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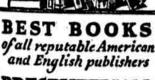
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A MYSTERY STORY BY SIDNEY WILLIAMS ALL BOOKSTORES 175

THE NOVEL A USEFUL INSTRUMENT OF PROPAGANDA

Few will deny that the solution of

this number of broad-visioned men.

THEN the novelist comes down to the

says this to his commission "they stare

at me like a committee in a thieves

kitchen when some one casually men-

tions the law." Yet he insists that

every member of the commission is

and obstinately, I admit," says Sir

Richmond, "but they are bitter and ob-

stinate because they pursue them

against an internal opposition-which

is on my side. They are terrified to

think, if once they stopped fighting me,

In another place Sir Richmond is

And Mr. Wells, speaking through Siz

Richmond, says: "This is my chief

question of fuel and the energy it af-

fords mankind, and I have found that

my generalization applies to all human

affairs. Human beings are fools, weak-

lings, cowards, passionate idiots-I

grant you. But they are not such fools

and so forth that they can't do pretty

well materially if once we hammer out

Curious stuff, this is, to put in a

novel, but Mr. Wells has the audacity

to do it and still call the book a

iscovery about life. I began with the

how far they might not go with me."

"They pursue their own ends bitterly

dissatisfied.

read what he has to say by indicating cheerfully, even generously, for common

using fuel."

Wells Hopes for a Better World Through Enlightened Selfishness

H. G. WELLS is an unmitigated and confessed propagandist. Every work," he said. "Could we do other-wise? But it has ceased to be purely egotism. It is no longer 'I am I,' but one of his novels in recent years has been written to further some theory in 'I am part.' One wants to be an hon-orable part." which he was interested at the time. He became interested in religious things Thus does Mr. Wells indicate his beduring the war and he created a new lief in the existence of men who are god whom he described in "God the thinking in terms of the general good Invisible King," and then in "The Soul of a Bishop," a novel filled with relirather than in terms of their own profit. gious discussion, he had a dignitary of the Church of England discover the the pressing problems before the world depends on the enlargement of same god.

These two books on religion were digression from his chief interests. He s seeking to remake society on a plan of his own, and he has set forth that plan in various and differing forms in a Coal Commission. Sir Richmond wants series of books. His latest, "The Secret the coal in England to be mined and Places of the Heart" (the Macmil- sold for the benefit of all the people lan Company), is in the form of a novel, and not for the benefit of the mine own-Indeed, it is advertised as a work of ers, and he wants the coal and oil of fiction. But as a novel it is negligible. the whole world to be treated in the It is a series of discussions of the place same way. But he says that when he of man on earth and of the imperative necessity of solving the world fuel problem according to a socialistic plan. The first part of the book is occupied by a discussion between two men and the second part to a discussion between man and a woman. The man and woman are chance acquaintances, who remain together for only a few days, but Mr. Wells has them fall in love and separate lest their love should prevent them from doing what they can to solve the fuel problem. But at the end of the book the man dies of pneumonia and we are left in doubt about what happened to the woman. But it does not matter, for she is introduced only for made to say, "Given a change in laws the purpose of getting a new point of and prevailing ideas, and the very same view on the general problem of the people who are greedy traders and book, and perhaps to induce women to grasping owners will work together

The book as a sociological tract is much more readable than it would have been if Mr. Wells had not put his arguments in the mouths of different people and thus brought about a clash of ideas.

interested in great international ques-

that women, as well as men, can be ends."

