

BOOKS

THE ROSARY OF PAN.

By A. M. Stephen. Toronto (McClelland & Stewart, Publishers). The title of this book of verse is rather enigmatic. On the face of it the association of the rosary with the pagan Pan is incongruous. But we must assume that the poet had some mystical motive in thus naming his productions, possibly he regards himself as a sort of Christian Pagan. Judged from this point of view there appears to be some basis for the combination, for many of his poems are an odd mixture of religion and sensuousness. Most of the verses are amorous addresses to a fair lady. From some of the poems, one gets the impression that sexual love and God are synonymous. What else does the following mean: "Within the white enchantment of Love's arms My quest was ended—God and I were one."

There is nothing elevated or mystical about such a religion—if such it can be called. It carries us back beyond Paganism, and beyond primitive man. It is the religion of the lower animal in us, and if it is the true religion we ought to canonize the libertine!

We do not wish to misrepresent Mr. Stephen's philosophy, and he may retort that this reviewer is a Philistine.—we sincerely hope so.

The poems are lyrical and are infused with a certain fashionable poetic feeling. Occasionally they rise to true poetic expression, as in the poem, "In the Pass," which contains some fine descriptive lines, and is clearly conceived and completely executed.

BEN KING'S VERSE.

Toronto: (McClelland and Stewart). \$1.75.

Humor is always a marketable quantity and humorous verse has a

Had a Weak Heart Was Very Nervous For Three Years

Miss Jessie Peterson, Zealandia, Sask., writes:—"I wish to let you know how much good Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills have done for me."

For nearly three years I was very badly run down, had a weak heart, and was so nervous that sometimes I would almost faint away.

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I cannot recommend your Pills enough, and I would advise anyone having a weak heart or troubled with nervousness to use them. Milburn's H. & N. Pills are 50c. a box at all dealers, or mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

reader sale than the serious kind. The verses in this volume have appeared in the American newspapers and they may be described as well up to the average. Ben King, we are informed in the foreword, was from childhood under the spell of music; he appears to have "lisped in numbers," and we are further told that he was the "Tom Hood from Michigan." His verse is certainly musical, and technically correct, but it never approaches to the poetical quality of that of Tom Hood. He might more correctly be compared with Whitcomb Riley, whom he seems to have set himself to imitate. Even in this comparison, he falls far short of his model, for there is a lack of that complete conception and magical execution which marked the works of Riley. Ben King was a facile versifier, and he no doubt wrote under pressure and had little time for reflection or artistic finishing, but there is nothing in this collection of his work to indicate that he was a poet, as Riley surely was.

