

LEADER OF A RACE

in *Booker T. Washington, Builder of a Civilization*, Emmett J. Scott, Washington's secretary for eighteen years, and Lyman Beecher Stowe, grandson of the writer of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," tell a grandly heroic story. The great and simple man stands lifelike before us—as romantic a figure as ever sacrificed himself early to the life he loved and to a work set to the highest imaginings. Washington had imagination enough to grasp and understand the unattainable, and to tackle his several-men's-job single handed. He was a task master, setting himself the stiffest stint, to himself a veritable slave-driver, whipped by his own ideals, and lashing his own tired body unmercifully. "Something singing," there was in this hard-headed, money raising, nineteenth-century colored boy and man! And this book, as solid as the soil, is also by the nature of its subject, epical. The political influence of Dr. Washington, the unusual philosophy with which he met his enemies' thrusts and the basenesses of violent, race prejudice, his contribution not yet measured, to education, to society—thru these we see, one after another, the farmer, the educator, the lover of beauty (with insistent demand for ferns or flowers at every Tuskegee dining-table), the psychologist (who saw in the toothbrush the most potent single instrument of civilization), and the man himself, modest in dress and mode, an almost perfect combination of keen senses, quick common-sense, clear reason, and great heart.

Booker T. Washington, Builder of a Civilization, by Emmett J. Scott and Lyman Beecher Stowe. Doubleday, Page & Co. \$2.

WHERE GERMANY LEADS

Coöperation in business and in government is the text of *America and the New Epoch*, by Charles P. Steinmetz. One result of the war, he argues, is certainly to be the adoption of the co-operative methods in manufacture and business that have made Germany, economically, so great a country. Against these, we, with our individualistic methods, will not be able to compete, and unless we learn the new way we must go under commercially which means also nationally.

Mr. Steinmetz analyzes the monarchical method of achieving this change, as witness Germany, and the slower, but, he believes, surer method of a democracy. He deals broadly with the causes of the hold here of the individualistic theory, and his propositions and examples will rouse thought on a matter of grave moment. But one pauses to question the meaning of the statement that to the southern states

after the Civil War was meted the same treatment as Serbia and Belgium are now receiving. And where did he learn that "Abe Lincoln" was of "neither Teuton nor Anglo-Saxon lineage," but "Turanian"?

America and the New Epoch, by C. F. Steinmetz. Harper & Brothers. \$1.

A HISTORY OF THE GREAT WAR

Ten volumes of Collier's *The Story of the Great War* are now to hand, bringing events up to the beginning of the third year. As a whole, considering the rapid succession of these events, with much that is still obscured thru lack of positive information, it is a remarkable achievement in book publishing. Many of the contributions should become standard references. Such names as Major General Wood, Rear Admiral Knight and Frederick Palmer speak for the value of their contributions. But there are others unsigned worthy of special mention. Thus, Diplomatic State Papers displays skilful compilation; the Invasion of Belgium is an unpartizan military view of those much debated operations; the German Campaigns in Russia are well handled, while the Balkan part reveals a strong personal intimacy with that field, enlightening us on the Russian intrigues against Stambuloff, a main cause why Bulgaria joined the Teutonic powers. The Campaigns in Africa are up to high standard. The work is under the able chief direction of Francis J. Reynolds, former reference librarian of Congress.

The Story of the Great War. P. F. Collier & Son. Cloth, \$24. Leather, \$33.

IN A DUTCH VILLAGE

The tragedy of an ostracized girl, suffering for her father's sin, at the hands of her neighbors in a Pennsylvania Dutch village, the extreme of unkindness is the theme of Mrs. Martin's new novel: *Those Fitzenburgers*. The author knows her Dutchman with his narrowness, prejudice, and obstinacy in clinging to a pre-conceived opinion and, also, his honesty, industry and native ability. Out of the little, cramped village two people rise to distinction, ambition and a touch of genius, making them "different" from their neighbors. The dialect is true to type, and the story holds the reader's interest to the end.

Those Fitzenburgers, by Helen R. Martin. Doubleday, Page & Co. \$1.35.

