# NEW BOOKS OF VARIOUS KINDS FOR THE GRAVE AND GAY

"PETER"

drama

## SENATOR CAPPER ON THE AGRICULTURAL BLOC

In "The Agricultural Bloc" (Harin the Agricultural Bloc (HAF-court, Brace & ('o.). Senator Capper, of Kansas, has told the story of the forming of the combination in Congress of the Representatives from the farming States and of the conditions farming States and of the conditions among the farmers, which impelled them to this action. It is a book that ought to be read by those who wish to understand what is going on in wish to understand what is going on in the country at the present time. There is nothing in it which has not been printed in the newspapers, but the his-ner of the bloc and the bloc program printed in the newspapers, but the his-tory of the bloc and the bloc program and the arguments in defense of it are here gathered into a single small vol-ume. The sudden slump in the prices of farm products following the war and the birth friday rates which made it the high freight rates which made it impossible to get them to market, are impossible to get them to market, are given as the immediate cause of the agricultural unrest, and as the justifi-cation for the demand that there be a refield change. In the radical change in the conduct of the transportation systems and in the facilities for farm credits. Senator Capcilities for farm credits. Schuter Cap-per makes it clear that the farmers per makes it clear that the farmers have a grievance, and he offers plausi-ble arguments in support of the reme-ble arguments in support of the reme-

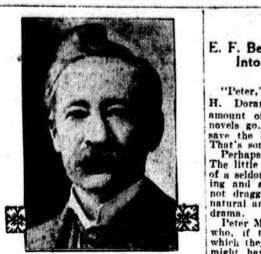
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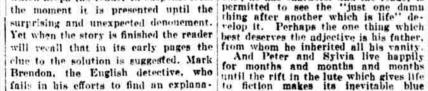


EDEN PHILLPOTTS who can beat the detective story writers at their own game

A PERPLEXING PLOT

tery Tale Deceives Its

Reader to the End Eden Phillpotts, who is a novelist of standing, has written a more ingenious detective story than the professional writers of such tales usually turn out. "The Red Redmaynes" (The Mac-millan Company) unraves a 'mystery millan Company) unravels a' mystery charmingly vain and cleverly humor-



tion for what has happened, is the man note. This (take it from Mr. Benson) who notes the clue, but he fails to per- makes it difficult for Sylvia to tell her who notes the clue, but he fails to per-ceive its significance. It is not until Peter Ganns, an old American detec-tive, appears on the scene that the real solution begins to take shape. real solution begins to take shape. is soon to bear her husband a child.

There is more than a plot to the story. There is character in it and frustrated romance, and the crime is done with a skillful cunning that no one but a novelist with a fine im-agination could have conceived. Of course, Mr. Phillpotts ascribes the cun-

course, Mr. Philipotts ascribes the cun-ning to his villain, but as the villain is a figment of the author's own brain, it is the constructive dramatic genius of the author that is responsible for it. The story ones with the disappears, her reticence her reticence. So Peter goes home and he The story opens with the disappearance of two men, one of whom is sus-pected of the murder of the other. The beautiful wife of the supposed victim calls in a detective spending his vacation in the district, and asks him to solve the mystery. The body of the victim is not found and the alleged murderer has disappeared. There are two other murders before the story ends, and those who revel in gore will find enough of it to satisfy their san-guinary taste. The book ends with a very difficult and dangerous and nar-

If Mr. Phillpotts chooses to continue writing mystery stories he can assure himself of a multitude of readers.

and even stir your sensibilities. For once we can indorse the declaration on a jacket: Mr. Benson writes "with ex-quisite understanding." IMMITIGABILITY OF THE HUMAN PREDICAMENT

## **ITALIAN VILLAS**

#### E. F. Benson's Latest Excursion Mr. Eberlein Writes About Them in a Way to Interest Into the Mysteries That Every One