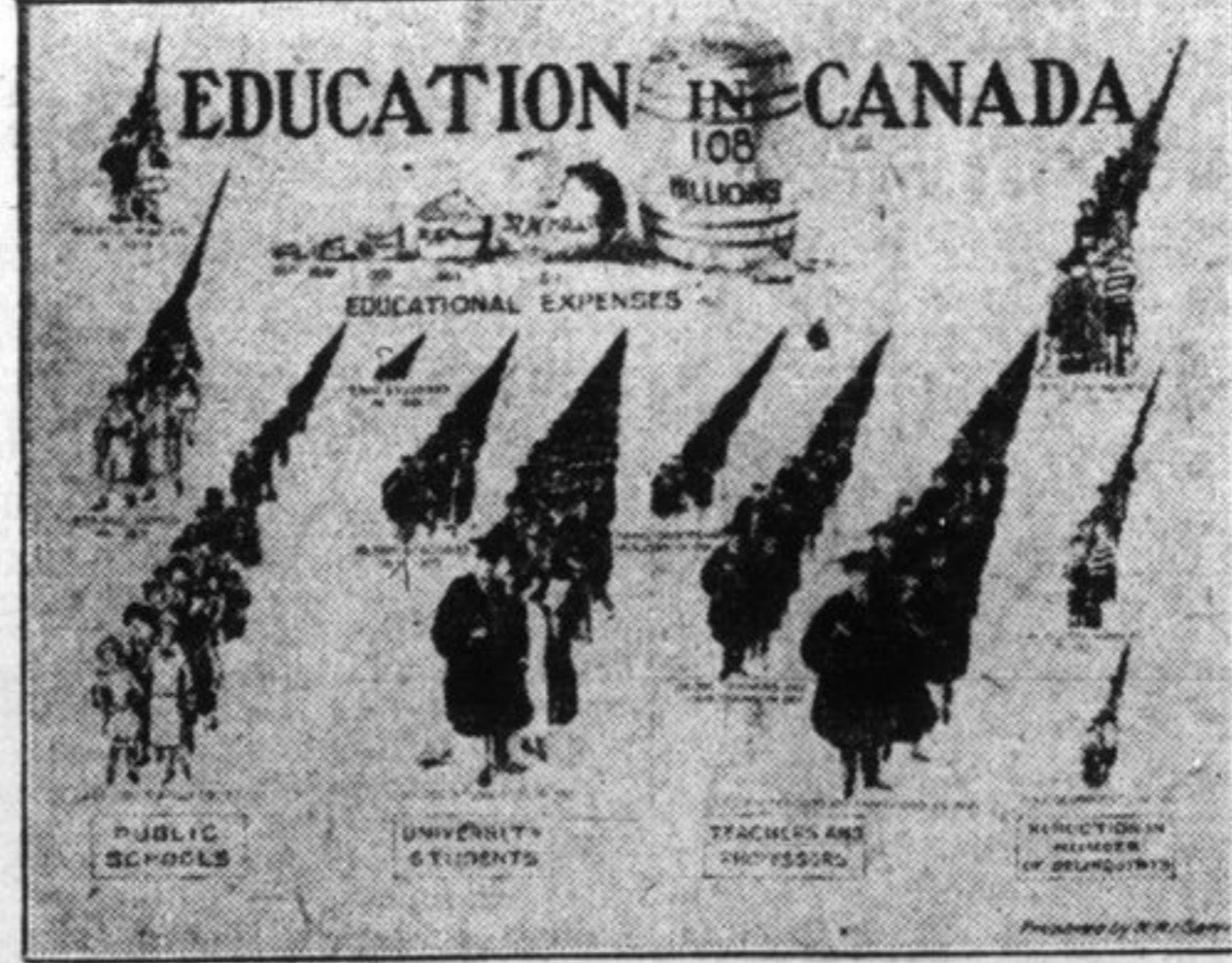
ANOTHER LAND OF OPPORTUNITY.

"Manchuria. Land of Opportunities." 175 pages. South Manchuria Railway, New York, 1922.

"Advertisement" is a term which covers not only a multitude of sins but also much valuable information. Thus, "Manchuria" justifies its title by being chiefly an account of the resources and development of that country and only secondarily a description of the South Manchuria Railway.

And yet Manchuria would seem to be the S. M. R. just as the Canadian west of the '80's was the C. P. R. It was unbroken country when the Trans-Siberian Railway was ceded to Japan at the close of the Russo-Japanese war. Immediately the little men set out to make an American railroad of it, and in a burst of patriotic fervor the Island Kingdom oversubscribed the capital stock of the company 1066 times. Since then its growth has been like that of a tropical vine. The excellent illustrations which form a third of this book tell the story of a railroad system which, in everything but length, equals the best to be found on this continent. Not only does the company operate railroads, shipping, harbors and hotels, but it has coal and iron mines, a modern steel plant, gas and electric stations, research bureaus, and a department for planning and administering the railway towns, which look far more substantial and clean than similar towns on this side of the Pacific. Agricultural Experimental Stations instituted by the company have resulted in improving the quality just as the railroad's financing and marketing facilities have vastly increased the quantity of agricultural products.

The book both in matter and illustration tells the familiar story of prosperity due to rapid yet far-sighted development and exploitation of natural resources. The unusual and endlessly surprising feature is that it has been done by an Eastern people imitating or improving on the methods of West-



CANADA SPENDS \$108,000,000 IN EDUCATION
Canada's appropriations for education increased from three and a quarter millions in 1871 to one hundred and eight million in 1921.

The chart also shows, at left, public school attendance, 1921, 129,600; 1911, 235,600; 1921, 355,500. University students, 1891, 3,700; 1915, 16,500; 1921, 34,700. Teachers and professors, 1891 3,700; 1911 23,400; 1921 63,300. Delinquency, 1891, 19 per cent; 1901, 14.4 per cent; 1921, 10.5 per cent.