THE chief character is Sir Richmond Hardy, a British coal operator and a same collective method of getting and the head of a fuel commission. The career of the late Lord Rhondda was doubtless drawn on for some of the detail in the career of Sir Richmond. The man in the novel was near a nervous breakdown from overwork and he is introduced in the office of a nerve specialist, who advises that he take THE last two or three quotations are wo weeks off from work and tour I from the conversation of Sir Rich-Western England with him while they mond with the daughter of an Ameridiscuss his case. The discussion becomes can oil millionaire, the girl with whom really a discussion of the place of man he fell in love while talking socialism in the world and the duty of man to and fuel control to her. An American forget himself in his efforts to conserve girl is patently introduced in order to the natural resources for the general get what Mr. Wells is doubtless pleased And naturally, under the hand to regard as the point of view of a womof Mr. Wells, the way to conserve the an on the merits of a problem which general good is through his form of so- she could regard without the preconcialism. He has the nerve specialist, ceptions that invariably arise from intiwho is writing a book on the psychol- mate connection with ownership and ogy of the new age, say that the "con- personal responsibility for vast properscious getting out of one's individuality ties. The girl agrees with Sir Richis one of the most important and in-teresting aspects of the psychology of "Behold what the women who are to

the true kingship of the world. Neces-sarily. We who know are the true sarily. We who know at king." The discussion continues: "I agree," said Sir Richmond presently. "One does think in this fashion, What ion, Something in this fashion, What one calls one's work does belong to something much bigger than ourselves. Something much bigger."
"Which something we become," the

And as far as we are concerned we are

doctor urged, "in so far as our work takes hold of us." Sir Richmond made no answer to this for a little while. "Of course,

Economic and Political Ferment

Discussed in Two New Books

Students of world affairs are sound-

ing the tocsin of alarm and urging Eu-

aftermath, political, religious and eco-

These conditions are largely economic, according to Frazier Hunt, who went out as a reporter, and in "The Rising Temper of the East" (Bobbs Merrill) tells of conditions as he found them,

without attempting to argue. In the mass of argumentation this state of affairs in the Orient has brought forth

the work of Mr. Hunt is refreshing, to say the least. Into India he went and chatted with Gandhi before his impris-onment by the British. In Japan he

met Kagawa, the liberal, who is al-most as potent a power in his own land as is the "Saint of India" in his.

In Korea, the Hermit Kingdom, in the Philippines, in Siberia and even in China Mr. Hunt heard the cry "Liberty and Land" rising in different tongues. In some places it still is a

mere mumbling, but Mr. Hunt feels it

Stoddard declares that from Morocco to China and from Turkestan to the Cotgo 250,000,000 followers of Monammed are stirring to new ideas, im-

pulses and aspirations. These changes Dr. Stoddard feels are climaxing in re-ligious lines and the evolution bodes ili

Each has the same message couched in

Still Read After Thirty-five Years

The fact that a new edition of "Lit-tle Lord Fauntleroy" has just been published by Charles Scribner's Sons

draws attention to the remarkable lon-gevity of this childhood classic and to the sustained careers of both its author

and its illustrator. Although 'Little Lord Fauntieroy' first appeared in 1886, Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett,

different terms.

THE TROUBLED ORIENT CORNERING RADIUM

"Men of Affairs" a Genuine Thriller of Many Hazards

GEORGE W. DOUGLAS.

Roland Pertwee's "Men of Affairs" (Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., is labeled on rope and the United States to watch the wrapper "The thriller of the centhe fermenting in the East-Far and tury." It's not a bad description. Of THE GREAT SECRET. By Maurice Maeter. Near-and to take heed of what are course, the century is still young, so to termed unmistakable signs. Japan, speak, if is meant the current century, which may yet do something sensational these are being stirred by the way these are being stirred by the war century, the blue ribbon of which be-longs to the "Count of Monte Christo," or the eighteenth century, which had "The Mysteries of Udolpho" and "The Castle of Utranto" for its thrillers, nor the seventeenth, which in "Robin-

son Crusoe" supplied all time with thrillers. Certainly Mr. Knopf's claim for Mr. Pertwee's ingenious, intricate and well-written book is sustained by numerous predicaments, complications, hairbreadth escapes and hair-raising hazards. In fact, "Men of Affairs" is one of the most thrilling books that ever kept readers from turning off the gas and going to hed.

gas and going to bed. The plot concerns the rival efforts of and position, to get possession of territory in which lie vast deposits of ores from which radium is extracted. There are really two heroes to the plot—the mere mumbling, but Mr. Hunt feels it is a cry that soon will become a roar that the rest of the world must heed.

