our thousands of Public Libraries must, sad to relate, be set down as being excluded from your ill-advised any.

'Or you can send to the Superintendent of Documents in Washington and buy them for a nominal sum." Can you really, Mr. Colcord? Where do you think I first sent when I wanted to buy those fiftyfive-year-old Government documents? You can send all right, but that's all the good it does you. The answer I got three years ago was that the documents mentioned were unobtainable from the Superintendent of Documents for a nominal or for any other sum. Still, after reading Colcord's flat pronunciamento to the contrary, I wrote again on March 18, 1938, asking to buy those books. The reply was the same as three years ago, "Publications exhausted."

Having now completely demolished Melville and me, Colcord lets go with his main battery in a final crushing salvo at my poor, defenseless book, "Hell on Ice."

'Honestly, don't you think this business of fictionalizing our classics of adventure and exploration under the assumption of scholarship, is getting a little raw? Why not read the classics them-

Passing lightly over the "Honestly," where does this "assumption of scholarship" come in? I'm only a sailor and an engineer, like my fellow victim, Melville. I've never dared even to assume I was a real author, let alone a scholar. But what has scholarship, assumed or unassumed, to do with "Hell on Ice," anyway? And what's so raw about fictionalizing adventure that it should pain Mr. Colcord? There are good precedents going back several millenniums. Homer started it perhaps, when he fictionalized the Trojan legends into the Iliad and the Odyssey; Shakespeare followed up when he took Plutarch's "Lives" and made grand plays out of them. As Mr. Morley says, Nordhoff and Hall only lately did it with "Mutiny on the Bounty."

So when in "Hell on Ice" I make a living story out of the dead and buried history of the Jeannette, for the first and only time presenting the whole heroic story between the covers of one moderate-sized book, instead of leaving its disjointed parts scattered through the twelve-inch bulk and 3,303 pages of four much expurgated and bowlderized books and two rare volumes of ponderous legal testimony which, believe it or not, Colcord seriously recommends to the average reader (but which no one alive today except myself, I believe, has ever read completely or ever will read) what's so raw about that?

"Why not read the classics themselves?

Well, Mr. Colcord, if your best friend hasn't yet told you the answer to that one, perhaps I ought to. For the simple reason that most of the books you mention in your letter aren't classics at all except in your own overheated imagination, and that doesn't make them such.

And now, honestly, Mr. Editor, don't you think it's high time this self-appointed guardian of the literature of the sea abdicated, and gave both authors and readers a well-earned rest?

EDWARD ELLSBERG.

Westfield, N. J.

Trade Winds

BY P. E. G. QUERCUS

LD Q., back at the Fantods after strenuous weeks in the Middle West, is busy gardening; he doats upon daffodils and, like the wise men in Benson's pretty poem about the Phoenix, "is with gazing most content." FAcross the road the willow trees are letting down their hair and remind him of the Book Trade. His visit to rural Illinois ranged from 80 Fahrenheit (in March) to a 9inch blizzard (in April) with a tornado on the side. III Chicago, where he tarried only briefly, he had no chance for a proper Survey but noticed several oddities. Marshall Field's, in their Easter window-display of religious books and Christian charity, had the accidental misfortune to show a very beautiful Bible open at Jeremiah 15 and 16 which are a bit partisan. IIMr. Goodpasture of Chicago Brentano's was busy with the final alterations for the new store on Wabash Avenue, just opposite Carson Pirie Scott, to which they move early in May. Both Mr. Goodpasture and Mr. Ralph Henry of the C.P.S. Book Department believe that their new proximity will be advantageous to both. We suggested to Ralph Henry that by an ingenious arrangement of a mirror and a beam of light he could pick up an image of Brentano's display and reflect it on a screen in his own window, thus getting a fine show without the trouble of dressing it. Mr. Henry was greatly shocked by such inethical ideas and said he wouldn't think of it. But the resulting hullabaloo would be fine publicity.

