### EVENING LEDGER-PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1916

# NEW BOOKS ON THE GREAT WAR BY DICKINSON, WELLS AND CHESTERTON-FRESH NOVELS

### THREE ENGLISHMEN PUT TRUTH ABOVE PATRIOTISM

Lowes Dickinson, H. G. Wells and G. K. Chesterton Join Shaw in Constructive Criticism of War-Girt England

#### By the Literary Editor

THE face of Ireland, Casement, Orders Britain, her colonies, France, Russia and the United States; and scores of other matmay be said for England and this much

may make her the noblest an she has often nd ; Germany has Maximilian Harden ; but and; Germany has staximilian Rarden; but to Bernard Shaw's voice, which spoke out loud and clear even in the beginning of conflict when many were smad and many silent, she has added the voices of H. G. Weih, Lowes Dickinson and G. K. Chester-ton. When warring countries blacken their engines and themselves with the pitch of carbal atrocities, it is a splendid record and a record that should mean much toward the mane, more tolerant and more intelligent world which is necessary before war will be

of the three new books from these Eng-ish writers Lowes Dickinson's 'The Eu-ropean Anarchy'' (Macmillian Company, New York) is easily the soundest and most valuable. He makes his apologies for Eng-and in the first few pages. He finds Eng-

and in the first few pages. He finds Eng-land "as ambitious, as quarrelsome and as aggressive as other states." He admits that in the matter of peaceful intentions "our past inevitably discredits our future. And when we profess peace it is not un-natural that other nations should suspect a smare." He sees that to achieve peace "we must give up, in all nations, this habit of dwelling on the unique and peculiar wicked-pess of the enemy."

Beginning deep in the historical backrates and analyzes the conflicts and al-linces which have linked half a dozen Eu-ropean nations in a dozen different com-binations. In them he finds the common or of an international anarchy which has thriven marvelously of late years on the new lease of life given the political philosophy of Machiavelii by the spirit of

Bismarck. It has "made every budding tatesman and historian a solemn or a cynical dafender of the gospel of force. But though this be true, we have no right. Energore, to assume that there is some peculiar weakness which marks off German tey from that of all other nations. Machpolicy from that of all other hallons, Mach-barellanism is the common heritage of Burope. It is the translation into idea of the fact of international anarchy." He rec-omizes with Walter Lippman's "Stakes of Diplomacy" the common resting place of all conflict in the common rush for the unoped countries.

Tracing thus the course of European confict, Lowes Dickinson sees the only hope for peace in the abolition of anarchy through international action to enforce peace. Here be has a message for America apropos of Preparedness: "Preparedness for what? To enter that European competition for armawhich alone is sufficient cause for war? Or to put armaments, jointly with other States, behind law and against agon, from whatever Power aggression nay be threatened?"

Naturally this man cannot look on "crush ing" foes and setting up commercial wars as producing anything but "a bitter and unforgiving hatrod" to "reign forever be-tween the victor and the vanquished."

re Wells and Dickinson uplit. Wells is as ready to excoriate England. He knows that she is never sure whether she "is a rowned republic' or a Germanic mon-archy." He has no time for "anti-German leagues" and for people "who profess to believe that all Germans to the third and fourth generations (save and except the Hanoverian family domiciled in Great Brit-ain) are a vile, treacherous and impossible race, a race animated by an incredible racial vanity, a race which is indeed scarcely anything but a conspiracy against the rest of mankind." He recognizes that, "after

all, the Prussian dream of world empire" is "but an imitative response to the British

ters. The major part of the book goes to the Rotten profit." "This war," he writes, "has grontly demoralised and discredited the gov-erning class in Great Britain, and if big masses of unemployed and unfed people, no longer strung up by the actuality of war, masses now trained to arms and with many sympathetic officers available, are released clumsily and plantensly into a world of risen prices and rising ronts, of legal obstacles and foreneic complications, of greedy specu-lators and hampered enterprises, there will be insurrection and revolution. There will be bloodhed in the streets and the chasing of rulers." of rulers."

The answer Mr. Wells finds in the state-ment: "We are beginning to agree that rea-sonably any mat. may be asked to die for his country; what we have to recognize is that any mat. The state of the st that any man's proprietorship, interest claims or rights may just as properly be called upon to die."

As for Mr. Chesterton and his book "The Crimes of England" (John Lane, New York). It is easily the best reading of the three, for rhetoric, humor and vigor; and in it he strikes, as always, for fundamental It he strikes, as always, for fundamental democracy. But though Chesterton sees the faults of his native land with a thorough-ness that neither of the comparitots can eqfal, he sees them only for the very Chestertonian purpose of blackening Ger-

many. Accusing his hypothetical German professor of always defending his own coun-try and abusing Chesterton's, Chesterton falls into the interesting and only slighter error of abusing both his own and his ene-my's country. my's country. With a master hand he paints the wrongs

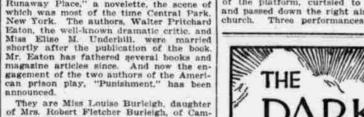
that England has wrought-staggering wrongs; but "whoever we have wronged," wrongs; but "whoever we have wronged." says he, "we have never wronged Ger-many." Not forgetting to inveigh with Wells against the Hanoverian family upon the English throne, he marshals still greater things. "Again and again we have dragged her (Germany) from under the just ven-geance of her enemies, from the holy anger of Maria Teresa, from the linpatient and contemptuous common sense of Napoleon. We have kept a ring around the Germans while they sacked Denmark and dismem-bered France. And if we had served our God as we have served their kings, there would not be today one remnant of them in our path, either to slay us."