Lothrop Stoddard, who already has warned of the perils of the East, has more to say in "The New World of Islam" (Scribners). His viewpoint is more of the student than the reporter and, therefore, is possibly less interesting to the casual reader, but the situation apparently is such that reporter, savant or even casual traveler has a message that should be heeded. Dr. Stoddard declares that from Morocco

A Christmas Card Poet

Albert J. Kinross, the English author of the recently published "The Truth About Vignolles," is rather well known to the American public for a number of novels which have been pub-lished here, as well as short fiction in for Europe.

Mr. Hunt tells of conditions as the reporter sees them and Dr. Stoddard delves deeper into the fundamentals.

Green as well as short fiction in our magazines. But how many know what he has confided to the Century Corporation of the control of the c Company?—that he was at one time foreign correspondent and bookkeeper and finally poet in a Christmas card factory. "One of the few modern poets."

he remarks, "to earn a living by the Rockwell Kent in Patagonia Rockwell Kent, the American artist, author of the book "Wilderness," wherein he describes a year spent with his nine-year-old son on an Alaskan island, has just left on a tramp steamer for Paragonia. Mr. Kent will put in some eight months on the southernmost the author, is still a leading novelist, while Reginald C. Birch, the illustrator, has redrawn his original illustrations for the new edition in pen and ink.

for Patagonia. Mr. Kent will put in some eight months on the southernmost tip of South America painting, drawing and preparing an illustrated book of exploration which the Putnams expect to publish next year. Don Marquis' Tributes to a Red-

Poetry



THE POET IN ACTION Illustration by Stuart Hay from Don Marquis' "Sonnets to a Red-Hatred Lady"

PRISONERS OF WAR!

Harvard Lad Shows Up French Internment Camps—British Captain's Escapes From Foes

boy, enlisted with the Norton-Harjes Ambulance Unit long before the United States entered the war. Temperamental, admittedly a follower of the Harry Kemp sartorial manner, young Cummings and a chum one day found themselves under arrest as spy suspects owing to some ill-advised letters written by the chum that fell in the French censor's hands. Given chances to clear himself, Cummings deliberately talked himself into imprisonment and for many long months was held at a French internment prison. "The Enormous Room" (Boni and Liveright) is the result. It is without doubt one of the frankest, most uncensored and withal at times superbly written of the many war books published.

organically, mar the merits of but do t ruin this book of real power.

All the story there is in the book could have been told in twenty pages. the muck that clutters it.

NEW BOOKS

millo Flammarion. New York: Century Company. One of a trilogy dealing with life after death, by the noted French sayant and as-tronomer.

Fiction

novel.

DESERT DUST. By Edwin L. Sabin, Philadelphia; G. W. Jacoba Company,
A novel of Western America in the making. It is rot a cowboy romance of the
typical wild and wooly kind, but a carefully
developed romance with atmosphere and
characterization. But there is also a plot
of gripping quality.

A romance of insulvat Italy.

HAPPT RASCALS. By F. Morton Howard.

New York: E. P. Dutton & Co.

Stories of the coastwise British sailing man, full of the reek of the forecastle and the sail savor of sea air. Ingenious and amusing short stories.

BURLESQUE SONNETS | BLOCKING ZEEBRUGGE

Haired Lady Contain Real

There is delight in Don Marquis' latest book of verse for those who like burlesque and genial satire. He calls the book "Sonnets to a Red-Haired Lady" (Doubleday, Page & Co.), and intimates that they are written "by a gentleman with a blue beard." The sonnets, addressed to Sue of the flaming locks, tell what happened to thirty previous wives and warn her to beware of their fate. Here is the first one, which will give an idea of the style of them all:

Comet, shake out your locks and let them flare

Don't wear it in a little wad up And yet, Susanne, my comet and my

Zane Grey Gathering Material

A New McCutcheon Story

ered the manuscript of his latest novel to his publishers. Dodd, Mead & Co.

