

Books And Their Authors

DENNISON GRANT.

By Robert Stead. 390 Pages. The Munsion Book Co., Toronto. Price \$1.75.

In this new romance of the Canadian West Robert Stead goes back once more to the country that he loves so well, the foothills of the Rockies and the ranches of Alberta. He leads off with a graphic description of a big fight between two gangs of ranchmen for the hay-rights of a valley in the foothills. Here Transley, foreman of the Y.D. ranch, old Y.D. himself, a peculiar old frontiersman who has made a million in the catt. country, Dennison Grant, foreman of the rival gang, and Zen, Y.D.'s spoiled daughter, take their places in the opening chapter of the story, which goes with a bang from the first paragraph. How Zen is rescued from the big fire that spreads from the hay stacks to the prairie grass, how she fights for her life against one of her father's hands in the middle of a river, and escapes with the impression that she has killed her assailant, takes us into a swift action that gathers momentum as the story proceeds. Grant and Transley fall in love with Zen and the story of her winning makes a heart-interesting novel that is different from anything you have ever read. The story moves from west to east and Dennison Grant, who succeeds to his father's business and great wealth in eastern Canada, tries to put into effect a new plan for the distribution of riches that shocks conventional money-grubbers. Grant calls it the "Big Idea." It has to do with the development of the prairie country and all Canadians will be greatly interested in its unfolding. As is customary in Stead books, there is much humorous observation of life in this story, but the main feature of it is the entrancing love interest which keeps the reader guessing until almost the last page.

READING THE BIBLE.

By William Lyon Phelps. 131 pages. Price, \$1.35. The Macmillan Company of Canada, Toronto, publishers.

Prof. Phelps, a teacher at Yale University, is the author of a number of books that have been highly

Public Library Bulletin

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SALTS OF BACKACHE AND KIDNEYS HURT

Stop Eating Meat For a While if Your Bladder is Troubling You

When you wake up with backache and dull misery in the kidney region it generally means you have been eating too much meat, says a well-known authority. Meat forms uric acid which overworks the kidneys in their effort to filter it from the blood and they become sort of paralyzed and laggard. When your kidneys get sluggish and clog you must relieve them, like you relieve your bowels; removing all the body's urinous waste, else you have backache, sick headache, dizzy spells; your stomach grows sour, tongue is coated and when the weather is bad you have rheumatic twinges. The urine is cloudy, full of sediment, channels often get sore, water scalds and you are obliged to seek relief two or three times during the night.

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commended by capable critics. The present volume contains three lectures given at Princeton Theological Seminary, which are as follows: Reading the Bible, The Short Stories of the Bible, and St. Paul as a Letter Writer. The treatment is neither theological nor devotional. The Bible is considered as a part of English literature and it is discussed purely from the literary point of view. The Bible's influence on English literature is emphasized, and the aim of the volume is to help the reader to become familiar with the most interesting parts of the Bible and to read it with more intelligent enjoyment. In perfection of English diction, he says, there is, in the whole range of literature, nothing to surpass the story of Joseph and his brethren. The Bible is full of both passion and sentiment, but it has no sentimentality. It is rather remarkable that there is not one touch of false sentiment. There is a narrative style superior to that of the Old Testament historians. The lyric David is one of the most radiant figures in history. In conclusion he writes: "As the Bible day by day exerts its regenerating and vivifying influence on the souls of men, its influence and homely means, its poetry and prose, its masterpieces in all literatures, which rise from the inexhaustible spring of living water in the Word of Life."

STRONGER THAN HIS SEA.

By Robert Watson. 304 pages. McClelland & Stewart, Toronto.

