

## A Creative Teacher

CREATIVE POWER, by Hughes Mearns. Doubleday, Doran. 396 pp.  
Price \$3.50 postpaid of The Survey.

HUGHES MEARN'S says of himself, "I am a writing man and not a teacher of the subject of writing." There is the clue I think, to his two books and to his own work. He is a creator. And hence, with the generous warm-blooded instinct of creators, thinks that everyone else is—everyone, that is, except "teachers of writing," whose portrait etched with acid he paints on pages 10 and 11. He recognizes that there are such adults, but he is convinced that among the infinitely varying personalities in a class of children and adolescents, not one such cool non-creative temperament is to be found.

Well, perhaps he is right. Perhaps the formalizing dead-and-alive "teachers of writing" had in childhood pulsating, vividly creative souls like all those who get into Mr. Mearns' classes. But on page 249 Mr. Mearns says, "Our attack upon the old system is mainly against the dominating position of its unthinking routinists; but we all know that under a teacher of educational vision, a teacher who comprehended the ultimate individual and social implications of his subject, formal education has been often thrillingly alive and powerful, effective in awakening right desire, stirring at those times the very roots of the creative life." Which is another way of stating the threadbare old truism, "it is the teacher rather than the system which counts."

My impression, after reading *Creative Power*, is that Mr. Mearns is one of those rare teachers who in every generation under every system of education has stirred and stimulated and blown into flame every spark of life in the natures of their students. Such teachers afford one of the finest spectacles our race can give. But there's no use reading their accounts of their work in the hope of being able to reproduce it. On page 48 he says, casually, just in passing, "The presumption is that the teacher shall know what is the best work of a group. Unless she does, much is lost."

Alas! alas! she, whoever she may be, is as likely to have that astounding power as to be able to sing like Fremstad or Farrar. When "she" has, she will—and not before—succeed in helping children and adolescents to write as Hughes Mearns has done. And yet, anyone who loves children, and good writing and creative ability must wish he were a millionaire to put a copy of *Creative Power* on the desk of every teacher of English in this country. It would not convert them into valid inspirers of the creative spirit—there are all too few of those in any generation—but it could not fail to make them happier and hence better teachers.

Here is one of the more especially beautiful of the poems

written under Mr. Mearns' inspiration. It was written by a boy in the second year of high school, after three years under Mr. Mearns:

### SPRING VENDERS

*Oh, blessed be the vendors in the street  
That flaunt their jaunty splendors in the street:  
Violets and daffodils,  
Whirligigs and windmills,  
Bright balloons,  
Rusty tunes,  
Doughnuts strung on spindles!*

Yet the doughnut-vender never sells his crullers;  
Just the odor serves to make the children sigh;  
While balloons and toys sell only for their colors—  
The flimsy stuff they're made of who would buy?

No one wants the music or the flower  
Who flings a coin to hear machinery start,  
Or pays for blooms that wither in an hour?  
He only buys the April in his heart.

Arlington, Vermont

DOROTHY CANFIELD FISHER

## Industrial Relations

WERTHEIM LECTURES ON INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS, 1928.  
Harvard University Press. 229 pp. Price \$3.00 postpaid of The Survey.

IN the academic year 1928-29, the funds of the Wertheim Fellowship at Harvard were used to provide a series of lectures on various phases of industrial relations. These are presented in the present volume and are the result of the wide experience and mature thinking of seven of our most important national authorities. Taken as a whole, the volume constitutes a significant analysis of vital subjects of labor relations.

Otto S. Beyer, Jr., consulting engineer, discussing Experiences with Cooperation between Labor and Management in the Railway Industry, presents the latest and best statement of the work which he has so effectively done in this field. Professor Joseph H. Willits, in *Industrial Relations in the Bituminous Coal Industry*, reviews expertly the economic difficulties of this vexing national problem. John P. Frey, secretary-treasurer of the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, in a chapter on *Industrial Relations*, deals chiefly with trade unionism and industrial legislation, and interprets the recent attempts at control of industrial disputes through governmental machinery. Professor John R. Commons contributes to the problem of Jurisdictional Disputes a stimulating analysis which adds much to the understanding of the factors involved. William M. Leiserson, professor of economics at Antioch College and the dean of the American arbitrators of industrial disputes, discusses Contributions of Personnel Management to Improved Labor Relations, showing the conditions which led to modern personnel technique, its value and its limitations. Professor Elton Mayo, of the Graduate School of Business Ad-

ministration at Harvard, in a lecture on The Maladjustment of the Industrial Worker, outlines some of the technical research carried on to secure a better mating between workers and their occupations in the interest of greater individual satisfaction and industrial efficiency. Professor Frank W. Taussig, of Harvard, on The Opposition of Interest Between Employer and Employee: Difficulties and Remedies, indicates some of the ways by which such antagonism may be minimized, emphasizing as the basic need a change in the spirit of industrial leaders.