Who Can Tell?

sycho-analysis? Her publishers say

Courtship," and that raises visions of suppressed desires, complexes and lib-

Miscellaneous

Fiction

idos. Perhaps every courtship does.

George Barr McCutcheon has deliv-

My first wife let her hair go quite too In culinary ways, I beaned her, Sueaway.
That dear, lost woman, Sue! Ah, welladay!

And so it goes, with reminiscences of the whole thirty, most of them ending with a wistful and regretful "Welladay!" And each sonnet is constructed with a skill in rhyme and a versatility

Edward S. Cummings, a Harvard

war books published.

With its object candidly a bludgeoning of the French prison system, Cummings has adopted as his style an unrestrained method of expression that would make even Eugene O'Neill in his wildest dramaturgic moments sound like a biblical lecturer. Terms of the like a biblical lecturer of the control of t mings has adopted as his style an un-restrained method of expression that ike a biblical lecturer. Terms of the army but deleted even in the most free and easy of homes and avoided by the nost audacious sub-deb, slither through the book in appailing fashion. This "Viola Gwin" is its title and we under-unbridled license of language and a stand it is a romantic story of Indiana fidelity to detail that becomes nauseating at times give "The Enormous carly in the nineteenth century.

Room" its only black marks. What are sometimes called "chalk words" or "fence words" used ostentatiously, not

But Cummings would have been just as powerful and more effective if at times he had not tried to "show off" and "shock." When describing his companions in misery and filth Cumthe new age that is now dawning. We, this small but growing minority, constitute that part of life which knows an increasing share in the politics of the world think about this socialistic solution of the fuel problem and take and wills and tries to rule its destiny.

Henold what the women who are to mings reveals ownership of a pen that can portray pathos or humor with vivid and unforgettable strokes. It is the almost superlative merit of some or books added to the Free Library. This warning."

Beloid what the women who are to mings reveals ownership of a pen that can portray pathos or humor with vivid and unforgettable strokes. It is the almost superlative merit of some or these passages that makes "The Free Library. This warning."

> Those who read for a story will doubt-Another belated war book but of inless throw the book aside before they terest from preface to finis is "The get half way through it. For their Escaping Club" of Capt. A. J. E. Evans, R. F. C. (McCann). benefit it should be said that it is in the latter half that such story as there keep out of the clutches of the enemy, is is told. But, as already indicated, but proved himself an adept in proving that "iron bars do not a prison make." the book is negligible as a work of fiction. It is the latest form in which His story is a simple narrative of the Mr. Wells has set forth his plan for multitudinous tricks and daring of Al-a better world. camps. Then, after finally getting away from Germany, Evans had to be captured again by the Turks. Escape, thence, too, followed in due course. Probably if the war hadn't ended Evans today would be getting ready to be captured or to make another escape.

pany,

A discussion of metaphysical subjects of
the older world philosophies. A GATE OF CEDAR. By Katherine Morse. New York: Mucmillan Company. Verses by a younger poet, which have much loveliness of concept and melodiousness of expression

IN HARMONY WITH LIFE. By Harriet
Prentiss. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company.
Provides mental and spiritual shock absorbers against the cares and frets of hurried modern living. Full of valuable and
practical suggestions toward making life
more livable.

AT THE MOMENT OF DEATH. By Ca-millo Flammarion. New York: Century

UNDER THE ROOF OF THE JUNGLE. By
Charles Livingston Buil. Boston: Page
Company.
A book of animal life in the Guiana
wilds. The text is entertainingly and observingly written and the noted author-artist
has supplied fifey-nine plates and many
minor decorations from life drawings. two groups, made up of men of wealth and position, to get possession of terri-

SUPPLY AND DEMAND. By H. D. Henderson. New York: Harcourt, Brace & Co.
A volume in the excellent Cambridge Economic Handbooks, of which the noted critic of the Versailles Treaty, John Maynard Keynes, is seneral editor. This contribution is by a fellow of Clare College and Cambridge University lecturer in economica, and is an up-to-date restatement of the topic, briefly but agreeably written.

