

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 specially recommends are marked with a star.

MOTHER MASON — Bess Streeter Aldrich — *Appleton*. Scenes from the life of a happy, hard working family told with witty sympathy.

* THE GREEN HAT — Michael Arlen — *Doran*. Iris Storm, difficult to fathom, fascinating, perverse, makes many friends and some enemies.

PEACOCK FEATHERS — Temple Bailey — *Penn.* A boyhood love persists through pages of sweetness and light.

THE SEVEN SLEEPERS — Francis Beeding — *Little, Brown*. International intrigue with conspirators, secret codes, murders, love, and all the other trimmings.

DESERT BREW — B. M. Bower — *Little, Brown*. A baffling game of cross purposes and a good love story besides.

A GENTLEMAN OF COURAGE — James Oliver Curwood — *Cosmopolitan*. Highly colored woods drama of animal life, human love, and the inevitable sacrifice.

THE UNKNOWN QUANTITY — Ethel M. Dell — *Putnam*. The wedding day and its wish start another trail of sobs and laughter.

WIDE WATERS — Captain Dingle — *Brentano*. A deep sea yarn spun with a mastery to make us eager for more by the same pen.

FOLLOWING THE GRASS — Harry Sinclair Drago — *Macaulay*. The Nevada sheep and cattle war gives rise to a dramatic love story.

THE MAN WHO PLUNDERED THE CITY — Sven Elvestad — *McBride*. This detective mystery, though utterly improbable, is highly amusing and well translated.

NINA — Susan Ertz — *Appleton*. An unhappy marriage discussed with pathos, wit, and understanding.

* SO BIG — Edna Ferber — *Doubleday, Page*. Mother and son still appeal in this fine study of American life.

THE FLOWER BENEATH THE FOOT — Ronald Firbank — *Brentano*. An attenuated parable of Continental life, whose innuendos run the gamut from the maliciously smart to the ordinarily vulgar.

* A PASSAGE TO INDIA — E. M. Forster — *Harcourt, Brace*. Finely wrought study of Anglo-Indian relations with moments of drama.

* THE WHITE MONKEY — John Galsworthy — *Scribner*. Society reacts to the war and recovers from it — a novel that is provocative and easy to read.

HUMPTY DUMPTY — Ben Hecht — *Hyman-McGee*. The egotist triumphant again in a brilliant book of perverse philosophies.

* BALISAND — Joseph Hergesheimer — *Knopf*. Southern airs and graces, romance, chivalry, make this one of the most fascinating of American historical novels.

THE SLAVE SHIP — Mary Johnston — *Little, Brown*. A young Jacobite supporter, sold as a slave in Virginia, runs away, only to become more deeply involved in the traffic as a dealer himself. One man's inner battle that gives, by slow piling up of detail, the temper of those restless times.

THE ENCHANTED HILL — Peter B. Kyne — *Cosmopolitan*. An ex-aviator finds New Mexico far from placid.

RUGGED WATER — Joseph C. Lincoln — *Appleton*. Adventures in the old life saving service — more thrilling and as amusing as other Lincoln books.

THE COMING OF AMOS — William J. Locke — *Dodd, Mead*. Amos is a simple soul — society in various parts of Europe and a Russian princess make life less simple for him.

ON BOARD THE "MORNING STAR" — Pierre MacOrlan — *A. and C. Boni*. Grisly, grim and gruesome, but a corking good pirate tale with hair on its chest.

THE PLASTIC AGE — Percy Marks — *Century*. A college youth finds virtue difficult to cope with in the lurid surroundings of fictionized college life.

THE VALLEY OF VOICES — George Marsh — *Penn.* An ethnologist, a violinist, snowy country, and grim events.

* SARD HARKER — John Masefield — *Macmillan*. Adventure clothed in brilliant poetical writing. A romance in a thousand.

EAST OF THE SETTING SUN — George Barr McCutcheon — *Dodd, Mead*. Another George Barr McCutcheon princess makes bachelorhood bearable.

THE QUIANT COMPANIONS — Leonard Merrick — *Dutton*. A masterly description of the inevitable unhappiness resulting when a Mayfair girl marries a Negro.

IN A SHANTUNG GARDEN — Louise Jordan Miln — *Stokes*. A colorful romance of the East in which a young American finds his heart lost to a highborn Chinese lady.

ROSE OF THE WORLD — Kathleen Norris — *Doubleday, Page*. Rose as a character is vivid and worth a far better plot than that through which she moves.

THE INEVITABLE MILLIONAIRES — E. Phillips Oppenheim — *Little, Brown*. A new, improved use of the "Brewster's Millions" idea, and comical to boot.

THE PASSIONATE QUEST — E. Phillips Oppenheim — *Little, Brown*. Modern London is the setting for a story with a charming, wistful, and adventurous heroine.

LIBERATION — Isabel Ostrander — *McBride*. A posthumous novel well up to the standard of this popular author of crime stories.

* THE INVISIBLE WOMAN — Herbert Quick — *Bobbs-Merrill*. Completes the trilogy begun by "Vandemark's Folly" and "The Hawkeye". A true story and a good one, though lacking the vital and racy panorama of pioneer life which constituted much of the charm of the earlier books. (See page 766.)

RED OF THE REDFIELDS — Grace S. Richmond — *Doubleday, Page*. More concerning Dr. Red Pepper Burns.

SAINT MARTIN'S SUMMER — Rafael Sabatini — *Houghton Mifflin*. Old France and a Sabatini damsel rescued as all Sabatini damsels must suffer rescue.

* THE LITTLE FRENCH GIRL — Anne Douglas Sedgwick — *Houghton Mifflin*. An Anglo-French love story involving contrasting backgrounds and philosophies.

ISLES OF THE BLEST — Wilbur Daniel Steele — *Harper*. The seamy side of life in the lovely South Sea Islands ruthlessly disclosed.

* THE NEEDLE'S EYE — Arthur Train — *Scribner*. How a man meets great wealth and fights its influence on his soul. Well done.

DEEP IN THE HEARTS OF MEN — Mary E. Waller — *Little, Brown*. Throbbings of a coal miner's heart toward light and understanding.

* THE OLD LADIES — Hugh Walpole — *Doran*. Dramatic, poignant, finely spun story of old age and its tragedy.

INNOCENT DESIRES — E. L. Grant Watson — *Liveright*. Brief sketches of unhappy dwellers in the Australian bush.

* PROFESSOR, HOW COULD YOU? — Harry Leon Wilson — *Cosmopolitan*. A college professor seeks red blood and open spaces — vastly amusing.