Dartmouth College

HERMAN FELDMAN

## A Challenging Survey

TRUST AND CORPORATION PROBLEMS, by Henry R. Seager and Charles A. Gulick, Jr. Harper. 701 pp. Price \$3.50 postpaid of *The Survey*.

THAT competition is the life of trade will never pass into the realm of mythology. To be threadbare, in this case at least, does not imply the loss of respectability. The economies of large-scale production and centralized administration—the “eternal verities” of modern industrialism—are dangled before the eyes of the consuming public, as an antidote to their disinclination to accept, without qualification, vast combinations of capital to the end that competition may be stifled. In place of the bad trusts with which Mr. Roosevelt and others in the era of “trust busting” so earnestly and eloquently concerned themselves, we are asked to accept the good trust.

Although the reviewer is inclined to disagree with some of the conclusions reached by Professors Seager and Gulick, there can be no doubt that their investigation of the activities of trusts and corporations in American industry is one of the most searching ever attempted. Their survey may be academically concise, but at the same time it is vigorously alive. It challenges the reader from beginning to end. In their brief account of the history of the Standard Oil Company, the American Tobacco Company, and a score of other vast aggregations of capital and human energy, we are confronted with the fact that truth is stranger than fiction. To describe the growth of business consolidations requires patience, to draw conclusions from such a mass of factual information is an intellectual accomplishment of the highest order.

FELIX FLUGEL

University of California

## To Get What They Want

HOW WE LIVED THEN, 1915-1918; A SKETCH OF SOCIAL AND DOMESTIC LIFE DURING THE WAR, by Mrs. C. S. Peel. Dodd, Mead. 235 pp. Price \$4.00 postpaid of *The Survey*.

EVERY subject, like every dog, has its day. The day of the consumer and his “demand” seems to be here. Hitherto, the story of how to bring wealth to men and nations, how to earn a living, has preoccupied the economist, the business man, the world at large, to the exclusion of any real interest in what people want and how they spend to satisfy their wants.

Mrs. Peel’s volume exemplifies this new interest. Primarily an intimate picture of the war days in England, the book enables the reader by means of a generous display of photographs and a pen competent for description, to see again the important aspects of war-time life, particularly in London. The title evidences Mrs. Peel’s intention to contribute something to the history of standards of living. Those who want to follow the influence of war-time food control in altering dietary and house-keeping, and the net effect of war upon the way of living of the poor, will find Chapters V, VI and VII of particular interest. Chapter V gives amusing evidence of the way in which the war brought a revolution in women’s dress.

The book should attract many readers. In a chatty, pleasing style, the author takes one through the sharp shifts of price, of distribution of work and responsibility which the war represented; sketches, in bold, clear outlines, the war enthusiasm, the war hate, the revolutionary changes in daily life, particularly for women, with a detail that holds the interest from start to

finish. While the specialist will find in the chapters indicated and in the appendices information that contributes to the history of the standard and cost of living, the main tenor of the volume will hold the general reader.

JESSICA B. PEIXOTTO

Berkeley, California

## International Labor

LABOR AND INTERNATIONALISM, by Lewis L. Lorwin. Macmillan. 682 pp. Price \$3.00 postpaid of *The Survey*.

DR. LORWIN’S book aims to give “a systematic and comprehensive account of the international labor movement as a whole—of its subdivisions, its internal struggles and its meaning to world relations in general. It begins with a brief historical survey of international labor activity from its origin in about 1830 to its inundation by the nationalism of the World War. This is followed by a more detailed and comprehensive description of subsequent international labor activity. The movements and organizations of labor with international roots or purposes that the war brought forth, Bolshevism and the Third International; the carrying forward of labor-internationalism by the brief post-war flood-tide of labor; the international labor organizations left when the tide ebbed; the repudiation of Bolshevism by many international labor movements; the struggles of international labor movements against the adverse influence of nationalism and economic readjustment, are all fully treated. This is followed by an equally full appraisal of the present-day international labor effort and a prognosis of future developments.