Alexander Porter he was christened. Being Scotch, the only place he ever received "Alexander" was in the family Bible and on the records of the parish register. As a school-boy he was "Sandy" and later, as a university student, he went as "Serious Sandy." His father had died when he was at the age of five leaving a wife and two children with no means of support beyond what he could earn by his own work. With the sterling qualities of his mother coming to the fore ground "Sandy" settled down to become a factor in the production of the family income and made good at the job. He had the soft heart of his poor week-knead father and the indomitable courage of his mother. Cleverness he inherited from both of them and put it to good use. The most of the tale is taken up with Sandy's boyhood. He escapes and experiences as well as some of his sorrows are related and for a lad in a quiet Scotch town he had a very adventurous period of growing up. In contrast with the fast motion of events in his youth, the calmer part of the story, after he had reached manhood is pleasing in its quiet restfulness.

From one ambition Sandy almost invariably leaped to something higher. In most cases we aim high and then concede a point now and then until the goal is very small when at last reached. With Sandy the aim was high and he added points along the way so that he might achieve a goal higher than the original aim. The only goal of which he despaired was Doreen Telford's love, because she was the doctor's daughter and "above him," but, as usual, he added a point or so on the way and won her.

As a story of life in a Scotch village the book is infinitely entertaining, and the further addition of such characters as Sandy, Gavie Rorleston, Doreen Telford, and many other notables, makes it a certain medium of satisfaction for any reader.

ADVERTISING AS A VOCATION.

By Frederick J. Allen, A.M. 178 pages. Price, \$2.25. The Macmillan Company of Canada, Toronto, Publishers.

Advertising as a vocation or a profession is daily coming to occupy a more and more important place in the world. Today tens of thousands of the brightest young men in Canada and the United States are adopting it as their life work. Any book, therefore, which will assist them in their chosen calling cannot but be helpful. The present reviewer, who has had some considerable experience in the newspaper advertising field, took up this book in a critical mood. He soon found that it was not alone a concise history of the development of advertising, but that it contained many important facts that characterized advertising as a vocation, including the ethical demands now made upon it by the business world. It tabulates the numerous forms and methods of publicity and the many mediums through which news and announcements about merchandise or various other things must be presented to public attention, for the purpose of increased sales. In his introduction the author says: "As a factor in distribution, advertising is essentially a means for making known to consumers the nature of goods offered for sale and their adaptability to the consumers' known or possible wants." Where could one find a better definition of advertising? The task undertaken by the author is mainly the arousing of a more intelligent interest in the business of advertising as a calling. The book aims to set forth some of the main points which must be considered in attempting to appreciate advertising as a business just as various publications, which have appeared during the past four or five years aim to present a clear statement of the service of advertising as a factor in distribution. It ought to be a distinct pleasure in helping one to choose that side of the advertising business to which his talents are best adapted. It ought to be valuable in suggesting means for preparing for a line of work once chosen. It ought to serve a useful purpose, also, in assisting any ambitious person engaged in advertising as a vocation to choose

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THE BRITISH CAMPAIGN IN FRANCE AND FLANDERS

By Arthur Conan Doyle. 397 Pages. Hodder & Stoughton, Ltd., Toronto and London, publishers.

This is the fourth volume of Conan Doyle's history of the great war. It covers the following phases of the conflict: The German retreat upon the Arras-Somme front, the battle of Arras (April 9th to April 23rd, 1917), operations in the Arras sector from April 23rd onwards, the battle of Messines, operations from June 10th to July 31st, the third battle of Ypres (July 31st to Nov. 10th, 1917), and the battle of Cambrai. Those who have read the previous volumes will not need to be told of the splendid service which this famous author, acting in the capacity of the official British historian of the war, has rendered to the Empire and the world at large by the thorough manner in which he is carrying through the tremendous task of putting on paper the deeds and accomplishments of the Empire's forces. The book is in no wise a criticism of any of the operations; he merely sets the salient facts and figures in a way to make them clear to minds not trained in military tactics. The work has been admirably done. From the Canadian point of view the book is lacking in detail. The Canadian corps, which was used in practically all the major operations of that year, except at Arras, is mentioned only as a whole. That is to say, no recognition is given to any body smaller than a brigade. We find the following reference to the Canadians: "During the night of the 9-10th April there was fighting at several points, notably at the north end of the Viary Ridge. Here the Fourth

BUFFALO BILL'S LIFE STORY.

