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If any one can read George Agnew Chamberlain's Mexican novel, "Not All the King's Horses," without having his blood boil with indignation, his temperament must be exceptionally stolid and indifferent.

It is a tale of the experiences of some Americans in charge of a mining enterprise in Mexico. It begins in the years when Diaz was still president. Two engineers secure a mine which had been abandoned in the days when modern methods of extracting gold were not invented. They make it profitable by the use of chemicals. One of them builds for himself a house near the mine, surrounding it with a garden and furnishing it with the comforts and conveniences of civilized life. His children grow up there. Then the change comes. Diaz leaves the country and Madero succeeds to the presidency. This little dreamer sits in his office chair, which is so high that his feet will not reach the floor, stretching his weak hands across his desk. He is killed and chased to the mine.

The American whose home is near the mine is driven out by bandits and his wife is paralyzed by the shock. The other American is kidnapped and held for ransom. His ring finger, cut off by a stroke of a dirty sword, is sent along with his letter to his friends telling the amount needed to free him. Gangrene sets in and he dies in great agony. While this is going on representations are made to the government in Washington, but nothing is done to protect Americans in Mexico. Instead they are told to come home. Some of them obey, but they drift back where their money is invested in the hope that they can continue to carry on their business. But the kidnappings and murders go on and the Mexicans disregard the diplomatic notes from Washington. The Mexican officials themselves, according to Mr. Chamberlain, are in secret league with the bandits. They pay some one higher up for their office, and they reimburse themselves from the spoils of the banditry. If they suppress the bandits they suppress their own source of income and the whole system would collapse. The government rests on protected banditry, according to Mr. Chamberlain. He is in a position to know, for he served as consul general in Mexico City from 1917 until recently. He speaks Spanish and is not dependent on others for his knowledge of the Mexican point of view or the Mexican practices. He has seen the thing in operation.

NOT ALL THE KING'S HORSES. By George Agnew Chamberlain. Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Co. \$1.75.

Barbara of Baltimore

Imagine a family of young people, ranging from twelve to twenty-one, living in a large old house in Baltimore which has a secret passage that none of the family knows anything about, and then imagine mysterious happenings after a young Irish nobleman comes to live with the family for his health—the head of the family is a doctor—have the elder girls charming and the young Irishman susceptible, and then let a young woman who has not forgotten the point of view of youth write all about the house and the family and the love affairs, and you will get some idea of what Katherine Haviland Taylor has done in "Barbara of Baltimore."

BARBARA OF BALTIMORE. By Katherine Haviland Taylor. New York: George H. Doran Co.

Masefield's Great Poems

The two poems by John Masefield which lifted him above the general run of verse makers and compelled the world to listen to him have been issued for the holiday season in a volume illustrated with reproductions of photographs of the places in which the action takes place. The poems are "The Everlasting Mercy" and "The Widow in the Bye Street." The poems themselves need no verification such as can be supplied by photographs of actual buildings and scenery. They were recognized as authentic human documents when they had to depend entirely on their context. Yet the pictures add to the attractiveness of the new volume.

THE EVERLASTING MERCY AND THE WIDOW IN THE BYE STREET. By John Masefield. New York: Macmillan Co. \$2.50.

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FANTASTIC ROMANCE

"Aristotik" Puts a Live Aristocrat into a Faddish Realm

One of the most whimsical and fantastic romances of years is "Aristotik" by A. Washington Pezet, well-known author of short stories, playwright of "Marrying Money" and for some years producing manager of the Toy Theatre, of Boston. Mr. Pezet has imagined a highly unusual combination of persons and circumstances for his romance, which is very future if not quite futuristic. It has written it with sprightly humor and much verve.

Some years after the conclusion of the great war, according to the story, the lapse of time against the proletariat, the prohibitionists and the women. These rulers, however, decided to do something handsome for the downtrodden. They at good dinners, drank good wines, wore pretty clothes and no woman ever proposed to a man, at least not ostensibly. They still had divorce courts and chaplains. "Aristotik" is the story of a young aristocrat, and otherwise of an American male beauty named Smith, who went to Aristotik, got in wrong all around and fell in love, against the rules, with the most beautiful princess in all Aristotik.