Today the air is so charged with emotional prejudices in regard to social reorganization movements and labor organization that calm, accurate discussion, especially of the more radical movements is difficult and rare. This book, however, remains unfailingly dispassionate and impartial. At no time does it espouse a cause or lose its sense of proportion. Out of the tangle of movements and purposes, of which international labor activity has consisted, Dr. Lorwin has produced a picture as clear and orderly as it is impartial.

The book is naturally not easy reading. Though never diffuse, it is long. It assumes a general knowledge of current European history, and of the major programs of social reorganization. In spite of a careful *dramatis personae* and an index, the mass of information taxes the memory on a single reading. At times it is hard to discover the relative importance of particular labor movements to the other factors in the international situation. At times, impartiality leads to lack of color. Yet as a whole, the book is unusually readable for so accurate and complete a description of so complex a situation.

Yale University

ELLIOTT DUNLAP SMITH

## Initiations

THE DUK-DUKS, PRIMITIVE AND HISTORIC TYPES OF CITIZENSHIP, by Elizabeth Anne Weber. University of Chicago Press. 142 pp. Price \$3.00 postpaid of *The Survey*.

NEITHER the title nor the sub-title of this book gives any indication of the contents. It is one of a series on civic education edited by Professor Charles E. Merriam, of which Professor Samuel N. Harper will contribute the study of Soviet Russia, and Professor Carleton Hayes that of France. This volume, the only one assigned to any culture outside America and Western Europe, might be supposed to bring together different ways in which education is carried on in different communities in widely separated parts of the world. In reality the discussion is limited to a rather incoherent review of initiation customs. This incoherence is due, first, to the fact that, in Dr. Weber’s terminology, initiation is a classification grouping together induction into voluntary secret societies, age groups, inclusive tribal organizations and innumerable societies that exist for the mere sake of initiating. On the other hand,

she excludes all those thousands of initiations that have nothing whatever to do with puberty. Initiation, therefore, comes to be a classification without meaning. In the second place, the author's real interest in initiation, it gradually becomes evident, is not in initiation as a process of education, which is the subject laid down in the introduction, but as a socially stressed ceremonial, a kind of glorified graduation day. As is well known, both Mussolini and Soviet Russia have made use of this device, and it has much to recommend it. But in a study of this sort, clarity would be gained by subjecting to analysis not a verbal category such as Dr. Weber makes of initiation, but either, on the one hand, varying traditional schemes of education of the young, or, on the other, ceremonialism in civic life. The title, *The Duk-Duks*, is taken from a well-known secret society in Melanesia, and the book is divided into discussions of initiations in primitive societies, in Greece, in Rome, and in feudal times.

RUTH BENEDICT

*Department of Anthropology,  
Columbia University*

## Help for Consumers

THE SHOPPING BOOK, by William H. Baldwin. Macmillan. 301 pp. Price \$2.50 postpaid of *The Survey*.

MR. BALDWIN'S book is a response, from the point of view of the retailer, to recent discussions of the difficulties besetting the household buyer. It contains some material on buying which may be very helpful to some housewives. The section on floor coverings is particularly good. In general, however, reading the book leaves one with the realization that scientific buying of consumers' goods must wait for more research into specifications developed from the point of view of the ultimate consumer. We all know that, as Mr. Baldwin says, the "shopper *should* make sure that the [washing] machine selected is simply and substantially constructed and is easy to operate and keep oiled." (*Italics mine.*) The problem is how shall the shopper measure the simplicity and substantiality of the construction.

The author says in his foreword that he has gone to the Merchandise Council and the Bureau of Standards of R. H. Macy and Company, Inc., of New York, for his facts, and the introduction is written by J. I. Straus of that institution. The book is valuable as presenting the Macy point of view, but it is also limited by the fact that the author has kept so closely to this one source.

Inaccuracies in a volume setting forth so many facts are perhaps inevitable but it seems unfortunate for the author to state in a book dated April 15, 1929, that "the purchaser pays all postal or other transportation charges incurred in sending the goods from mail order houses." Sears Roebuck began paying all postal and freight charges on February 1, 1929.