An Autobiography. 328 pages. Price, \$3. Illustrated. Cosmopolitan Book Corporation, New York, Publishers.

"Buffalo Bill!" What romance surrounds the name! It thrills even when one was a boy privileged to feast upon stories of his adventures. Buffalo Bill's life is part of the wild, romantic, old far west, that is gone forever, transformed from wilderness to civilization within the span of a lifetime. His life story is one of the liveliest and most thrilling adventures romances America has produced, a life as a pony express rider, an Indian fighter, an army scout, a hunter and a showman—everything a changing frontier demanded. It is filled with daring exploits, with near escapes from death by torture by Indians, with great hunting stories, with adventures with great military leaders, with funny escapades, with the development and perfection of the idea of presenting to the world, through the means of a wild-west show, a picture of the life of the plains during their most attractive period. It is a book that will gladden the heart of every worth-while boy. It is more: it is an historical document of great value. This story is interesting to every one, for it is an important phase of American history graphically told by the one who knew it best. The book is cleverly illustrated by N. C. Wyeth.

WHEN BUFFALO RAN.

By George Bird Grinnell. 114 pages. Illustrated. Price, \$2.50. Yale University Press, New Haven and New York, publishers.

In a recently published autobiography Buffalo Bill has given us many interesting pictures of the life on the western plains during the early days of Indian warfare. This volume takes us still further back in history, even to the time before the white man made his appearance and began to challenge the right of the red man to the land of his fathers. It is a true story of Indian life before it was influenced in any way by the white man, taken from the recollection of a single Indian during his early youth up to the time of his marriage. It covers the most vivid interests in the life of this individual as reflected in his daily occupations. The style is light and easy, appealing to children from the ages of twelve to fourteen and upwards, especially to those who are interested in anthropology and sociology and those interested in Indian life. Many unusual photographic illustrations adorn the book.

CHANSONS OF FRENCH CANADA

A Quaint Collection of the Songs of Other Days. Copyrighted by the Canadian Pacific Railway.

From picturesque Chateau Frontenac, Quebec, has come a book with the title "Chansons of Old French Canada," to intrigue those who delight in resuscitations of music left forgotten in the byways of other centuries. It is a most attractive and interesting volume, and its covers, by Margaret Gascoigne, script by James Kennedy, and illustrations, with dashes of red supplementing black and white by Ethel Seath. There is a preface by C. Marius Barbeau, who rejoices that "in the desert of America uniformly the ancient rural districts of Quebec form a quaint oasis where industry and cupidry have not yet withered all local color, and individual bias or charlatanry and gaudy have not altogether vanished. Singing and story-telling in the old style still are casually indulged in by the people. It is refreshing, when a great deal of the modern music is either atrocious jazz or wishy-washy sentimental trash with no real heart in it, to come across something so attractive. The little French songs are so clear-cut, so tinkling, and with here and there a roaring chorus in them. The pathetic and the humorous are always hovering in the notes, close to each other all the time. The French words give the music a peculiar charm which no construction of the harsher English tongue could produce.

CANADIAN SINGERS AND THEIR SONGS

Compiled by Edward S. Caswell. 157 pages. McClelland & Stewart, Toronto, publishers.

Mr. Caswell, who is assistant librarian and secretary-treasurer of the Toronto public library, in this collection performed useful public service and at the same time given us a choice collection of Canadian verse in the authors' own handwriting. In most instances, with the poet's portrait as well. Not alone those who have some acquaintance with our Canadian poets, but to all lovers of poetry, this collection will strongly appeal. The selection has been carefully made, and this book may well be termed a challenge of gems. To have in their possession a few of the world-famous poems as "In Flanders Fields" and the hymn "What Friend We Have in Jesus," in the actual handwriting of the authors, reproduced in fac-simile, will be considered by many to be worth more in themselves than the price of the whole book.

BY SEA AND LAND.

