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SOME OF THE NEW NOVELS OF SPRING

Sunken Treasure, the Sea, Paranoia and Domestic Psychology the Themes

The average person first heard of paranola at the time of the Thaw "cause celebre" and the term is now "cause celebre" and the term is now pretty widely distributed in the public consciousness. Dr. George Lincoln Walton, well known for his books on alienism and neurasthenia, such as "Why Worry" and "Those Nerves," has departed from the field of the popularized medical treatise in "Oscar Montague, Paranoiac," which is a piece of interesting fiction. "A paranoiac is a person who is out of joint with his surroundings," according to the definition. This maladjustment is explicable in the case of the most brilliant able in the case of the most brilliant of the Montagues, the hero of this tale. His family and his environment are shrewdly sketched by Doctor Walton. The book is dramatic and wittily writen. It shows that many of us are in more or less limited sense the subjects of paranoia.

Another story of a family development through heredity and environment is "The Marbeck Inn," by Harold Brig-nouse, Mainly it centers about the nero, the son of an English working family, who strides upward and ahead. His business career, which is successful, is told in relation to his marriage, which is not successful. Then comes his real romance. The record is almost like the chronicles of one of our American self-made men who become magnates. The development of the tale is logical and the characters are convincto lighten the more serious matters of psychology.

"All the Brothers Were Valiant," is a somewhat epical yarn of the sea, but with its lyrical tunes, too. It has more of the quality—the red-bloodedness—of Jack London's fictional sea-scapes than the atmospheric marine painting of Joseph Conrad, though Mr. Williams is not at all imitative and he writes very colorful descriptions. The ragan of a family is found on an Island where he is a pirate and a pearl hunter. His brothers quest far to find him and when they discover him it is only to enter upon a most thrilling and absorbing story of hidden treasure, mutinies and tropic love.

Sunken treasure trove also is the ma-terial about which Roy Norton builds his exciting novel, "Drowned Gold." The hero is a young American shipmas-ter who searches for the treasure of a ship sunk in the great war. Of course, there is a romance in it, too. The style is far above that of the average adven-

ALL THE BROTHERS WERE VALIANT. MONTAGUE, PARANOIAC, By L. Walton, Philadelphia, J. E.

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LIVE ISSUES DISCUSSED—SPRING FICTION

REGINALD DE KOVEN

Who tells how she has communi-cated with her dead sister

CALE YOUNG RICE'S

Messages Are Authentic. Some "Ghost" Books

Following the death of her sister in the spring of 1918 Mrs. Reginald De Koven became interested in discovering whether the dead had a conscious existwhether the dead had a conscious existence and could communicate with the
living. Through the influence of a friend
she went to a "medium" within-a week
of her bereavement and was so deeply
interested in what happened that she
continued her visits until she was convinced that she had been put in communication with her sister.

She has been convexted to a belief in

munication with her sister.

She has been converted to a belief in what is called spiritualism for lack of a better name and has written a book about her experiences. She calls it "A Cloud of Witnesses." She gives a brief history of the various theories advanced to explain the spiritualistic phenomena before setting down her own experiences. She inclines to the belief that the mediums have peculiarly sensitive the mediums have peculiarly sensitive nervous ganglia which respond to thought messages from the unseen world, and she accepts the accounts of materializations through the exudation from the body of the medium of a curious substance which takes human form. The report that Crookes, the inventor of Crookes tubes, cut from the head of a materialized spirit a lock of hair which he will be a consession of the control o ALE YOUNG RICE'S

POETICS AND POEMS

Accept the evidence of communication with other worlds. The value of the book, such as it has, lies in its definite book, such as it has, lies in its definite of the pook and the pook and the pook are proportioned. book, such as it has, lies in its definite identification of the persons mentioned in it.

The parts of the book dealing with the political and military history of the past twenty or thirty years will compast twenty or thirty years will com-

"Shadowy Thresholds" Offers

Definitions and Illustrations

Neither the free verse forms of Miss Lowell and her disciples nor the tempestuous gallops of Robert Service serve as models for Cale Young Rice in his latest volume of poems, which be entitles "Shadowy Thresholds."

