

Latest Foreign News About Books.

London, December 28. Present indications are that the new year will open sluggishly in the book trade, with the usual talk about the necessity of reducing the output and of broadening the margin of profit.

Books People Are Reading.

NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY.—The most popular books of the week, according to the demands at the circulating department, are as follows:

Adult Fiction—Chambers' "The Fighting Chance"; McCutcheon's "Jane Cable"; Klein's "The Lion and the Mouse."

Juvenile Fiction—Barber's "The Crimson Sweater"; Alcott's "Little Women"; Lang's "Blue Fairy Book."

Miscellaneous—Shaw's "Three Plays for Puritans"; Hill's "Fighting a Fire"; Jackson's "Persia, Past and Present."

PHILADELPHIA FREE LIBRARY.—Philadelphia, Dec. 28.—The books most sought at the Philadelphia Free Public Library during the last week have been:

History—Sanderson's "Great Britain in Modern Africa"; Landman's "Golden Days of the Renaissance in Rome"; Petre's "Napoleon's Campaign in Poland"; Barrett's "Geronimo's Story of His Life"; Peck's "Twenty Years of the Republic."

Biography—Usher and Glover's "Napoleon's Voyages"; Davis's "Real Soldiers of Fortune"; Gruyer's "Napoleon, King of Elba"; Rosebery's "Lord Randolph Churchill"; Moffat's "Queen Louisa of Prussia."

Description and Travel—Smith's "In London Town"; Winters' "Nature in America"; Proprie's "Little Pilgrimages Among Bavarian Inns"; Johnson's "Highways and Byways of the Mississippi Valley"; Greeley's "Handbook of Polar Discoveries."

Miscellaneous—Hope's "India's Love Lyrics"; Dunne's "Dissertations by Mr. Dooley"; Foster's "The Practice of Diplomacy"; Chesterton's "Heretics"; Page's "The Coast of Bohemia"; Mowbray's "American Railroad Rates"; Parson's "Railways, the Trusts and the People."

Fiction—McGrath's "Half a Rogue"; Connor's "The Doctor"; Stanton's "Daughters of Destiny"; Benson's "By What Authority"; Fox's "A Knight of the Cumberland"; Waller's "Sanna"; White's "Slaves of Silence"; Walcott's "Blindfolded."

What N. Y. Booksellers Say They Are Selling Most.

The six best selling books in New York this week, as reported to The New York Tribune Weekly Review, were taken in the following order:

- 1. "The Fighting Chance".....Robert Chambers.....(D. Appleton & Co.).....\$1.50
2. "The Doctor".....Ralph Connor.....(Fleming H. Revell Company).....1.50
3. "The Call of the Blood".....Robert Hichens.....(The Macmillan Company).....1.50
4. "The Awakening of Helena Richie".....Margaret Deland.....(Harper & Bros.).....1.50
5. "White Fang".....Jack London.....(The Macmillan Company).....1.50
6. "Conston".....Winston Churchill.....(The Macmillan Company).....1.50

LITERARY NOTES.

William de Morgan, the author of "Joseph Vance," has written another novel, which will bear the odd title "Alice for Short." It will be published by Henry Holt & Co. in 1907.

More than twenty years ago Mr. J. M. Barrie scribbled on a bit of paper at Dumfries Academy the following note to accompany a contribution to the school magazine: "When you read the following article, I think I hear you exclaim, 'Who is this great literary genius appearing before our eyes and taking our hearts by storm?'"

Dr. Willis Fletcher Johnson's "Four Centuries of the Panama Canal" will be published in England by Cassell & Co., London.

William Dean Howells, in the current number of "The North American Review," has a paper on "The Fiction of John Oliver Hobbes." His vein is always kindly, but he does not hesitate to apply the hot iron to the tender spot.

A timely article in "The Popular Science Monthly" is Charles A. Byers' illustrated paper on "The Possibilities of the Salton Sea." The author explains the facts that have been made to check the overflows of the Colorado River into the Imperial Valley, and after describing the last attempt, on which over \$1,500,000 has been spent, concludes as follows: "A month later, however, the river rose to flood tide, and on the night of December 7, it again broke through its natural channel bounds and is again pouring into Salton Sink. The condition to-day is as bad as it was six months ago, and the possibilities of a permanent 'Salton Sea' are now more pronounced than ever." It is apparently "up to" Mr. Barham.

Some more or less interesting notes on the subject of literary composition are recorded in "Notes and Queries" as having been drawn from conversations with the late Canon Isaac Taylor:

PARIS FIRST NIGHTS.

Paris, December 28. A volume of "Mémoires de la Reine Hortense," which has just been issued by Ollendorff, is the work of Mlle. Cochelet, who has spicily interwoven a deal of the gossip and anecdote of an extremely interesting period. The book, accordingly, does not fail to be readable, despite a number of obvious and some less conspicuous inaccuracies. From Guilmot comes a valuable contribution to the literature of the African problem, in the shape of a work by Henry Cardier, professor of languages at the Collège de France. It bears the descriptive title of "Le Peuple d'Afrique du Cap au Zambèse et à l'Océan Indien." Le Mercure de France is bringing out this month a volume entitled "Charles Beaudelaire: Lettres, 1841-1866," covering the most interesting period in the life of that eccentric poetic genius. Suggestive of the season is Paul Bourquet's "Une Nuit de Noël sous la Terreur," just issued by d'Arragon. C. I. B.