By Lieut.-Commander E. Hiltoun-Young. 362 pages. T. C. & E. C. Jack, London, and T. Nelson & Son, Toronto, Publishers.

An English member of parliament, a landsman who never dreamed that he could be of use to his country as a soldier or a sailor, finds himself overcome by the wave of patriotism that swept over Great Britain in the early days of the war. "In our unilitary world," he says, "we thought that soldiers and sailors were soldiers and sailors; that we, on the other hand,

Canadian Division had some difficulty in holding its ground against several strong counter-attacks of the Germans. It is probably that no body of troops in the whole battle had a harder task, or stuck to it more tenaciously, than this division."

Regarding the operations in the Arras sector, April 23th, he writes: "The Canadians whose staying power in this long-drawn fighting was as remarkable as their valor, had taken Arras, together with a considerable section of trench upon either side of it. This fine assault was opposed by wire, by sunken roads and by a desperate hand-to-hand encounter amid the ruins, all of which failed to hold the Canadian infantry."

Re operations on May 3rd he writes: "The one outstanding success of the day was the capture of Fresnoy, which was carried out with the usual dash and gallantry of this veteran unit, whose worth had now been proved upon so many battle-fields."

WONDER-WHY STORIES.

By George Adam, edited by Max. Henkey. 152 pages. Price, \$1.25. George H. Doran Co., New York, publishers.

This book for parents and children was evolved as the result of a number of talks delivered by Adam in Emmanuel church, Montreal. They were accepted by the older people of the congregation in many instances as a basis of talk for the children at home. There is no gaudy saying the fact that the most important place in the average home that it should have. The fresh ideas and the interesting way in which they are presented will serve for this ministry at home and Sunday school. When you are tired and questioning the child mind may be that you have succeeded in preparing the way for the truth which you desire to impart. Dr. Adam's stories are so very unusual, and deal in such a dramatic way with the events of such universal interest that the child's mind is held and the child's interest is at once secured and held. Then when the inevitable query comes, "I wonder why?" the answer is eagerly sought for and when found is unforgettably impressive. The author does not hesitate to give an example of the method followed by the author, we cite the following story, entitled "Crossing The Ocean." First comes a description of such a trip, with its pleasures and its dangers; a reference to the great liners, and the "I wonder why" question is found out for you, boys and girls, what was the most important thing on ship." The captain said it wasn't him; he was not the first captain nor would he be the last. It wasn't the compass, because the ship could navigate without it. It wasn't the engine, because if it broke down, what could be hoisted and the shore reached. The chief engineer solved the problem. Pointing to a huge tank far down in the hold of the ship, he said: "The oil in that tank is the most important thing. Without the oil the engines could not run and the ship would not work to steer the ship to shore. Then the author applies the lesson, after this manner: "This is true to life. Oil is a smooth, a gentle thing, and gentleness is the most important thing in life. What is the highest type of man? A gentleman. What makes things go with smoothness? Why, gentleness. The Lord says: 'A soft answer turneth away wrath.' The great King David admitted this truth when he said: 'Thy gentleness has made me great.' What is it about mother that makes her so attractive, that makes us love her so? Her gentleness. So you see, what oil is to the ship on the great rolling sea, gentleness is to each one of us on our voyage across the great Sea of Life."

were civilians, and that to put ourselves forward as combatants would be to make ourselves ridiculous. So many people were running about and offering to do all sorts of things for which they were unqualified that it was better to stay quiet and not to add to an already regrettable confusion. If one was wanted one would be told."

