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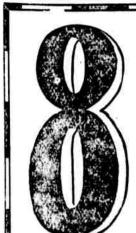
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In the Middle Ages, through the Grand Monarque and up to Napoleon's era what is now Belgium used to be the would write the story of his adventures he would produce something that was cockpit of Europe, but the nineteenth century replaced it with the Balkan States. There has been for generations dynamite in this congeries of rival small nationalities and diverse races. Their geographic position has made them coveted, more or less, by Austria, Italy and Russia, for they have a vast strategic importance and likewise an economic importance quite beyond their size as the gateway to the Orient. Control of the Balkans was one factor of the Berlin-to-Bagdad Railway which represented a war-inciting Germanic.

In that no one would buy that no one would buy his scientific book, but that if he would write the story of his adventures has divided and those of Poe or Doyle or the other masters of the art of unraveling mysteries. Ossendowski neted on this advice and this book is the result. It is a tale of the incredible. It does not seem possible that men could hunt down other men as if they were wild animpossible either that such curious beliefs and customs could exist as he found among the natives with whom he came in contact. If it does not seem possible either that such curious beliefs and customs could exist as he found among the natives with whom he came in contact. If it does not seem possible either that such curious beliefs and customs could exist as he found among the natives with whom he came in contact. If it does not seem possible either that such curious beliefs and customs could exist as he found among the natives with whom he came in contact. If it does not seem possible either that the such curious beliefs and customs could exist as he found among the natives with whom he came in contact. If it does not seem possible either that the such curious beliefs and customs could exist as he found among the natives with those of Poe or Doyle or the other masters of the art of unraveling mysteries for the down the nor

and other drives they were little more than names. With such a splendid book available as "The Balkan Peninsula" (Harcourt, Brace & Co.), there can be no longer excuse for ignorance either of the past of the Balkans, which explains much of their recent events.

Dr. Faris Writes Observant Book in "Seeing the Eastern States"

There is no better way of learning or of their present, as still a matter of world polities. Ferdinand Schevill, professor of modern history at the University of Chicago and author of the excellent "Political History of Modern Europe," has performed a desirable task exceedingly well in this compact and readable history which discusses the Balkan peninsula and its numerous the second of the Eastern States" (J. B. Livingent Coupany). Seeney and the the Balkan peninsula and its numerous racial and nationalistic mutations from the earliest days to the present day.

He discusses amoly enough the Mongolian and other invasions from the East and the place of the Balkans in history under the Romans and the Byzantines and Turks, their struggles of interventing these things of interventing these things of interventing these things. Byzantines and Turks, their struggles of interweaving these thing Romanoffs, and other matters, especially the key nature of their geographical placement and their political therefrom. The story is full of romance. In addition there is a full consideration of the roots of the World War as planted deep in the Balkans and a narrative of the part they played both in the war and in the peace. It is pointed out that the Balkan peninsula, including Greece, Serbia, Bulgaria, Montenegro and Rumania, together with ethnic relations adjoining, had a determining influence in the explosion that led to the war of the nations just ended. The book shows that the Balkans furnished the stage setting for the World War and that it may be the stage for other world wars if its pressing problems drift toward chaes. Dr. Schevill describes vividly in its most in-Schevill describes vividly in its most in-tense form the interaction of na-diately become linked with Lewis Cartense form the interaction of nationalism, the rivairy of European Powers for control and the conflict between European and Asiatic civilizations, which have characterized the sanguinary Balkan annals. His book is the first in any language to cover the history of this confused and important part of the world from the migratory period to the present time. His book is comprehen we and written. migratory period to the present time. His book is comprehensive and written according to the modern school of history, with emphasis not on battles and dates, but on the underlying psychology and philosophy, political and economic, There are lifteen maps which illuminate