EVERY DAY USES OF ENGLISH. By Maurice Wessen. New York: T. Y. Crowell Company.
The language is considered as an everyday ito. Principles are discussed and illustrated from the point of view of application to everyday life. The book will be found conveniently helpful both in office and classroom.

TWO-GUN SUE. By Douglas Grant. New York: R. H. McBride Company.
The fight of a Western girl against great odds is the substance of this thrilling novel.
THE CAMOMILE, By Catherine Carewell.
New York: Harcourt, Brace & Co.
The effect of a continental and musical environment on a Scots lass, daughter of a minister, is developed in this well-written

of gripping quanti-THE MAKING OF A SAINT. By W. Som-erset Maugham. Boston: The Page Company A romance of medieval Italy.

amusing short stories.

THE CITY OF FIRE. By Grace Livingston Hill. Philadeiphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, Another of Mrs. Hill's delightfully developed and substantial stories. The heroine is the beautiful daughter of a small town minister into whose life comes a murder mystery involving one whom she loves. The story has, of course, a high moral tone, but is not preachy. The tragedy finally yields to happiness, after much testing of the sport.

Commander of Vindictive Narrates Heroic Effort to Pen Undersea Scorpions

Today, when the events of the late war rapidly are becoming obscured by the never-failing onrush of memorydestroying time, some heroic events of that stupendous struggle still stand out unchallenged in the annals of herodom.
One of these was the successful blocking of the Zeebrugge Canal, where the Germans had their submarine base from which scorpions of the sea started out on death-dealing journeys, sparing neither foe nor neutral, combatant nor tenditions. Across the startled heaven of my soul!

Pluck out the hairpins. Sue, and let her roll!

Don't be so stingy with your blooming hair,

But let the whole created cosmos share The glory of its color, flashed and swirled

Like nets of sunset flung to mesh the world—

The glory of its color, flashed and company), and his narrative surely deserves a prominent place in any war library.

Captain Company), who companded

Captain Carpenter, who commanded the Vindictive, the craft that carried its men to the Mole, where a side attack was carried on while the block-ing ships slipped into place, was in a At times restrain those locks a little, position to observe all that was going on. Also he, with Vice Admiral Keyes. blocking. Therefore, he speaks with authority.

The first part of the book is taken up with a painstaking discussion of the plan itself, its difficulties and its haz-Everything is told in a plain. ards. simple manner and so interestingly that the mass of detail never bores.

Then comes the quick, thrilling story of the fight. Captain Carpenter never in epithet which will command the addescends to grandiloquent verbiage, but miration of every one at all interested in the technique of verse making. And there flash out two or three lines of succeeds, almost, in making his pages live the gallant fight once more. All real poetry in each sonnet. The sequence war history. ends with three sonnets in a serious

Mrs. Lee's Ghost Story

vein, in which Marquis confesses as he has done before that life is so terri-"Uncle Bijah's Ghost," Jennette ble that he can contemplate it only with a laughing mask, less it should break him completely.

He appropriately includes in the volexplanation of spiritual phenomena of the sort described by Sir Conan Doyle. leve affairs from that of Adam and Eve to that of Othello and Desdemona. Lee, "the first attempt to show in a commonsense way, so that ordinary written with the same combination to collequial slang and poetic metaphor that distinguishes the sonnets. The book is illustrated by Stuart Hay, who book is illustrated by Stuart Hay, who book is illustrated by Stuart Hay, who science, and that all indications point to a clearing up of the whole subject by the spirit of the thing. tific phenomena is more fully developed The book does not question either the Zane Grey has left Flagstaff for the good faith or the intelligence of people who have had experiences and relate Indian reservation out around Kaventa. One of the feminine members of the party is Mrs. Westbrook Robertson, of them. It merely does not accept the su pernatural explanation accorded them is not based on theory. of the experiences related in it were m

BOOK EXCHANGE

own, and it was in thinking on these

and trying to understand them, that I

came to believe what I have put down

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