Of course, Mr. Pezet could not tell this story without utilizing its obvious social possibilities. So his fantasy is permeated with a vein of engaging irony.

ARISTOTIK. By A. Washington Pezet. New York: The Century Co. \$1.50.

Social Reconstruction

A new edition of Prof. Charles A. Ellwood's excellent discussion of "The Social Problem," which first appeared in 1915, has just come from the press. The book aims to indicate the direction which our social thinking must take if we are to avoid revolution on the one hand and reaction in the other. It sets forth some fundamental sociological principles in a clear and convincing manner.

THE SOCIAL PROBLEM. By Charles A. Ellwood. Ph.D., professor of sociology in the University of Missouri. New York: The Macmillan Co. \$1.75.

AT THE FREE LIBRARY

Books added to the Free Library, Thirtieth and Locust streets, during the week ending December 11.

Miscellaneous

Baldwin, C. S., "English Bible as a Guide to Writing."
Baldwin, R. J., "Progressive Songs."
Bakke, R. N., "Romanticism of Early Utah."
Baldwin, C. E., "The Founders." (2 v.)
Bond-Sachs, M., "Hollan's Tale."
Bryce, C. A., "Story of Our National Ballads."
Baldwin, Arthur, "Russian Pantomime."
Chemical Catalogue Co., "Condensed Chemical Tables."
Dickinson, H. A., "Excursions in Music."
Dubois, Paul, "Education of Self."
Gillespie, B. H., "El lector pri."
Hilmarsson, J. G., "Modern Blacksmithing."
Johnson, J. E., Jr., "Blasf Furnace Construction."
Leavitt, H. S., "Practical Lesson Plans in Hermetics."
Parker, Horatio and others, "Progressive Mind Training."
Peirce, M., "Business Forms and Financial Institutions."
Raper, C. L., "Principles of Wealth and Welfare."
Rappaport, Camille, "Musical Memorabilia."
Rappaport, Camille, "Geographic Commercial."
Smith, C. A., "New Words Self-Infined."
Thorpe, Joseph, "Printing for Business."
Watkins, H. T., "Watkins's Universal Shipping Code."
Whitely, A. D., "National Arboration."
Wright, H. C., "American City."

Fiction

Brown, Marjorie, "Kings-Arms."
Castle, Agnes, "New Wine."
Loomis, J. K., "All Roads Lead to Calvary."
Parker, Edwin, "Simonetta."
Parker, E. H., "Across the Years."
Tansie, Theodor, "The Night Wind."
Vanard, Varick, "Alas, the Night Wind."
Walpole, Hugh, "Jerome."
Ward, Mrs. Humphry, "Helen."

Children's Books

Collins, A., "Jack Rabbit."
Schultz, J. W., "Rising Wolf."
The Food Administration, "Food Saving and Sharing."
Wade, M. H., "Leaders to Liberty."
Young, Martha, "Two Little Southern Sisters."

Non-Fiction

AT THE SIGN OF THE RED SWAN. By Ambrose Swasey. Boston: Small, Maynard & Co. \$1.00.
MOUNTAIN BLOOD. By Joseph Hergesheimer. New York: Alfred Knopf.
THE CRIMSON TIDE. By Robert W. Chambers. New York: D. Appleton & Co. \$1.75.

THE HOLLAND OF TODAY

By GEORGE WHARTON EDWARDS

Author of "A Peace-Lorraine," "Vanished Towers and Chimneys of Flanders," "Vanished Halls and Cathedrals of France"

The sturdy little kingdom of the Netherlands is delightfully described by Mr. Edwards, who has lived and studied in its picturesque cities, and who knows its vigorous, progressive people. The book covers the country from "The Hook" to the Zuiderzee, and will be highly prized by those who have been there, and the many thousands who will be soon traveling in Europe. One of its interesting features is a discussion of "The Johanniters," a secret order which is responsible for the refuge to William Hohenzollern. Illustrations in color and monotone. Handsomely bound and boxed. Price, \$7.50 net.