If only Chesterton were a better catho-lie! He doesn't half appreciate the simple equality of all men and all nations, in good and in actin good and in evil.

#### DO CO-AUTHORS MARRY? Four Writers Reach Altar Via Publica-

tion

Do coauthors often marry? Four of Henry Holt & Co.'s authors have reached the altar via publication in quite recent years. Some years ago appaared "The Runaway Place," a novelette, the scene of which was most of the time Central Park. New York. The authors, Walter Pritchard the cast



read a prologue in verse, followed by a co iet, in which she called out each m

church. Three performances were given





At least, it was in this home-that of Kathleen Norris-that that well-known fictional figure was conceived. The author, who lives at Port Washington, L. I., is shown in the photograph.

# WIGGIN STORY ACTED IN A MEETING HOUSE The Century Company's September pub-lications include: "Wilson and the Is-suos." by George Creel: "The Private Secretary: His Duties and Opportunities." by Edward Jones Kilduff: "Society's Mis-fits." by Madeleine Z. Doty: "The Camera Man," by Francis A. Collins: "On the Battle Front of Engineering." by A. Russell Bond, managing editor of the Scientific Ameri-cans." The Dark Tower." by Miss Bottowic-

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Unusual Performance Given in Maine-Timely Notes of the Literary World

The little Tory Hill Meeting House at Buston Lower Corner, Maine, was the Mecca recently for hundreds of admirers of Rate Douglas Wiggin, who gathered there to see the dramatic performance of Mrs. Wig-gin's New England story, "The Old Peabody Pew." Probably no other play has ever been given in such an unusual setting.

The action took place entirely in the wing pews of the church, and the actors and actresses were local people, many of them Mrs. Wiggin's summer neighbors. Before the play began Mrs. Wiggin told informally the circumstances surrounding the writing of "The Old Peabody Pew," and gave an out-line of the opening chapters, bringing the audience with her up to the time of the first scene. At the close of the last scene she

The cast walked up the left aisle in front of the platform, curtsied to the audience and passed down the right aisle out of the



and memorable novels of the season.

and at each of them the church was crowded to its doors.

The Century Company's September pub-

can; "The Dark Tower," by Miss Bott

WHERE "JULIA PAGE" FIRST CAME TO LIFE PARROT SHOWS WIFE THE WAY TO LIBERTY

> Bizarre Interest in Novel by Author of "Ships That Pass in the Night"

It required the voice of a parrot, trained y its admiring owner to utter a few more or less meaningless phrases, to awaken Joan Holbrook, the country-bred wife of a great scholar, to the fact that the learn-ing she had acquired in the seven years of her married life was nothing but the re-Ing she had acquired in the seven years of her married life was nothing but the re-flected glory of her liege lord's uncommonly brilliant mind. Also it convinced the young woman that her pundit of a husband had well-nigh succeeded in his avowed purpose of "re-creating her soul" and dominating her individuality. The parrot alone was responsible for Joan's sudden revolt. She broke the bonds of her men-tal and spiritual servitude by running away in search of the freedom she had lost through her marriage. Leaving her hus-band desolate in the forlorn home that had been a prison to her, she started cut on a pligrimage that carried her from England to America, the land of the free, and sub-jected herself to a series of unusual ex-periences before she finally realised the true meaning of liberty, and how it can be reconciled with love. This is the story told by Ebatrice Harradan in her latest novel, "The Guiding Thread" (Frederick A. Stokes & Co., New York), and it may be said for it that it has all the bisarre infer-est that gave the same gifted author's "Shine That Pase in the Night" its noon. est that gave the same gifted author's "Ships That Pass in the Night" its popu-larity a good many years ago.

Paul G. Thompson's latest addition to his "Classmate Series" is called "The Strange Gray Canoe" (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York). It tells of an expo-dition by four wideawake youngsters through the Canada lakes in one of those frail but fascinating craft that are the de-light of summer vacationists and is a set light of summer vacationists, and is a rat-tling story for boys, with enough adventure to engage the interest of readers of riper

How a New York cabaret singer, a dainty and virtuous maid for all her lurid environment, captivates the scion of an

#### **NEW AUTUMN BOOKS**

#### A BAFFLING DETECTIVE MYSTERY STORY THE HAMPSTEAD MYSTERY

By WATSON & REES

Cloth. Net, \$1.35 An absorbing story of a mysteri-ous murder in which the detective element is most skillfully handled and the mystery wonderfully sus-tained until the end.