*Bureau of Home Economics, Washington, D. C.* FAITH M. WILLIAMS

## Building Health

THE PHYSICAL WELFARE OF THE SCHOOL CHILD, by Charles H. Keene. Houghton Mifflin. 505 pp. Price \$2.40 postpaid of *The Survey*.

THIS is a textbook intended for the use of educators in normal schools and colleges which contains a full reference index of twenty pages. The book should be studied by all who are concerned in health education from the nursery schools through the colleges. The text is perhaps a little overlapping, but always clear that the school is a health-building organization, physically, mentally and emotionally for the child; not academic training alone but training for complete living.

With the school plant made fit for the health development of the child, he turns to his plan for making ready the child for his best growth in this environment. The school physician, nurse, dentist, dental hygienist, the various clinics all work to-

gether to make the child fit for the plant. Those retarded physically and mentally are removed from those without handicaps. Special classes are formed for the undernourished, the tuberculous, the semideaf, and others, that they may come to well rounded personalities. Though this seems to be medical work, Dr. Keene emphasises the need of it being under the board of education for full results.

Much of the health teaching falls on the instructor in physical education who, the author thinks, is the one to give instruction in sex hygiene, depending on his training and ability to do this. "After all," he says, "sex hygiene is largely a matter of sportsmanship" in the broader sense.

Dr. Keene shows that a school program can be so arranged that a four-quarter school year can be run with the voluntary enrollment of 65 per cent of children for the summer quarter. In a try-out of this sort there was an improvement in the general health of the attending children due to regular habits of living. He advises special health instruction and care in all teachers' training schools which will not only give the teacher health and valuation of it but will show her how to keep well. The class teacher stands second only to the family and the home in developing good mental hygiene. (I wish Dr. Keene had said something about the pay of this most important health factor. It looks small compared with that of the cook or chauffeur or butler.)

Dr. Keene devotes a chapter to rural schools and gives some very good material on their values. In conclusion, a rather pleasant outlook is given on the health of the future citizen furnished through health education in the schools, but I do not think enough attention is given to the dietitian as a factor in health building.

AUGUSTA RUCKER, M.D.

*New York City*

## Attention Gideons

JOY IN WORK, by Henri deMan. Henry Holt. 224 pp. Price \$2.00 postpaid of *The Survey*.

HENRI DE MAN'S able commentary on a case study of the attitude of seventy-eight German workmen toward their work leaves the discriminating reader stimulated and encouraged. The force of this ably translated analysis lies not in the documentation of evidence (seventy-eight cases is a meager number from which to generalize) but in the graphic veracity with which those cases described exemplify real tendencies apparent to the empirical observer of industrial relations.

The book is not propaganda but an honest and enlightened interpretation of complex phenomena. "Understanding is the first and last requisite," says the author, and to "understanding" he has contributed impressively. The reviewer is tempted to turn "Gideon" and endow a fund to place deMan's work at the bedside of every human being, from the industrial executive, through the labor organizer, to the educator, who is involved in stimulating or directing the application of human effort.

BENNETT SCHAUFFLER

*Educational Director, Windward School,  
New Rochelle, New York*

## Monogamy

MARRIAGE AND MORALS, by Bertrand Russell. Horace Liveright. 320 pp. Price \$3.00 postpaid of *The Survey*.

BY means of historical material Bertrand Russell tells us that our conventional sex ethics had their origin in two sources. First, in a "desire for certainty as to fatherhood," and second, in "an ascetic belief that sex is wicked except in so far as it is necessary for propagation."

Our law is still dominated by these two attitudes even though the attitudes themselves are rapidly disappearing from the minds of men. With the decay of orthodoxy, people are not such



staunch believers in the impurity of sex as they formerly were; and with the use of contraceptives, fathers may be reasonably certain of the paternity of their wives' children without insisting on monogamy. Since this is true, thinks Mr. Russell, extra-marital relations may be tolerated.