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Nathalie Page, seventeen, an ardent patriot, forms a club called "The Liberty Girls," where not only ideals of liberty are taught, but the girls have the best of good times. Later Nathalie continues her patriotic service by teaching some little waifs what liberty means. She becomes an active figure in a plot centered in a peculiar will, a mystery, their own and some strange, interesting roles. Nathalie has already appeared in "Blue Robin, the Girl Pioneer," but this story is complete in itself for girls from fourteen and upward.

"Comrade Rosalie," by Mary Constance De Bois, author of "The Girls of Old Glory," is a spirited story, full of action and color, that carries the reader to northern France in wartime. Rosalie, her little sister Florette and a foster sister Thimotee are left in charge of a government at the Chateau Espinay, built partly on the site of a medieval castle. Rosalie's father has been killed in the first months of the war, and her mother, thinking that the Germans, after the Marne, would never again push across the channel, has gone to serve in a French hospital. But the Germans do begin coming back, and Comrade Rosalie is involved in exciting adventures. She comes with flying colors through many lumps and mishaps that will thrill her girl readers.

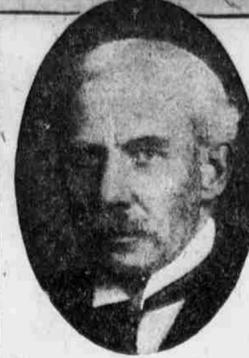
COMRADE ROSALIE. By Mary Constance De Bois. New York: The Bobbs-Merrill Co. \$1.50.
THE LIBERTY GIRLS. By Anna I. Halvey. New York: The Bobbs-Merrill Co. \$1.50.
BETSY LANE, PATRIOT. By George M. Hulbert. New York: The Century Co. \$1.25.

"Men in War"

"Men in War," by Andreas Latzko, which was suppressed in this country for a time during the war on account of its vivid and realistic description of what war does to men, and which was hailed at the time of its publication by Bond & Liveright as one of the two greatest books produced by the war, has been added to the Modern Library. It is considered a poignant, thrilling and terrible portrayal and indictment of war.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Juvenile
HIGH BENTON. By William Hestiger. New York: The Bobbs-Merrill Co. \$1.50.
ISABEL CARLETON IN THE WEST. By Margaret Ashman. New York: Macmillan Co. \$1.50.
THE WONDER GARDEN. By Frances Jenkins Grand. New York: The Macmillan Co. \$1.50.
General
BROOME STREET STRAWS. By Robert Cortes Holliday. New York: George H. Doran Co.
PEER AT PEOPLE. By Robert Cortes Holliday. New York: George H. Doran Co.
THE VITAL MESSAGE. By Arthur Conan Doyle. New York: George H. Doran Co.
THE AMERICAN RED CROSS IN THE GREAT WAR. By H. P. Davison. New York: Macmillan Co. \$1.50.
ORGANIZATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING. By Annie M. Brainerd. New York: Macmillan Co. \$1.50.
CONSERVATIVE DEMOCRACY. By Paul H. Kelly. New York: Bobbs-Merrill Co. \$1.50.
THE WORLD GROWING BETTER. By J. H. Snowden, D. D. New York: Macmillan Co. \$1.50.
THE SOCIAL PROBLEM. By Charles A. Ellwood. Ph.D., professor of sociology in the University of Missouri. New York: The Macmillan Co. \$1.75.



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CHICAGO—Continental: "Readily recognizable as the great work of a master." The Evening Post: "It should possess an even wider appeal than his former tale."

SAN FRANCISCO—Argonaut: "It is worthy of comparison with 'The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse,' and it could receive no higher praise than this."

PORTLAND—Oregonian: "It is the one novel of a year. It is a work of a genius . . . better than 'The Four Horsemen' because it is more mature with a better plot."

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