Envelop Life "Peter," by E. F. Benson (George No better specimens of publisher's H. Doran Company), has a fair bookmaking appear in America than amount of action as modern society those which come from the Washington novels go. The hero risks his life to Square Press of the J. B. Lippincott Square Press of the J. B. Lippincott save the heroine in the last chapter. That's something. Company. An excellent example work of this press is "Villas of Flor-Perhaps it is even better than that. The little bit of melodrama at the end ence and Thiscany." by Harold Don-aldson Eberlein. It is a large octavo volume with gilt top and untrimmed edges, bound in blue buckram. The of a seldom tense but sometimes amus-ing and always interesting comedy is not dragged in by the heels; it is a natural and necessary climax to a soul type is of generous size, beautifully printed on pages with a wide margin. The appearance of the volume deserves this first mention, as it is the merit which first strikes the attention. Peter Mainwaring and Nellie Heaton who, if they had had the money fo which they had accustomed themselves, might have married and become lov-

To remove any misapprehension, it must be said that the contents justify ers, content themselves with being very good pais and tell each other, with the dress in which they have been clothed. Mr. Eberlein has put into the some degree of truth. that they are not in love with each other even a lit-tle bit. The truth in the declaration book the results of long and careful study of the villas of Florence and tle bit. The truth in the declaration rests on the fact that Nellis loved com-Tuscany, not the well-known places that every traveler tees, but the smaller ones which are interesting to the prosperous American who thinks of building him a country house in the of building him a country house in the Italian style, but is not prepared to erect a palace. The author has not contented himself with a general de-scription of the villas, but he has re-produced photographs of each taken from various angles, and he has given ground plans of the buildings and has shown their relation to the surrounding cares for her conscientiously and never shown their relation to the surrounding gardens. There are more than 240 full-page illustrations in black and white, and a colored frontispiece. Preceding each group of illustrations is a history of the villa, going back hundreds of years, for they are all ancient structures. Some of them are still in the possession of the families whose an-cestors built them. The book is full of suggestions for the architect as well as for the householder with Italian tastes.

A TALE OF BRUTALITY

Goulding's "Fury" Deals With the Lives of Rough Men on Shipboard

Edmund Goulding has found an appropriate title for his latest novel, "Fury" (Dodd, Mend & Co.). For it is a tale that is peopled with furies; the fury of the brumous wind-lashed northern seas; human furies who brave their wrath in a never-ending struggle. and other furies who lurk in ports ready chuckling at the thought of to rob and, if need be, to slay. The atmosphere of the story is sodden.

accepts love rather than gives it. Hence law but that of the tooth and claw. The the their difficulties. But, happily, there was something wrong with one of the chimneys and Sylvia is cut off by the flames and Peter makes his way to her along a

There you have the bare outline of a story which Mr. Benson tells delight-fully. If it doesn't stir your blood it may at least tickle your intelligence



BEN HECHT

MULTI-HUED CHICAGO Ben Hecht Catches Colors in

"One Thousand and One Afternoons

Scattered about the country are sev eral thousand Color Columbuses-seekers after that indescribable some thing illimitably buman that underlies each bit of daily news, no matter how trivial. These men - technically known as city editors-supervise the local news that finds its way into newspapers. All call for "color." but only few know exactly what the term means. For some it is a statistica

summary bedecked by a few lurid ad-jectives. For example some young re-porter will telephone in: "At 9:13 porter will telephone in: "At 9:1 o'clock Mrs. Genevive Blank, twenty four years old, married, of 1188 Blinkus street, entered Room 1198

City Hall, weeping bitterly. She was attired in a black turban, two shoes, two stockings, a skirt-"" "Great stuff," it is likely one of the

For Color Columbuses will shout, "was she uries: weeping loudly? GREAT! Give me ashed all the details. Lots of color! All the names and addresses possible." And then leans back in his chair 'color

Out in Chicago Ben Hecht was The characters, with two or three newspaperman-not a reporter. This exceptions, are but one removed from was before he wrote "Erik Dorn" or their cavemen ancestors, and know no law but that of the tooth and claw. The action, for the most part, passes on board a sailing ship of the old wind-jammer type, where the forced contact of the members of the half-savage crew leads to violent outbursts which are tottlab by the ability of the old wind-in the interview of the savage crew leads to violent outbursts which are tottlab by the ability of the savage crew ber reticence. So Peter goes home and he who wants to hear something and Sylvia who wants to tell him something put obstacles in each other's way and if the house hadn't caught fire heaven only knows how they would have set-

the wife whom his abuse forced to leave him, and whose obsersion is some day to overtake and kill the man with whom she fied. Out of this welter of savagery two figures stand out sharply. One is that