ESSAYS IN LITERATURE

Lillian H. Tryon is surely a round peg in a round hole. She loves house and home-keeping and village life, and chats of them comfortably so that the readers of *Speaking of Home* feel the charm of serene days and tasks near to the essentials of living. (Houghton, Mifflin Company, \$1.)

F. J. Foakes-Jackson in his Lowell Lectures, studies *Social Life in England, 1750-1850*, as shown by Crabbe, Dickens, Thackeray, Trollope and others. All the papers are interesting, that on Crabbe perhaps having the most critical value. (The Macmillan Company, \$1.50.)

Stephen Leacock tilts ever gaily but with no capped or careless spear. Peace, War, Politics, the Movies, Motor Cars, Russian Fiction, all are pinked in *Further Foolishness*, and in a graver manner there

is a discussion of humor as Mr. Leacock defines it. (John Lane Company, \$1.25.)

Really *Stevenson, How to Know Him*, is unfairly named! Tho this generation may need to be taught how to know Carlyle and Defoe, it can still enjoy Tunitila without footnotes, and Professor Rice has written a pleasant critical and biographical essay that should not be judged by its title. (Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill Company, \$1.25.)

Out of a vast wealth of information about Daniel Defoe, gathered during years of research, Professor Trent graphically presents in *Defoe, How to Know Him*, the best established facts about the life of this puzzling Proteus. The extracts from Defoe are eminently characteristic and yet give one a potent feeling of his modernness. (Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill Company, \$1.25.)

In Max Eastman's *Journalism Versus Art*, the papers on magazine writing and lazy verse are but witty remark and school-boyish platitude and superstition. The others, on magazine art and English spelling, over-expressive of radical opinion, under-expressive of what those opinions clearly mean and marred by a quite shameless preciosity of style and half-way philosophizing, are still healthily stimulating. (Alfred A. Knopf, \$1.)

NEW FICTION

Oh, Mary, Be Careful! by George Weston. A superficially pleasant and innocuous story about a girl whose rich aunt has warned her against the lords of creation—in vain. A literary bonbon. (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, \$1.)

Philosophy, by Henrie Waste, is said to be an "autobiographical fragment." It is a rather dull and prosy narrative of the adventures of a young American woman working for the doctor's degree at a German university, and of her love affair with a fellow student. (Longmans, Green & Co., \$1.25.)

Wildfire, by Zane Grey, will add nothing to the author's reputation. It lacks the atmosphere of his early novels and falls short of their restrained power. It is a shallow and sensational story about men's love for horses, about a girl's strange adventures with desirable and undesirable suitors. (Harper & Brothers, \$1.35.)

Our Next-Door Neighbors, by Bell K. Maniates, is an entertaining account of a childless young couple who find their fulfillment in caring for the five young Polydors, Ptolemy, Pythagoras, Emerald, Demetrius and Diogenes, the neglected, rambunctious, but engaging children of a writer and a scientist. (Boston: Little, Brown & Co., \$1.35.)

In his *Twilight in Italy*, D. H. Lawrence paints, in all the colors of the artist's palette, Switzerland, Northern Italy, the Alps. We see a poet's visionings of innumerable crossroad crucifixes, of lemon gardens against Italian skies, and we are refreshed with some genuine people, not yet crunched under War and Industry and National Efficiency. (B. W. Huebsch, \$1.50.)

Dubliners consists of fifteen short stories and (so to speak) genre pictures of Dublin's homes, barrooms, shops and streets. About ten sketches succeed sufficiently to make James Joyce a "discovery." Frank and honest and sympathetic, here blends the poet with the naturalist! He does not forget that even in such harsh life, lives ever a little of the beautiful. (B. W. Huebsch, \$1.50.)

Security, by Ivor Brown, is a slow but sure English novel, showing in turn the security in the life of a teacher in King's College, Oxford; the security in soon backsliding from any meddling in labor movements, literature or any other such theoretic career; the security in a "proper" marriage. Fisher, the social agitator, choosing oblivion over security, is the only one who goes ahead. (G. H. Doran Company, \$1.15.)