But, fate intervened. There was a great pressure of work deciphering telegrams on board the Cyclops, which was the depot ship at the base of the Grand Fleet in Scapa Flow, and they had to be telegraphed for more decipherers. A friend had volunteered, and before he knew it the author had followed suit. Next morning they were on their way to join the fleet. From that moment adventure and danger were partners. In an admirably written vein he tells of his experiences in the bleak north of Scotland, of the training on board ship, of his transference to H.M.S. Iron Duke, of sudden warnings of danger and the precautions taken, the grand fleet at exercise in the North Sea, and of the burning death of every sailor to meet the Hun. Later he was transferred, along with a naval unit, to Serbia, and took part in a terrible retreat through that devastated country. The horrors and dangers are graphically depicted, and one shudders as he reads of them. Back to Harwich, with a commission for service on board H.M.S. Centaur, and more thrilling adventures follow. Next he finds himself with the naval sloop guns at Newport, Bains, on the Belgian coast. We are given an intimate sight of the method of fighting the Hun in this sector. Back to the old Vendictive as an officer goes our author, and fate afforded him the chance of participating in that glorious exploit at Zebruge. He gives a brilliant description of this immortal engagement, in many ways the most daring and picturesque in the annals of war. As if all of these varied experiences were not enough for one man, fate again interposed and we next find him commanding an armoured train south of Archangel. For hundreds of miles to the south he journeyed, fighting the Bolsheviks all the way. The hardships endured in this theatre were terrible, and the author does not hesitate to say that serious blunders were made by those higher up. However, he came out of the struggle safe, after four years of intense fighting on sea and land. The chronicle of his former landsman reads like a romance from the hand of some master novelist. Few if any of the books reviewed since the war began or ended give one quite so clear a picture

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of the struggle in all its phases. If you would know what the sailors endured in the long, freezing nights in the North Sea, where unending vigil was kept, read this book. If you would learn of how the war was carried on in the Balkans, how the gunboats operated on the Danube and how desolate is a land after the enemy had overrun it, read this book. If you would know the thrill of clearing the decks for action and closing in upon the German High Seas Fleet, of the attack upon the mole at Zebruge and the fearful struggle that took place before the canal was blocked, read this book. If you would learn something of the bleakness and cold of a Russian night, of threading the dense forests and being shot at by rifle and artillery at every turn, read this book. If you would know something of the inmost thought of a sailor or a soldier as he goes through all these death-defying exploits, read this book. As long as England can produce men who fight and write as this man does, she need never fear decadence.

Mrs. Lars Anderson Writing Novel. Mrs. Lars Anderson, who heretofore has confined her literary talents to writing of presidents and diplomats and fascinating foreign lands, has turned her thoughts fiction-ward and is at work on a real novel, which she calls in its embryonic state, "Lost Letters." The Page Company, who published Mrs. Anderson's first book, "The Spell of Japan," believe that the novel is going to be worth while and have it scheduled for publication early next year.

Second Printing of Leopard Prince. The Page Company, Boston, announce a second printing before publication of Nathan Gallister's new historical romance, "The Leopard Prince." A romance of Venice in the fourteenth century. Although this distinguished author hails from the "State of Presidents" he is a member of the Latin Academy as well as of the Societe Academique d'Histotre Internationale, both of which societies flourish in Paris, you know.

Advertisement for PRIMUS Baking Powder. Includes an illustration of a woman in a kitchen and text describing the product's benefits: "is pure, efficient and wholesome. It is prepared with choice ingredients, under ideal conditions and packed in air-tight containers. That is why it does its work in the oven and does not lose its strength in the mixing bowl. Guaranteed pure and free from alum by the makers." L. CHAPUT, FILS & CIE, Limited, MONTREAL.

Advertisement for Buck's "Happy Thought" Range. Includes an illustration of a large range and text: "Buck's 'Happy Thought' Range. And The Pride of Ownership. Not merely just as good—but better—more than a Range, a servant. The 'Happy Thought' is alive to the value of service—it breathes success under your guiding hand. It graces any kitchen—adds new interest to each day's cooking. Produces wonderful results as told you by your neighbor, she—who is fortunate enough to possess one. You should become a 'Happy Thought' owner—you will find it is more than actually dependable—it will make your workday easier. You will take an honest pride in ownership. In operation it is not unlike other Ranges—in results it dominates. We have 'Happy Thought' on our floor now and like to talk about it. Will you call and have it demonstrated? There is no obligation." McKelvey & Birch, Ltd. 65-71 BROCK ST. PHONE 237