Marriage and Morals is interesting insofar as it, (1) traces the history of conventional ethics back to their source conditions, and (2) shows that those conditions no longer exist. But something more is necessary to make the book valuable in helping to solve problems of human relationships. His major premise seems to be that adequate assurance of paternity is the *only* thing which stands in the way of extra-marital relationships and, since this problem is adequately solved by the successful use of contraceptive methods, there is no further hindrance to this new type of relationship; but Mr. Russell fails to prove that assurance of paternity is the *only* factor that stands in the way of extra-marital relationships. Science and human experience may bring to light others which make monogamy desirable even though contraceptives make it biologically unnecessary. People are limited in these matters by time, space, economic conditions and their own emotional conditioning.

While we may be interested in knowing what conditions do *not* exist today, the only really valuable thing for us to know is what conditions *do* prevail today and how to cope with them. Once we know this, we may be able to decide what our conduct must be so as to assure the greatest human happiness.

New York City

ELSA M. ALLEN

## Tests for Ability

STUDIES IN THE COMPARATIVE ABILITIES OF WHITES AND NEGROES, by Joseph Peterson and Lyle H. Lamier. Williams & Wilkins. *Mental Measurement Monographs, Serial No. 5.* 156 pp.

**B**EFORE attempting to compare the effects of cultural environment upon Negroes who move North, or to compare the abilities of white and Negro, some standard is necessary by which to make the comparison reliable. This preliminary study is devoted to a searching criticism of the standard tests, both verbal and non-verbal, looking in this direction. It is refreshing to note the self-criticism of the authors, who proceed in a dignified, cautious, scientific manner to weigh the statistics against the observations of the raw material. Here is no effort to "sell" the tests, but a sincere effort to determine how far they will point to differences, and to explain these differences in terms of causes.

The differences found are less than in previous studies. These differences vary according to the test that is used. In some cases the whites are markedly superior. In others the colored have the advantage. Incidentally, in certain tests (rational learning test) the Nashville white subjects are superior to those of New York so much as to cause comment, while on this test the Negroes make fewer errors and require fewer repetitions than do the whites.

The authors plead for experimental control as a necessary step in further efforts to make these comparisons. The influences of the environment which cause differences of scores are many, in addition to any innate differences there may be. The question as to what constitutes an adequate random sampling, and how this can be obtained in such a practical way as to represent fairly the colored element has not yet been determined. This monograph seems to be the most solid foundation work yet presented on this problem.

Personnel Research Federation

A. H. SUTHERLAND

## For Students and Parents

HEREDITY AND PARENTHOOD, by Samuel C. Schmucker. 322 pp. Price \$2.50 postpaid of *The Survey*.

**I**N the first part of this book Dr. Schmucker reviews the development of modern knowledge of heredity and discusses in somewhat general terms its application to man, with particular consideration of alcoholism, health and disease, and crim-

inality. The eugenic implications are drawn conservatively. The second part is a review of the development of sex and the part that it plays in various stages of animal evolution, ending with a detailed discussion of sex education. The whole book is the product of mature thinking, altruistic with a strong religious tinge, and notably free from either misstatement or exaggeration. It furnishes a vehicle for the teaching of a good deal of elementary but important physiology and biology that few persons get in their school days. It will be welcomed alike by students and parents, and can be recommended to them with confidence.

PAUL POPENOE

Human Betterment Foundation, Pasadena

## Victorian Work Pattern

VICTORIAN WORKING WOMEN, by Wanda Fraiken Neff. Columbia University Press. 288 pp. Price \$3.50 postpaid of *The Survey*.

**T**HE title Victorian Working Women sounds anachronistic. Were there working women in the days of the thoroughly virtuous and respectable Queen Victoria? How did it happen that they played such a minor role in formulating the prevailing pattern of the Victorian era—abstract goodness, virtue, family integrity? There were approximately two million working women in England between 1830 and 1850; women who toiled in textile factories, coal mines, as dressmakers, governesses, and servants, badly exploited by the rapacious greed of the rising industrialism; women whose physical stamina was badly undermined by the insanitary conditions of their work places, by long hours of work and the malnutrition inevitable to thin purses; women whose moral standards of necessity were reflective of the lack of morals in their industrial environment.

Miss Neff has made a unique contribution to the story of the working woman for she has taken much of her material from the literature of the day, from the novels of Elizabeth Gaskell, Anna Jameson, Jane Austen and Mrs. Tonna. "The prominence of the working woman in literature is in proportion to the degree of her conformity with the traditional patterns of the age," states Miss Neff, and the working woman lived and worked in a world in direct contrast to the Victorian pattern.

