, N. Y., for the event and
made a charming speech of acknowledg-
ment. Mr. W. W. Norton, Mr. John Mac-
rae, Mr. George P. Brett, and Mr. Alfred
A. Knopf spoke in acceptance for their
respective authors. Mr. Chick Traver
of Trenton, president of the A.B.A., pre-
sided.

It was thought by some, who
were anxious to get back to work, that
Mr. Morley spoke at unnecessary length.
Interviewed by our ubiquitous reporter
on this point, Mr. Morley pleaded that a
heavy and unexpected snowstorm was
raging and he felt sure the stores would
not be doing any business. He thought
that detaining the flimsily-clad book-
sellers was a precaution against their in-
curring a phthisis. Incidentally, Mr.
Brett announced at the luncheon that his
firm was taking steps to prevent further
use of *Gone With the Wind* as a cut-price
"loss leader." The Macmillan Company
has offered to dealers in Illinois and Cali-
fornia contracts (under the Fair Trade
Acts of those States) to maintain the list
price of the book. This procedure will be
followed in other States where and when
legally possible.

Blue Ribbon Books, Inc., has pur-
chased the assets and good will of A. L.
Burt and Co., including all the stock of
books and contracts carried by Burt.
Blue Ribbon has heretofore specialized
in non-fiction reprints; the acquisition of
the Burt books adds a long list of fiction
to the Blue Ribbon publications. A. L.
Burt and Co. was founded over fifty years
ago, and has specialized in 75 cent re-
prints of novels.

In the *Herald Tribune* recently
F. P. A. was discussing Robinson Jeffers
as a poet without humor. This is always
an embarrassing topic for public argu-
ment; but if ever Mr. Jeffers needed a
sense of humor it must have been when
Ben De Casseres some years ago wrote
his famous, his deathless, his incompara-
ble blurb which still reverberates among
the vaults of the publishing business.
In our private collection of the Hyper-
bolic and Supersensuous, Old Ben's sky-
rocket about poor Mr. Jeffers is the
crusted noggin, the captain jewel. A blurb
so frenzied that even the poet's own pub-
lishers never dared use it. Mr. De Cas-
seres compared Jeffers to Æschylus,
Shakespeare, Chopin, Blake, Coleridge,
De Quincey, Baudelaire, Poe, Dostoi-
evsky, d'Annunzio, Dante, Wagner, and
Nietzsche. As we rather admire Jef-
fers at his best, we naturally resented
this. But when Old Ben feels a Zeitgeist
and a few norms coming down his chim-
ney nothing can hold him. "He couples
with earth and sea and sky on the iron
bed of consciousness," is Ben's own way
(one of his ways) of describing this phe-
nomenon. The pamphlet in which Ben
broke loose was *The Superman in Amer-
ica*, one of the University of Washing-
ton Chapbooks (1929). The dedication
was delightful: "To H. L. Mencken, the
Fabre of the American Insect."