The book that we most hankered to read, but had no chance to, was Letters to the Amazon, by De Gourmont we think, seen in the study of Professor Ralph Sargent at Knox College. FThe phonograph records of Carl* Sandburg's guitar-singing ballads are a great hit in the Midwest. FAt Carson Pirie's our

friend Mrs. Hutchings had just received word that she had won a prize in the Fashion is Spinach essay competition. It was to be an "accessory" from Elizabeth Hawes's 1938 repertoire of modes, and Hutch was wondering what it would be. First prize in this competition was won by Marie Twaddell of the Hidden Bookshop, 120 Broadway; second by Marion Bacon of the Vassar Co-op. © Among adventures: riding the Denver Zephyr, an argent caravan of high speed; Bernard Schimmel's cheesecake at the Custer Hotel in Galesburg; and being allotted one of the old not yet redecorated rooms at the Congress Hotel in Chicago, where one of the run-down clocks was still visible on the wall (though with broken hands). Our idea has always been that these clocks were put in when the old Congress was built for the '93 World's Fair, to prevent visitors from missing any of the excitements of the Midway.

COld Q. may be pardoned a tender mitral murmur, caused by a letter from Columbia University Press. This department's note about the Facsimile Text Society's little books occasioned about 300 requests for information, sold over \$100 worth, and 11 "librolescents" joined up in the F.T.S. Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt will be the only speaker at the American Booksellers' Association Convention banquet on May 17, at the Hotel Pennsylvania, N. Y. C. The New York Drama Critics' Circle, at a meeting last Monday, voted to present its Award for the best play of the 1937-8 season to John Steinbeck for Of Mice and Men. Twelve critics voted for Of Mice and Men, with four (Atkinson, Times; Brown, Post; Krutch, Nation; Ruth Sedgwick, Stage) holding out for Thornton Wilder's Our Town.

Paul Vincent Carroll's Shadow and Substance was unanimously selected as the best new foreign play of the season.

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1- R		2- E	3-1	4-G		5-H	6-W		7- K	8-Y	9-C	10-0	11-1		12- N
13-L		14-0	15- W	16-C	17-Q	18- U	19-X	20- L.	21-E		22-F	23-D	24-X	25-N	
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26-Z	27-J	28-E	29-F	30-Q		31- V	32-S	33-P	34·Y	35-U	36-B	37-,X	38-W	39-N	
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65-H		66-R	67-K	68-F	69-T		70-R	71-S	72-F	73-0	74-M		75 - G	76- D	77- B
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132-C	133-A		134-A		135-X	136-R	137-S	138-B	139-A		140-A	141-C	142- E		143°L
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DIRECTIONS

To solve this puzzle, you must guess twenty-six words, the definitions of which are given in the column headed DEFINITIONS. The letters in each word to be guessed are numbered. These numbers appear under the dashes in the column headed WORDS. There is a dash for each letter in the required word. The key letters in the squares are for convenience, indicating to which word in the edingtions each letter in the diagram belongs. When you have guessed a word, fill it in on the dashes; then write each letter in the correspondingly numbered square on the puzzle diagram. When the squares are all filled in you will find (by reading from left to right) a quotation from a famous author. Reading up and down the letters mean nothing. The black squares indicate ends of words the right side of the diagram.

diagram.

When the column headed WORDS is filled in, the initial letters spell the name of the author and the title of the piece from which the quotation has been taken. Authority for spelling and definitions is Webster's New International Dictionary (second edition).

The solution of last week's Double-Crostic will be found on page 17 of this issue.

DEFINITIONS

A. Second of the four Hindu castes.

B. Abstruse.

C. Goddess of peace and fertility (Teut.).

D. English poet (1893-).

E. Author of "Moral Tales for Young People."

F. Prates, gabbles.

G. Rough with bristles or spines.

H. Author of "New Grub Street."

I. German composer (1822-1882).

J. Savory meat jelly.

K. Empty of real worth.

L. Self-assurance.

M. Form of dramatic entertainment.

N. Existent.

O. Played lightly with.

P. Inflates, puffs up.

Q. Patriarch, said to "have walked with God."

R. Style of architecture.

S. Ceremonies; obsequies.

T. Welsh watering place.

U. Members of ancient British religious order.

V. Goddess of Dawn (Gr. myth).

W. Novel by Thackeray.

X. Characterized by stupidity.

Y. Resembling a grave robber.

Z. Limits.

149 115 106 14 10 73 85 63 102 84 153 33 164

147 55 78 17 30

66 109 136 70 1 87 154 41 32 137 53 71 92

162 127 49 90 69 60 104 156 114

111 18 35 168 126 101

31 54 82

169 81 130 38 6 108 15 61

24 135 165 37 19 110 103

167 113 8 124 34 94 97 46

26 148 125 56