The writings of this era, with the exception of the government reports, were torn between the desire to please a public interested in the animistic conflicts between good and evil—with the conquest of good prevailing—and the desire to picture the working woman as she really was. Since most of the women writers describing this period were hardly of the working class, they were unable to convey honestly the plight of the woman worker of this sore and troublesome period. Certain it is that the working women themselves had little self-consciousness, or pride in their independence, and no ability to make vocal their own attitude toward their employers, their fellow workers, and their personal surroundings.

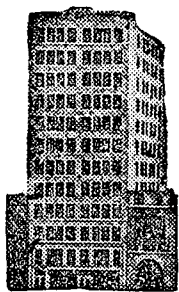
This study is a most interesting combination of an appreciation of *belles lettres* and the economic environment of a period which gave birth to them.

THERESA WOLFSON

Hunter College, New York City

## R. S. F. Books on Approval

**I**F you will write to F. E. Andrews, manager of the Publication Department of the Russell Sage Foundation, 130 East 22 Street, New York City, and tell him that you saw his name in *The Survey*, he will put your name on the Standing Order List, which means that you will receive, immediately on publication, every book and pamphlet issued by the foundation. Any which fall outside your interests may be returned. The others will be billed at six-month intervals, at a discount of 25 per cent from the list price. On the average of the last five years, this will mean a semi-annual bill of about five dollars—the price of one or two books commercially published. The total R. S. F. list to date numbers about 100 books and 400 pamphlets, of which 39 books and 145 pamphlets are at present in print.



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## Communications

### Speakers Wanted

TO THE EDITOR: I am chairman of the program committee of the Pittsburgh Social Workers' Club. I want to get a line on interesting speakers who may be coming through Pittsburgh this winter, and who will be glad to donate a half-hour talk to public welfare. Do you know any such persons, and if so will you give me their names and addresses so I can write to them? Or they to me.

JOHN IHLDER

Granite Building, Pittsburgh

### "That Blamed Old Fool"

TO THE EDITOR: I write to protest against the publication of such a story as That Blamed Old Fool, which appears in the October Graphic number of your magazine. Of course we can have no idea how much, if any, of the story is true; for one who could lie so expertly, shamelessly and convincingly to "Mother" and "Father" is quite capable of concocting the whole story. And perhaps that is what she did.

Heretofore I had thought of the Court of Domestic Relations as performing a useful work, but if it is carried on by wholesale lying it has "become the hold of every foul spirit, the cage of every unclean and hateful bird." Can you imagine an honest, decent John or Mary going to the Court of Domestic Relations after having read That Blamed Old Fool? (Even honest and decent people do have family troubles which they would be glad to be advised about in an honest, decent way.) To my mind, adultery is less a sin than lying, no matter what end the liar may have in view. No end is good enough to justify the use of bad means in its attainment. We cannot foresee the end; but we can see that whatever means we use for the attainment of what we believe to be good shall themselves be good, so far as we can judge.

"A lie is an abomination in the sight of the Lord and a very present help in time of trouble." Whatever the Court of Domestic Relations might think of the first part of the foregoing school-boy recitation, it certainly gives the last part a hearty endorsement. A lie told by a private individual is sure to work mischief, sooner or later; and when a whole department is involved the effect is disastrous. The witnesses before our courts are sworn to tell the truth; isn't it time to put our public officials under a similar obligation?

If there were no other reasons for our "crime wave" (though the Lord knows there are plenty) the easy and common acceptance of the notion that, under circumstances to be decided by the liar, it is right to tell lies, would be enough to account for it.

Yours, for full faith in the Truth,  
Denver

CELIA BALDWIN

TO THE EDITOR: No retractions. No regrets. Possibly no redemption. Pa and Ma are happy. So am I.

Cincinnati, Ohio

MARY EDNA McCHRISTIE

TO THE EDITOR: I am writing to express my appreciation of The Survey Graphic. It is a marvelous publishing success and you have a great eye for finding a different point of view on whatever subject you handle. I read every article in the October number. The one on China was especially illuminating. Under-tow was fine. That Blamed Old Fool is something that will make a reputation for the writer if she continues along this line.  
Philadelphia

OTTO T. MALLERY

(Continued on page 368)

(In answering advertisements please mention THE SURVEY)