find enough of it to satisfy their san-guinary taste. The book ends with a full confession of the murderer written out before his death, and explaining all the things which in the course of the story seemed inexplicable. The volume of a story seemed inexplicable. The book ends with a full confession of the murderer written out before his death, and explaining all the things which in the course of the story seemed inexplicable. The sector of the sector of the story seemed inexplicable. The sector of t character and still retains it despit. up in courts, on the curb, in the club the environment which has surrounded anywhere. But each was a cameo gem. him all his life. The other is a girl. He didn't care that Mrs. Blank was a slavey in a Liverpool pothouse, but the second cousin of a former house a true woman in all save birth and education, of whom the boy is enam-ored. Their courtship and marriage after many vicissitudes, and the finding. And now the things he found out

by the boy of his long-lost mother form about the only bright spots in the somber story. The book has an interest that grips



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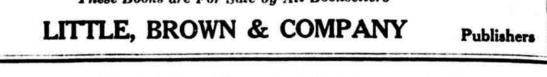
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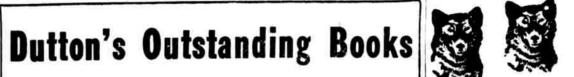
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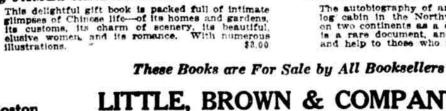
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them but a few official people. . . ."

tion is depressing.

righ), a short novel of distinguished character. Her title was suggested by a passage from Webster's "The White birds sing, when, indeed, they cry." And her story is about a group of characters, the most thoughtful of which regard themselves as caged birds beat-ing their wings against invisible bars through which hey cannot escape. LILY AND "THE WILDCAT"

Lily and her irrepressible master, "The Wildcat." When Hugh Wiley discov-The characters are the members of the family of a successful London stock past in the series of books on the quest the family of a successful dis-broker whose speculations result dis-astrously. They were, all fluttering about in discontent while they were prosperous, because they could find no satisfaction in life. When the crash comes they have to take account of stock to discover whether there were any moral assets left. They do not find very much because they had been more occupied with beating their wings against the invisible bars than with the cultivation of those spiritual qualities without which life is a bleak tragedy. There is little action in the story, as it is concupied with mental states, but Miss Jones handles her subject with broker whose speculations result dis- of the colonial, in collaboration with his

without when a the story, as it fashion, with and many curious items. There is little action in the story, as it haunted past and many curious items. Miss Jones handles her subject with great skill and insight. In the straightened ou, the fact that the White straightened ou, the fact that the White straightened ou, the fact that the White straightened ou the straighteneed ou the straightened ou the straightened ou the stra

the past.

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When the King of England was on rations

are living at the rate of a century a year, as we

are here? Here in bountiful England we are liv-

ing on rations. I spent a night with the King a

fortnight ago, and he gave us only so much

bread, one egg aplece and-lemonade. We are to

begin bread tickets next week. All this is per-

fectly healthful and wholesome and as much as I

ever est. But the hard part of it is that it's neces-

sary. We haven't more than six weeks' food

supply and the submarines sank eighty-eight ships

-337,000 tons-last week. These English do not

publish these harrowing facts, and nobody knows

. . I wonder if on your side of the ocean you

and the submarine was doing its worst:

and Britain's living."-J. ST. LOE STRACHEY.

Tanuat 7798 35 South 18th St. Phile annon annon annon annon tive. The book is handsomely produced,

ered the Negro stevedore as a fiction possibility he added much to the gayety

fashion, with many recollections of the haunted past and many curious items, as well as matters of present-day habit or custom. Among other things, be has straightened ou, the fact that the White House had an Irish architect. Hoban, and has resurrected a rare old print. Inot before printed, to show that the structure is a reproduction, with certain modifications, of the seat of he ducal Fitzgeralds, Leinster House. Much historic lore about great figures of the max in politics and soclety and diplo-maey is reviewd, and the contemporary and the structure is a reproduction, with certain modifications, of the seat of the ducal Fitzgeralds, Leinster House. Much historic lore about great figures of the max in politics and soclety and diplomacy is revived, and the contemporary and his galloping cubes, city is also shown in graphic harra-