The little volume is well worth looking through even casually and is to be found in the local Public Library.

SAGAS OF THE SEA.

By Archibald MacMechen. Publishers, J. M. Dent & Sons, Ltd., London and Toronto.

Two convenient hand books of the King's Treasures of Literature series, under the editorship of Sir A. T. Quiller Couch, have just been issued. One is "Sagas of the Sea," in which Archibald MacMechen tells true stories of the rock-bound coast of Nova Scotia, with a dramatic touch that will make his readers say "Verily truth is stranger than fiction." Nova Scotia's part in the struggle of the war of the American Revolution is made real in "The Sack of Lunenburg" and in the story of the thrilling adventure of gallant Lieutenant Prentiss who sailed the icy seas, was shipwrecked in a blinding snow storm, lost in the woods and finally, months afterwards, delivered his despatches to Sir Henry Clinton, who had given him up for lost. In the tale of "Jordan the Pirate," we come across the name of the founder of the Stairs family of Halifax, of which Capt. Stairs, a distinguished graduate of the Royal Military College, was a member, and a worthy descendant of the Capt. Stairs who fought the desperate pirate in 1809. He lost his life in Africa when serving with Stanley, and a tablet to his memory is in the hall of the Royal Military College.

THE STORY OF SIR ISAAC BROCK

By Walter R. Nursey. ("Canadian Heroes Series"). McClelland & Stewart, Toronto. Fourth edition.

This new and considerably enriched edition of a work which has been an essential part of the educational library of Canada since its first appearance in 1908 is dedicated to His Excellency, Baron Byng of Vimy, and contains a very interesting new preface and some supplemental pages bringing the narrative up to the close of the war of 1821 and thus giving the hero's achievements their proper setting in history. Nursey's "Brock" was originally planned for juvenile readers, but like all first-class juvenile books it has proved to have an irresistible attraction for adults. In the present edition it has much more of the appearance of a work for the general reader, and will assuredly enter on a career of greatly extended usefulness. In view of the wider public for which it is now intended it is a little surprising that the author has not made a few concessions to

the needs of the adult reader. It would have been just as well, for example, to have abandoned the literal copying of the title of the picture of the hero's birthplace; few ordinary readers know that the letter X was commonly used for a zero at the beginning of the nineteenth century, and that "18x6" therefore means "1806", and this explanation is tucked away in a note in the appendix. Some of Mr. Nursey's readers, and those not the least important, might have been incited to pursue the subject of Brock's achievements further if a more exact description of the original authorities had been afforded them, such as would have been out of place in a juvenile book or school text, but would please many serious adults. An additional map or two would do no harm, though it must be admitted that the author's geographical descriptions are unusually clear and practical, and show that an instinct for geography was a large part of Brock's military genius.

WHEN CANADA WAS NEW FRANCE.

By George H. Locke. Publishers, J. M. Dent & Son, London and Toronto.

The other book of this series is a third edition of "When Canada Was New France," an accurate and inspiring history written by George M. Locke, of the early days of white man's occupation of the land which Jacques Cartier named Canada, from the Indian word meaning a collection of huts. The writer has caught the romance of the days when courtly Frenchmen adventured forth to the new world in quest of gold and power, and we read the story of their dealings with the red men and their explorations into the interior of the land of great lakes, mighty rivers, and dense forests. This edition has been enriched by illustrations reproduced from the Iroquois Indian Groups, which form the Myron Clark Memorial in the Museum at Albany, N.Y.

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These bills must be opposed in the interest of justice and liberly. Do not be lulled into inaction by statements that the consummation of Union will make no change in your congregation.

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that under Church Union congregations are deprived of the right of calling their ministers as under the Presbyterian system. The right of appointment rests with the Settlement Committee, which has full power in the matter. This is one of a number of important changes which would be put into effect under present plans for Church Union. Do you want to retain the right to call your Minister?

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More Men Needed in Bush.
Fifty dollars a month and board is offered by lumber companies for men to work in the bush during the winter months. Some men have been sent forward through the Kingston employment office, but it is said that 300 or 400 are needed. All workmen in the building trades are still at work, but there are a few laborers seeking work each day.

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