Mr. Rice, it might be claimed, follows no one master, but he tends, in the present volume, at any rate, to the stricter poetic structure of English and early American traditions. In his long and interesting—although by no means definite or overpoweringly novel—preface, the poet gives the following definition of poetry.

"Poetry is the expression of our ex-"

with other worlds. The value of the book dealing with book, such as it has, lies in its definite and its thas, lies in its definite and then site has, lies in its definite another. The persons mentioned in it.

"Our Unseen Guest," another gows the political and military history of the past twenty or thirty years will commany and the another husband of a series of the book dealing with the political and military history of the past twenty or thirty years will commany and the another husband of a series of the persons we low give and receive messages on the ouijn board. She and her husband found such as board in the parlor of a boarding house and sat down to amuse themselves with it. They were astounded in it.

"Whith other worlds." another the political and military history of the past twenty or thirty years will commany and the dentity of the persons whouse. For it is published anonymously and the dientity of the persons who agive and receive messages on the ouijn board. She and her husband found such she could receive messages on the ouijn board. She and her husband found such she could receive messages on the ouijn board. She and her husband found such she could receive messages on the ouijn board. She and her husband of a board in the parlor of a boarding house and sat down to amuse themselves with it. They were astounded in it.

"Mr. Rice, it might be claimed, follows no one master, idefinite or overpoweringly novel—preface, the poet gives the following definition of poetry.

"Poetry is the expression of our experience in emotional word-rhythms more lyrically measured than those of prose, and having some permanency of appeal not possessed by mere verse."

With so general a model before him. Mr. Rice could not very well stray far from his own definition. The poems to get messages from his own definition. The poems to get messages on a type-work of the messages on a type-work of the first form his own definition. The poems to get messages from his own definition. The poems to get messages on a type-work of the first from his own definition. The poems to get messages from a from his own definition. The poems to get messages continued to come she was the messages continued to come she was the messages continued to come she was in actual based if all the subjects included have come within the range of the author's experience. If so, he has led one of those roving existences that serve to distinguish many modern writers. At other times his poems reflect the sedentary and pensive type of verse, and the world reader, but if the latter likes variety he can find it here.

"A Poet's Childhood," which opens of the messages which removed here had been done of the message which removed here had been done of the message which removed here.

"A Poet's Childhood," which opens of the messages which removed here had been done of the message which removed here." Paled OF 1918, By R. M. Johnston. the volume, contains twenty short poems. of the messages which removed her It might be judged from them that the doubt. Circumstantial evidence will

poet's childhood was a terribly unhappy one. The charm of a Riley or a Field is somewhat marred by the constant appearance and repetition of death. In general somberness and pessimism these poeus follow the old example of Crabbe or the more modern one of Edgar Lee thought the following the follo is somewhat marred by the constant anpearance and repetition of death. In
she we beg her pardon for mentioning
she have garer Deland, of Boston. If it is not
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she have garer Deland, of Boston. If it is
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she we help are dependent on the she have begine the name, but as the publishers an
nounce that nearly all the nersons mennounce that nearly all the nersons mentioned in the book are well known, there
of blank verse.

The contents of the remainder of this
180-page volume are too varied to place
in positive categories. There are a
number which reflect the war in odd,
but not highly inspired, thoughts, Seyceral verses with China as a setting bring
up the question as to Mr. Rice's
knowledge of that land. A sea chantey,
several poems about the sea, one verse
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meetings of the Society for Psychical Research, as well as a history of the first three decades of the society. The results of the Piper sittings are given as well as a report of the "controls" of Myers and Hodgson.
Professor Henslow's "The Proofs of
the Truths of Spiritualism" is a com-

already convinced.

already convinced.
A CLOUD OF WITNESSES. By Mrs. Anna DeKoven. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co. OUR UNSEEN WITEST, Anonymous. New York Harper & Rec. 12.
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SPHILTUALISM. By the Rev. Prof. G.
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BUTLER ON AMERICA

's house after the approved modern-

tle fashion, a brutal piece called "The ourtesan," in the manner of Ernest

What are the stars but dice of God Flung on the night's uncertain sod?