## HEROINE TRIES ESCAPE and the illustrations are numerous and appropriate, the drawings by Henry Pitz being especially captivating. There

are photographs of contemporary Wash-ington and also reproductions of rare old prints to recall the atmosphere of Most of the male authors who at. and not so much for those who merely

If the furniture manufacturers could be converted, a process which has al-ready begun, the homes set up by the younger generation would be furnished in such a way as to be permanently . The rich can get chairs and tables and bureaus and sideboards of good design, but, unfortunately much of the lower-priced furniture within the means of the newly married is ugly. the means of the newly married is ugly, without grace of line or refinement of decoration. Such books as Edward Stratton Holloway's "The Practical Book of Furnishing the Small House and Apartment" (J. B. Lippincott Company) will serve as a guide to those who wish to learn the small to troubles are real enough, but they are readed not uncommon for her sex. Her way-of "escape" are natural enough, even the last one-marriage. As a narrativ-it is concrete and distinctly above the average of novels of like texture and

## of good taste in furnishing and to study the different styles of decoration that AT THE FREE LIBRARY of discrimination. Mr. Holloway has assembled a mass

Mr. Hollowhy has associated a mass of information on the subject which is be has digested and arranged in a systematic manner. He not only ex-plains what period furnishing means, but he gives advice on the barmonions arrangement of furniture of different at union and furniture of different at Baulouin, Charler "Suzaestion and Auto-Baulouin, Charler "Suzaestion and Auto-ingestion by the Method of Auto-mag-netion by the Method of Auto-mag-Barbank, East," The Your Own Decor. Coll. C. J. - "Dancing Made Easy." Key, P. V. R. -- "Enrice Caruso." MacMulan, Mary Third Book of Short

#### Fiction

Another book, by Stuart P. Sherman, ill follow his "Americans," which has will follow his "Americans," which has just been published by Charles Scrib-ner's Sons. The new volume, "The National Genius." will appear next spring and will also bear the Scribner imprint. Adams. S. H. Thomas Proventiant Dust." Johnston, Mary. "Jage 700 Strice." Sinclair, Mary. "Jage 700 Strice." Woodrow Mrs. Wilson...."Swallowed Up." Adams, S. H - "From a Bench in Our EOOKS-Out of grant and Rare Books searched

Miss E B. C. Jones seems to be convinced of what Henry James used to call the immitigability of the human predicament. She has exhibited it in "The Singing Captives" (Bont & Live-righ), a short novel of distinguished toric Lore

If each Color Columbus buys a copy of "One Thousand and One After-noons in Chicago," reads it carefully and then orders his reporters to do the same, there may be a sudden increase of real "human interest" matter in

'N THEIR GALLOPIN' CUBES the news columns and less statistical unimportance or sob sister inanities Enjoyable aftermath of the war are And then Covici and McGee, the publishers can begin to supply copies to the thousands who can appreciate an O. Henry touch to everyday things.

## HISTORICAL DATA ABOUT PROGRESS OF THE RADIO

With radio reviving in popular interest after its summer hull and apparently now settling into a stendy form of popular cutertainment, enthusiaste will be glad to see that publishers are beginning to issue more elaborately compiled and printed books on their fa-vorite subject. The man who attempts is write a book on this science faces a hard task as the best. He realizes the The first of this senson's output is volume whose size of 447 pages entitie

it almost to be called a "tome." The "Book of Radio" D. Appleton & FROM LIFE'S TETHERS perhaps will appeal mostly to those who take their radio seriously as a science

tempt to wale through the vagaries of the mind feminine frankly admit they have plunged beyond their depths and devotes a grant deal of his book to rec-ACTICAL GUIDE TO HOUSE FURNISHING as furniture manufacturers could werted, a process which has al-begun, the homes set up by the r generation would be furnished h a way as to be permanently

the only answer is happy romance. Three is nothing especially striking in "Escape." It fails to strike any un-usual chord. Its chief character can hardly be accepted as universal. Her

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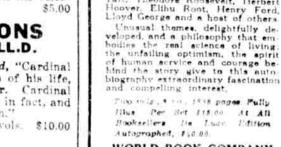
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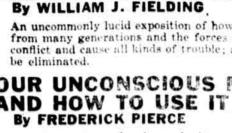
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