

the head of the Newberry Detective Agency. Altho the author leads the reader to expect miraculous sleuth work on the part of Millie Newberry, one is sadly disappointed. The story is rather well constructed but there is not sufficient suspense to hold the interest.

Samuel Hopkins Adams has sketched all kinds and sorts of people in a quiet community full of good will in *Our Square and the People In It*. *Extricating Obadiah* is Joseph Lincoln's latest Cape Cod yarn. It takes us into the atmosphere of the Cape Cod country and gives us an appreciation of the Cape folk. *Crumps* is the story of the transformation of an artist into a machine gun officer. It shows what the Canadians have gone thru at the front and will bring us face to face with what our boys are to meet "Over There."

Miss Wylie has given us quite an original piece of work in *The Shining Heights*. The scenes of the tale are mostly English and there is a moral as well as a psychological problem developed in the course of the story. *Vanguards of the Plains* is a romance of the Santa Fé trail with all its heroic adventure. A charming story is *At the Sign of the Oldest House*, by Juliet Wilbor Tompkins. Not only does the book please while reading but it leaves a satisfied feeling after.

After Mr. Hope's wife wrote a book that became popular, Mr. Hope, a man high in the profession of law, became the ignominious husband of Mrs. Hope. The problem of regaining the interest and affection of Mrs. Hope is amusingly and naively solved by the erstwhile prosaic Mr. Hope.

The Optimist, by Susan Taber, includes a dozen stories of unusual character. The stories take up many sides of life and many kinds of people and tho the dominant moods vary, the humorous is woven thru them all.

Zona Gale, who became nationally recognized as a successful author some years ago when she produced her remarkable Friendship Village stories, has given us a delightful new novel, *A Daughter of the Morning*. A refreshing story of a whimsical country girl whose chance meeting with an author rouses her to her own potential powers.

When the Sun Stood Still, by C. T. Brady, is a charming story of old Hebrew lore retold with a love interest that captivates by its simplicity from start to finish. The warlike spirit of the Jews shown in their early history is dilated upon and an historical event is used as a turning point in the tale. This new book of Dr. Brady's is a welcome release from the eternal triangle complications.

Tote-Road and Trail, by Douglas Malloch. Bobbs-Merrill. \$1.25. *Three's a Crowd*, by William Caine. Houghton Mifflin. \$1.50. *Kiddies*, by J. J. Bell. Frederick A. Stokes. \$1.50. *Why Not Marry*, by Anna Steese Richardson. Bobbs-Merrill. \$1.40. *The Green Jacket*, by Jennette Lee. Scribner's. \$1.35. *Our Square and the People In It*, by Samuel Hopkins Adams. Houghton Mifflin. \$1.50. *Extricating Obadiah*, by Joseph Lincoln. D. Appleton & Company. \$1.50. *Crumps*, by Louis Keene. Houghton Mifflin. \$1.25. *The Shining Heights*, by I. A. R. Wylie. John Lane & Company. \$1.50. *Vanguards of the Plains*, by Margaret McCarter. Harper. \$1.40. *At the Sign of the Oldest House*, by Juliet Wilbor Tompkins. Bobbs-Merrill. \$1.50. *Mrs. Hope's Husband*, by Gelett Burgess. Century Company. \$1. *The Optimist*, by Susan Taber. Duffield & Company. \$1.30. *A Daughter of the Morning*, by Zona Gale. Bobbs-Merrill. \$1.40. *When the Sun Stood Still*, by C. T. Brady. Fleming Revell Company. \$1.35.

Fiction of All Sorts

TOTE-ROAD AND TRAIL, by Douglas Malloch, is a volume of verse about the lumber camps and the men who work in them. Mr. Malloch has vigorous emotions and opinions as strong as big timber but he lacks the flashing imagination that would make magical poetry of his experiences. He is not the Masefield, the Kipling of the woods. If it were written with a finer spiritual insight and more vivid images and phraseology his verse might become eloquent poetry.

William Caine's *Three's a Crowd* is a trivial and conventional novel built up around three characters that have become stale types in modern fiction, the rich, exquisite and extravagant American girl who thinks the world is her plum cake, the noble and desirable Englishman who marries her and repents, and the cause of it all—the indulgent American mother. Patriotism suggests the protest, "We are not all like that—we American women. Some of us are poor. Some of us are good wives and mothers."

How many of us remember the words we could not spell when we went to school, the prizes we won or failed to win for good behavior, the first cautious adventure in the world outside of the walls of home, the first friendships founded on congeniality rather than necessity, the first crushing sorrow and the first perception of the irony of life in the days when we could not understand why grown-ups were always making the world a difficult place to live in comfortably? Those who love to bring back memories of childhood by participation in the joys and sorrows of children, will find great pleasure in J. J. Bell's new volume of short stories about children, called *Kiddies*. Several of the stories are about the well known and well beloved "Wee Macgregor" and others have to do with Jack, the lonely son of a Scotch sailor, with Charlie Robb and his ugly uncle, with Hilda's deep desire for silk stockings and suedes and with the wee grandson who cured Sam Logie of heart disease. The stories are canny and full of dry humor and quaint pathos. In each one of them Mr. Bell shows a very real understanding of the ways and motives of "the weans."

Why Not Marry points out that the home is the place to find warmth, appreciation and rest and attempts to show that successful marriage can be managed by going into it in the right way. The economic responsibilities of husband and wife, the mistakes of courtship, the reasons why nice girls say "no," the discussion of the wage-earner versus the home-maker all make the book very interesting.

Jeanette Lee has written a detective story about a little woman in gray who is