



# THE NEW BOOKS



## Adventures in the Uncanny

**THE SUPERNATURAL IN MODERN ENGLISH FICTION**, by Dr. Dorothy Scarborough, is one of the few monographs in the field of literature which must have been a pleasure to write. It is a survey of the treatment of supernatural themes in English and American literature from the "Gothic romance" of the end of the eighteenth century, down thru Poe and Wilkie Collins to writers of our own day, such as Algernon Blackwood and Arthur Machen. Altho the study is not and could not be exhaustive, considering the thousands of good ghost stories which the nineteenth century added to the world's fiction, there are over three hundred pages of rapid summary of the most famous ghosts, devils, werewolves, dream specters, dual personalities, magic machines, ultramundane forces and animated corpses which have sent the shivers up and down the spines of the last four generations. The work is beautifully indexed, so that the reader can turn in an instant to his favorite horror. Arthur Machen, author of *The Bowman* (popularly called "the angels of Mons"), has published a new story combining a narrative of the war with the element of the supernatural, *The Terror*, a tale of the revolt of all the animal world against mankind, a theme suggesting the view of Maeterlinck that the brute creation is secretly hostile to humanity. *The Indian Drum*, by William MacHarg and Edwin Balmer, makes effective use of the legend that a mighty Indian drum booms out over the Great Lakes whenever there is an accident, one beat for each man drowned.

*The Supernatural in Modern English Fiction*, by Dorothy Scarborough. G. P. Putnam. \$2.  
*The Terror*, by Arthur Machen. New York: McBride. \$1.25. *The Indian Drum*, by W. MacHarg and Edwin Balmer. Little, Brown & Co. \$1.40.