VITALLY AMERICAN WINDY

McPHERSON'S SON

By SHERWOOD ANDERSON Cloth. Net, \$1.40

The soul of man as the author has found it in America is the theme of this really important novel. "In its pages lies the promise of a new, fresh, clean and virile spirit in American literature," writes Ben Hecht in The Chicago Evening Post.

#### RICH IN LAUGHTER A LITTLE QUESTION IN LADIES' RIGHTS By PARKER H. FILLMORE

Author of "The Hickory Limb," etc.

aristocratic house and successful architect, who pays a chance visit to a restaurant and hears her sing "My Old Kentucky Home," is told in attractive form by Philip Curtiss in "Reween Two'Worlds" (Harper & Brea., New York). The story is a frank denial of the old adage that "blood will tell," for Dora Middleman and Sidn.y Gresham are about as far apart socially and intellectually as it is possible to imagine under our democratic system; yet under Mr. Curtiss" romantic pen we see them limmed—"limmed" is the word—at the cul-

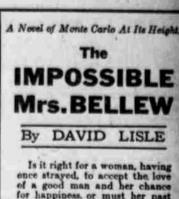
limned..."Humned" is the word...at the cul-mination of their great adventure as "two wouls with but a single thought, two hearts that beat as one."

There is something charmingly readable in Stephen Chalmer's "The Penny Pipe" (Houghton-Mifflin, Boston). It tells of one short winter of Stevenson's life spent in the Adirondacks, trying to regain a bit of his lost vitality under the patient suidance and friendship of Doctor Tru-deau. And the trifling anecdotes, so well told, as well as the glimpses into his rela-tions with others, make the little volume a worthy addition to any Stevensoniana

worthy addition to any Stevensoniana. As the United States is now the dominant

As the United States is now the dominant Power in the Caribbean Sea and as its interests there are increasing in im-portance every year. Prof. Chester Lloyd Jones, of the University of Wissonsin, has done a public service in writing, "Carib-bean Interests of the United States," (D. Appleton & Co., New York). In the 345 pages of the book he covers the ground ade-

quately. Students of special pl the subject might wish a fuller to but for the general reader no mofactory has come from



Is it right for a woman, having once strayed, to accept the love of a good man and her chance for happiness, or must her past and the world's judgment keep her down forever? This question is answered as the story is brought to a surprising and dramatic climar.

STOKES, Publisher

## Now Ready

# Mr. H. G. Wells' New Novel MR. BRITLING SEES IT THROUGH

In this stirring story Mr. Wells reveals the true heart and mind of the English people. He pictures the England of today in a way that cannot be easily forgotten-so vividly does he draw his characters and the scenes through which they move with high courage and heroism. Mr. Wells' new novel carries a profound message to all Americans, but the chief interest of the book is in the story itself-the life of Mr. Britling and his family-this is what wins and holds the reader's attention.

#### An Early Reviewer says of Mr. Wells' new novel :-

"There has been nothing so fine before. . . . The war has reacted on Mr. Wells : his books for all their brilliance have seldom before brought a catch in the throat. . . . He is growing in humanness, surely, as he grows in vision."

Now Ready At All Bookstores. \$1.50 THE MACMILLAN COMPANY, Publishers, New York

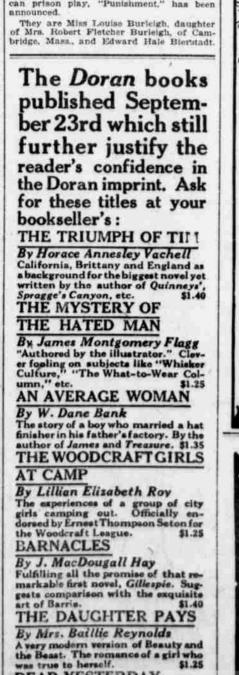
Empire and the adventure of Napoleon." But when it comes to the trade alliances and contemplated trade wars of what Wells delights to call "the pledged Allies." he cannot see the sowing of dragons' teeth. Wells is such a natural optimist and such an enthusiast for his desires that he can bend even this sinister move into a step impire and the adventure of Na

toward world federation. Wells's book. "What Is Coming" (Mac-milian Company, New York), is full of a reat deal besides, and a great deal that is rich, thought-provoking and always good reading. He reflects on "lawyer govern-ment"; the corrective of the press; a new winning of the vote for women among the military dangers of the munition factories; a new and "natural" map of Europe, with Ireland and Albania under cantonal government, Bomhay and Constantinople interna-tional cities, Africa under the rule of a Latin league and Arabia a nation risen sgain; a world navy directed by Great



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STRECTLY PRIVATE LESSONS, 45 



DEAD YESTERDAY By Mary Agnes Hamilton "A novel of rare fineness. We have not had from any country at war so sane, so enduring a point of view pre-sented in a work of fiction." \$1.50 THE TOWERS OF ILIUM By Ethelyn Leslie Huston Problems of feminism - maternity-self support - in the exquisite story of a girl who dared to be different. \$1.35 There is not one of these books that is not conspicuous in quality in its own particular field.

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