

THE BOOKMAN'S GUIDE TO FICTION

THE BOOKMAN will present each month tabloid reviews of a selected list of recent fiction. This section will include also the books most in demand according to the current reports in "Books of the Month", compiled by the R. R. Bowker Company, The Baker and Taylor Company's "Retail Bookseller", and "THE BOOKMAN'S Monthly Score". Such books as the editor especially recommends are marked with a star.

IF TODAY BE SWEET—Ednah Aiken—*Dodd, Mead*. The theme is certainly big enough—when prohibition came to the grape growers. The author knows her subject and yet the book just misses fire.

***BLACK OXEN**—Gertrude Atherton—*Boni, Liveright*. This story of feminine rejuvenation must be terrifying to the suspicious male.

THE HIGH PLACE—James Branch Cabell—*McBride*. If one tenth the books we read held one tenth the enchantment of this comedy of disenchantment, a reviewer's life would be a delight indeed.

THE WOMAN OF KNOCKALOE—Hall Caine—*Dodd, Mead*. A pacifist discussion of rather sombre mood.

***A LOST LADY**—Willa Cather—*Knopf*. A middle western lady wanders through the lives of various men but never really finds herself.

LITTLE DAVID—Robert Stuart Christie—*Sitzer*. Here's a male Pollyanna, less cloying, more virile and just as happy.

THE GASPARDS OF PINE CROFT—Ralph Connor—*Doran*. Tempted and triumphant, another Connor hero really appeals.

THE ALASKAN—James Oliver Curwood—*Cosmopolitan*. A reindeer range affords somewhat new material, mystery aboard a ship, intrigue and love.

TETHERSTONES—Ethel M. Dell—*Putnam*. A novel of farm life made as unreal as only this mistress of sentimental romance knows how.

FLAMING YOUTH—Warner Fabian—*Boni, Liveright*. Obviously written by a doctor, this book is a frank study of sex life as it is lived by some today.

SIR JOHN DERING—Jeffery Farnol—*Little, Brown*. Eighteenth century fustian vivified by Farnol's charm of style and rapid survey of events.

THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD—Philip Gibbs—*Doran*. Excellent psychological study of marriage over against consideration of the reconstruction period in Europe.

THE SPELL OF SIRIS—Muriel Hine—*Dodd, Mead*. Miss Hine's earlier "Flight" is here brought to an eminently satisfactory conclusion.

***THE COVERED WAGON**—Emerson Hough—*Appleton*. Likely to become a classic in its way, along with the moving picture of American colonization.

NOWHERE ELSE IN THE WORLD—Jay William Hudson—*Appleton*. Just another soul in revolt novel.

***LUMMOX**—Fannie Hurst—*Harper*. Against the simple mind and emotions of a servant girl is drawn a superb picture of New York life.

***THE END OF THE HOUSE OF ALARD**—Sheila Kaye-Smith—*Dutton*. Beautifully written is this intricate character study of a decaying English family.

THE HAPPY ISLES—Basil King—*Harper*. A kidnaped baby grows up to make a successful fight for his rightful place in the sun.

UNDER THE DESERT STARS—Frank Koesler—*Washington Square*. A melodrama in which incredible adventures are connected by the slenderest of threads.

NEVER THE TWAIN SHALL MEET—Peter B. Kyne—*Cosmopolitan*. A South Sea beauty and a society belle love the same man—action results.

***DOCTOR NYE**—Joseph C. Lincoln—*Appleton*. A lovable character in difficulties around and about Cape Cod.

THE LENGTHENED SHADOW—William J. Locke—*Dodd, Mead*. A curious story of contrasted temperaments woven about an even more curious legacy.

LOVE COURAGEOUS—Concordia Merrill—*Seltzer*. We wish we could state that this story of a jealous woman is as true to life as it is interesting, but honestly we can't.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE—Frederick Niven—*Boni, Liveright*. A well worked out study of the deadening effect of a woman's petty jealousy upon the men of her family.

***BREAD**—Charles G. Norris—*Dutton*. A faithful drawing of the nicest type of modern girl and her problems, which, by the way, Mr. Norris does not solve.

BUTTERFLY—Kathleen Norris—*Double-day, Page*. Taking charge of a younger sister with talent and temperament is no mean task to set a heroine. But Mrs. Norris sees to it that Hilary gets her due in the end.

MICHAEL'S EVIL DEEDS—E. Phillips Oppenheim—*Little, Brown*. The melodramatic contest between a great detective and a great criminal is brought to an end in this volume.

THE WHITE FLAG—Gene Stratton-Porter— *Doubleday, Page*. Dying curses, and a most intricate series of loves, trials, and misfortunes test this author's well known abilities to make all right by the final page.

GLORY O' THE DAWN—Harold T. Pulsifer—*Houghton Mifflin*. A dramatic little funeral oration over the last of the once famous shipwrights of Maine.

CHRISTMAS STORIES—Jacob Riis—*Macmillan*. These messages of love and cheer were culled from the slums by the great heart of a great man.

FORTUNE'S FOOL—Rafael Sabatini—*Houghton Mifflin*. A story of swords and the stage, of woman's smiles and political wiles after the Restoration.

DR. GRAESLER—Arthur Schnitzler—*Seltzer*. A subtle portrait that is as gently wise though not quite so piquant as "Casanova's Homecoming".

THE DIAMOND THIEVES—Arthur Stringer—*Bobbs-Merrill*. A girl detective gets her love story all tangled up in an exciting hunt for criminals.

SOMETIMES—Olive Wadsley—*Dodd, Mead*. The old problem of the two men and the one woman takes on a new and tense interest under unusual treatment.

***JEREMY AND HAMLET**—Hugh Walpole—*Doran*. The author of "Jeremy" again discovers his childhood.

***A SON AT THE FRONT**—Edith Wharton—*Scribner*. The war, done in terms of life behind the lines, proves itself able to bring out the best and the worst in modern family conditions.

***OH, DOCTOR!**—Harry Leon Wilson—*Cosmopolitan*. One of the funniest of the pill taking heroes becomes quite cured by various means.

***THE ABLE McLAUGHLINS**—Margaret Wilson—*Harper*. A finely presented study of love and life in the 'sixties, in a Scotch community of the middle west.

THE MINE WITH THE IRON DOOR—Harold Bell Wright—*Appleton*. Virtue puts villainy in its place in a story of Arizona gold mines, Indians, and other red bloods.