What if He loses to the Pos". Porfett we—and He—must go

What If He wins? Security

What is the stake He lays with Fate

HADOWY THRESHOLDS. By Cale Young

President of Columbia Dis-

cusses Whether It Is

Worth Saving

swered in the affirmative by Doctor But-ler, who holds that the American peo-

ple will prefer to save America in their own way without any alien radicalism or imported bolshevism.

S AMERICA WORTH SAVING By Nich-elas Murray Butler. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 12.

A Thriller by Le Queux

ing yarn to the credit of his loom. but has never soun one more intricate in pattern and startling in color than his latest. "The Doctor of Pimlico." The title character is another Profesor Moriarity or Poctor Fu-Manchu in

President Nicholas Murray Butler, desperate adventurous men, and like the President Nicholas Murray Butler, of Columbia University, has collected a farmer he is a shrewd, scientifically number of his more important papers and addresses into the permanent form of a volume entitled, from the initial entry, "Is America Worth Saving?" In the practice of surgery both affords protective or coloration for nefarious enternation on the Republican ticket, this voicing of his opinious, attitudes and viewpoints takes on specially timely interest. It gives the body and the spirit iewpoints takes on specially timely in-erest. It gives the body and the spirit his camarilla of crooks exposed in a

political, economic and social rare and sensational matching of wits between him and a writer of detective Naturally his philosophy is what is fiction, who also "makes up" as a Scotcalled conservative in some quarters and "standpat" in others, depending on which wing of the G. O. P. the commentator belongs to. That he is one

Jane Austen Appraised

commentator belongs to. That he is one of those who would conserve and preserve is nothing to Doctor Butler's discredit, however, as history has demon-strated the necessity of controlling the Renders of Jane Austen who are devoted enough to her to wish to have her plots dissected and analyzed and her balance wheel or rudder in eras of storm and stress. Doctor Murray's utterances are what might be reasonably expected from the vice presidential canand stress. Doctor Murray's utterances are what might be reasonably expected from the vice presidential candidate on the Taft ticket of 1912, on which the national committee placed him after the death of the convention nominee. James Schooleraft Sherman.

Historical backgrounds, as well as Historical backgrounds, as well as Historical backgrounds, as well as current tendencies, are taken into account in the formulation of Doctor Butler's views. His book is divided into two sections—"National Problems," including the labor Issue, the cost of living and the League of Nations, and "Party Policies," dealing with progress in politics, the present duty and opportunity of the G. O. P. and Elihu Root as statesman. There of the woman's writings and to a run ning commentary of such biographical detail as is available. There are about a dozen pages of fine and reasoned criti-cism of Miss Austen which correct the misconceptions of her worshipers and put her in her proper place in the de velopment of the English novel. They reveal Professor Firkins as a critic of knowledge and discrimination. and Elihu Root as statesman. There JANE AUSTEN, By O. W. Firkins, New York, Henry Holt & Co. \$1.75. are also several important papers on educational subjects. Naturally the interrogation in the title address is an-

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about the blunders made by the British Admiralty.

He produces the impression of reality by the way in which the book was produced. He did not sit down in his library and write it, but dictated it to a stenographer while walking up and down the room. The stenographer has reported faithfully what he said, including his digressions and his apologies for making the digressions and his belittling of the written word. For example, on one occasion he says that if belittling of the written word. For example, on one occasion he says that if the reader could only see him walking about and shaking his fist, then he might get some impression of his personality. But, alas! he concludes, the printed word is cold and impersonal. If he had been a literary artist of surpress skill he could not have conpreme skill, he could not have con-trived better to give the lie to his

amples quoted of various types of hardihood and bravery.
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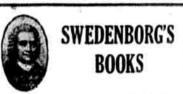
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