

THE BOOKMAN'S LITERARY CLUB SERVICE

Believing that clubs will welcome an outline which combines range of subject with an authoritative understanding of the end to be achieved, the editors have brought together representative committees of authors, students, and critics to present for the use of women's clubs an outline which will contain both elements. The divisions of the series are: I. Contemporary American Fiction (see THE BOOKMAN for October, November, December, 1922, January, 1923); II. Contemporary American Poetry (see THE BOOKMAN for March, April, May, June, July, August, 1923); III. Contemporary American Drama (see THE BOOKMAN from November, 1923 through July, 1924); IV. The Short Story. After contemporary American literature has been covered, programs on the historical background of our literature will be given and these will be followed by a survey of the English field.

The BOOKMAN programs are formed, not by the editors of this magazine but by a board of advice which has been organized to include names from various lines of literary thought in America, so that the result will represent no one group. The executive committee of advice is as follows: Mary Austin, the novelist; Dr. Arthur E. Bostwick, librarian of the St. Louis Public Library; Dr. Carl Van Doren, one of the editors of "The Century"; Mrs. L. A. Miller, chairman of literature, General Federation of Women's Clubs; May Lamberton Becker, of the "Reader's Guide" of "The Saturday Review"; Dr. Joseph Fort Newton, rector of the Church of the Divine Paternity, New York City; Booth Tarkington, the novelist; and Rose V. S. Berry, chairman of the fine arts committee, General Federation of Women's Clubs.

The Editor of THE BOOKMAN and his advisers and associates will answer promptly and to the best of their ability any question confronting any literary club. Such questions should be addressed "THE BOOKMAN'S Literary Club Service".

THE short story will be the next subject of THE BOOKMAN'S series of club study outlines. And the first instalment of this program will appear in the magazine for October. Meanwhile we present a number of miscellaneous suggestions which we hope may be helpful to program makers.

ILLINOIS craves a program on "The World Today".

An excellent world history to use as a companion during the course is Fueter's "World History: 1815-1920" (Harcourt, Brace). If you wish to specialize on political problems and matters of international relations this book will give you material for many programs.

"The Trend of History" (Macmillan) is another good book on world problems of the present day.

How would this do for a tentative outline?

1. America: Problems of Government.

Use Bryce's "Modern Democracies" (Macmillan), vol. 2, chapter on America; two papers pointing out our virtues

and our defects in (1) national matters, (2) state matters.

Reviews of recent memoirs of American statesmen.

2. America: Social Problems in Fiction.

Reviews of novels dealing with the position of women.

Reviews of novels concerned with the younger generation.

Reviews of novels dealing with social responsibility.

3. France of Today.

"How France Is Governed" by Poincaré (McBride) will give you material for a useful and interesting paper.

"Twentieth Century French Writers" by Mme. Duclaux (Scribner) is full of helpful material for this part of the program.

4. Italy.

You will find plenty of material in Tittoni's "Modern Italy" (Macmillan) and Cooper's "Understanding Italy" (Century). The latter has material on the Fascisti.

"Plays of the Italian Theatre" (Luce) has excellent short dramas.

5. Russia.

"Marooned in Moscow" by Marguerite Harrison (Doran).

- "Plays of the Moscow Art Theatre" (Brentano) or "The Russian Theatre" by Oliver Saylor (Brentano).
6. *Hungary*.
A sketch of political conditions.
Drama: Molnar's "Liliom" and "Fashions for Men" (Boni, Liveright).
Fiction: Cécile Tormay's "The Old House" (McBride).
 7. *England*.
"England After War" by Masterman (Harcourt, Brace).
A survey of British fiction.
 8. *The British Empire*.
"Development of the British Empire" by Robinson (Houghton Mifflin).
The situation (1) in Ireland, (2) in India, (3) in Canada.
 9. *The Far North*.
"The Friendly Arctic" by Stefansson (Macmillan).
The South Seas.
Review of South Sea travel books.
 10. *Distant Lands*.
"The Secret of the Sahara" by Rosita Forbes (Doran).
"Beasts, Men and Gods" by Ossendowski (Dutton).
"Old Morocco and the Forbidden Atlas" by Andrews (Doran).
 11. *Scandinavia*.
The novels of Johan Bojer (especially "The Great Hunger"). They are now published by the Century Co.
You will find plenty of material in "Scandinavia of the Scandinavians" (Scribner), a general reference book.
- FROM a club near New York City comes a request for an outline to cover eighteen meetings, on the subject of "The Age of Johnson".**
1. *The Historical Events of the Age of Johnson* (a paper).
A paper on Rousseau and his influence, and one on the influence of Wesley and the revival of religion.
 2. *The Rise of the Novel*.
The beginnings of the novel; "Robinson Crusoe".
Samuel Richardson. Read from "Pamela".
Henry Fielding. Read from "Amelia".
(Read Thackeray's lecture for material for paper.)
 3. *The Minor Novelists*.
Laurence Sterne, "Tristram Shandy".
Tobias Smollett. Compare with Hogarth and show some of the latter's drawings.
 4. *The Johnson Circle*.
Life of Dr. Johnson.
The Thrales.
Boswell. Read especially the book "Young Boswell".
Keep Boswell's Life on hand.
 5. *The Club*.
Sir Joshua Reynolds, David Garrick, Malone.
Oliver Goldsmith.
 6. *Edmund Burke*.
His political philosophy.
Burke as an orator. Show his connection with us.
 7. *Thomas Gray*.
Read brief papers on Ossian and on Chatterton.
 8. *Horace Walpole and "The Castle of Otranto"*.
The Collection of Percy's Reliques.
 9. *Lady Novelists*.
Fanny Burney; especially "Evelina".
 10. *The Dictionary*.
"The Idler" and its Relation to Journalism.
 11. *An American Contemporary: Benjamin Franklin*.
 12. *William Cowper and George Crabbe*.
 13. *Robert Burns*.
 14. *Lord Chesterfield and London Society of the Period*.
 15. *Richard Brinsley Sheridan*.
Read "The School for Scandal".
 16. *Compare Goldsmith with Sheridan as a Dramatist*.
(The first program showed him as novelist.)
 17. *The Continuing Vogue of Johnson*.
Show the influence of Johnson on Chatterton, and the way the Life is still read and admired.
 18. *Read A. Edward Newton's play, "Dr. Johnson"* (Atlantic).