### RACKHAM'S PICTURES FOR HAWTHORNE'S GREAT BOOK

Of all the men who have illustrated Hawthorne's "A Wender Book" none has done it more sympathetically than Arthur Rackham in the edition of the famous classic just published for the holiday season by finding I and Arthur Rackham in the edition of the famous classic just published for the holiday season by finding I are the holiday and how we can control this other side of our natures. famous classic just published for the holiday season by George JI. Doran Company. The volume contains twenty-four pictures, fifteen of which are reproductions in full color of Mr. Rackham's paintings, and the others are ham's paintings, and the others are drawings for the most part in sketchy line after the manner of the Japanere. The full color illustrations vary in specific of the second of the seco The full color illustrations vary in merit, but as a whole they are satisfying. In the first place, it must be said that they illustrate. Mr. Rackham evidently read the book before he began to make pi tures for it. In the second place the pic ares are works of a most delicate kind of art. They are printed on calendered paper and pasted on calendered paper and pasted on calendered paper and pasted on the would be smooth useface of the paper is not wholly responsible for the smoothness of the foxure. They look as if they had been painted on ivory. This quality is particularly noticeable in the illustrations for the story of Pandera, in which he has used nude boys and girls. It gives to the skin of the children the satiny texture of life itself. Of course, Mr. Rackham has given the girls the round slenderness of early youth and to his boys the same slenderness, with the muscular development breaking up the roundness of babyhood, for he is an artist who knows his trade. If there are any young people who have not yet read the harvel-ple his trade. If there are any young peo-ple who have not yet read the marvel-ple who have not yet read the m ously skillful retelling of the classic outly skillful retelling of the classic outlines. New York: Doubledar though support outlines outlines

Beveridge to Write on Lincoln Former Senator Albert J. Beveridge, whose "Life of John Marshall" has taken its place as one of the classics of American biography, has begun a companion work on Abraham Lincoln. "I hope," he says, "to be able to continue the constitutional interpretation of America, weaving it about the life of Abraham Lincoln, as I did the first part of the constitutional interpretation of America about the life of John Marshall."

TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH. By Leonard Merrick. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co.

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### A BOOK OF WONDERS

Ossendowski's Tale of His Wanderings in Mongolia Suggests Marco Polo's Adventures

Alexis Triona, the hero of W. J. Locke's latest novel, wrote a book of adventures in Russia during the Bolshevik revolution based on the notes of one of its victims. "Bensts, Men and Gods" (E. P. Dutton & Co.) is the actual story of the adventures of Ferdinand Ossendowski, a Polish man of science, while escaping from the Bolsheviki who wanted to kill him.

Mr. Ossendowski held an important scientific position in Russia and the revolution found him in Krasnoyarsk in Western Siberia. When he learned that the Bolsheviki were after him he fied south into the forest and lived aione for months until he encountered other men in his own plight. He ther tried to reach India by way of Mon-golia and Tibet, but was turned back at the Tibetan border by a force of brigands who would permit no stranger to enter the country. He had to re-trace his steps and go eastward into Manchuria. He finally reached a sta-tion on the Trans-Siberian Railroad and reached Peking. From there he came to the United States and was in THE BALKANS
Washington at the time of the Peace Conference, He planned writing a book about the flora and fauna of the little-known regions that he had traversed. but an acquaintance, to whom he told his plans, incidentally revealing some In the Middle Ages, through the Grand Monarque and up to Napoleon's era what is now Belgium used to be the cockpit of Europe, but the nineteenth would produce something that was worth while.

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Lippincott Company), Scenery and the Byzantines and Turks, their struggles to throw off the Ottoman rule, their influencing by the Hapsburgs and the lack of the human note is not apparent. Romanoffs, and other matters, espethen through the State in a canoe, into Vermont and a sauntering through New and economic importance proceeding Hampshire—these are merely a part of therefrom. The story is full of romance. the trip on which Dr. Faris takes his BOOK EXCHANGE

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### Fiction



G. K. CHESTERTON Whose detective tales are fuller of satire than of mystery

### SKILLFUL SATIRE

Chesterton's "The Man Who Knew Too Much" Aimed at the Foibles of the British

Gilbert K. Chesterton is too much of

a satirist to write a story merely for the sake of the story. Consequently his detective stories will never rival represented a war-inciting Germanic ambition. Then, too, the Balkan states are hot-blooded and hot-headed and their constant broils bring into the conditional their constant broils bring into the conditional their constant broils bring into the conditional their various big protectors to whom they have allied themselves.

Yet the history and the aspirations of this section are very ill known to Americans. Before they became firstpage war stories in the Markensen and other drives they were little more and the race in good faith only to discover that he was to be used to split the opposition vote against the candidate whose election the political powers desired to insure. This candidate was a backmailer and a generally discover that he was to be used to split the opposition vote to be used to split the opposition vote against the candidate whose election the beautiful the such as desired to a such a power of the sold to split the opposition vote to be used to split the opposition vote against the candidate whose in the YANKEE TRAVELOGUE

refused to take his seat out of disgust with the devious and dishonest ways of politics. He knew too much, but he did not know how to fight the whole British political system. If one reads the book as satire one will find it en-

tertaining.
There is bound in the same volume a long short story. "The Trees of Pride." which is a sort of allegory about the pestilential character of pride itself. It deals with the mysterious disappearance of a haughty country squire who persists in preserving some peacock trees on his land in spite of the belief of the country side, supported by the resident physician, that they breed disease. Incidentally it is a

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