Books People Are Reading.

BUFFALO PUBLIC LIBRARY.—Buffalo, Dec. 28.—According to the demands made at the Buffalo Public Library during the last week, the following named books were the most popular:

Fiction—Connor's "The Doctor, a Tale of the Rockies"; Burnham's "The Open Shutters"; Fozzard's "The Salt"; Hope's "Sloppy"; Kravonia.

Juvenile—Gibson's "In Eastern Wonderland"; Ward's "Betty Wales, Junior"; Hopkin's "The Sandman: More Farm Stories"; Lang's "The Story of John of Arc."

Miscellaneous—Bates' "Talks on Teaching Literature"; Benson's "A Thruces novel"; Dunne's "Dissertations by Mr. Dooley"; Nitobe's "Bushido, the Soul of Japan."

CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY.—Washington, Dec. 28.—The following list of books called for indicates the tastes of readers in the Library of Congress this week:

History—West's "Ancient History"; Creasey's "Fifteen Decisive Battles of the World"; "Cambridge Modern History"; "The History of Russia"; Descriptive and Travel—Kinglake's "Rothens"; Caldwell's "Romantic Cities of Provence"; Martin's "Fishes of Paris"; Lamsdale's "The Chateau de Touraine"; Trouver's "Highways and Byways in Dorset."

Fiction—Lott's "Disenchanted"; Meredith's "The Amazing Marriage"; Doyle's "Sir Nigel"; Cholmondeley's "Prisoners"; Kipling's "Puck of Pook's Hill"; Watanabe's "A Japanese Blossom."

BOSTON ATHENEUM.—Boston, Dec. 28.—Among the books most frequently in demand by Boston Athenæum readers during the week were the following:

Fiction—Hobbes' "The Dream and the Business"; Frothingham's "Dvasion"; Benson's "House of Quiet"; Winton's "Lady Baltimore"; Benson's "King's Achievement"; Fogazzaro's "The Saint"; Somerville and Ross's "Some Irish Yesterdays."

Miscellaneous—Hohenkhe's "Memoirs"; Howell's "English Towns"; Low Wallace's "Autobiography"; Stevenson's "Dickens"; Peizotto's "By Italian Seas."

DETECTIVE FINDS A WAY.

Magistrate Crane had laugh yesterday morning on the lawyers who practise in the Tombs court. The magistrate is noted for the promptness with which he opens court, and yesterday was on hand exactly at 9 o'clock. There were only fourteen prisoners, and in thirty minutes all the cases were disposed of. The magistrate promptly dismissed court, saying: "At last I have a chance to go to church on a Sunday court day, and I am going. The lawyers can see me to-morrow."

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MAGISTRATE DISPOSED OF ALL CASES BEFORE ANY COUNSEL ARRIVED.

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POLICEMAN WHO ARRESTED CARUSO UNABLE TO BRING COMPLAINANT INTO COURT.

Patrolman James J. Cain, who arrested Caruso and got into trouble Saturday through making an affidavit in the Harlem court that he had been unable to find Gustine Buto, of No. 1106 Sherman avenue, who was alleged, had been seriously hurt on Christmas Day by being struck by an iron bar in the hands of Giovanni Liberatore, of No. 476 West 165th street, made an affidavit in the Harlem court yesterday before Magistrate Barlow that he was still unable to find Buto and that he was not at his home in Sherman avenue.

CAIN SAYS HE CAN'T FIND BUTO.

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PARIS FIRST NIGHTS.

Lively Scenes in Theatres When New Plays Are Produced.

Paris, December 18. The "première" or theatrical first night in Paris is a social function of the highest importance. In the past fortnight no less than twelve new plays or revivals have been produced at the Paris theatres. These occasions have a flavor of their own, and it was the good fortune of the present writer to have piloted a young married couple from New York amid this maze of dramatic bewilderment, which they found so different from anything of the kind at home that their impressions seem likely to interest theatregoing people in New York, for these Parisian premières are full of surprises and fascinations for foreigners who witness them for the first time. The interest is by no means centred on the stage. Leading men and women in politics, literature, art, fashion or bohemianism will be found collected in the theatre and sitting as a self-constituted Areopagus to pronounce judgment not only upon the new play, but also upon the latest triumphs of millinery and dressmaking. The present Prime Minister, M. Clemenceau, seldom misses a première, and between the acts important political conversations are often held on the neutral ground of the playhouse.

The première is, moreover, a field night for smart Parisian women. Almost any performance at a Paris theatre is a pretty sight, so fresh and in such simplicity of taste are the toilets; all, however, are in visiting dress, except at the Opera, Opéra Comique, Théâtre Français, Théâtre Sarah Bernhardt and the new Théâtre Réjane, the latest and most luxurious expression of Parisian taste and comfort, and where the women in the orchestra stalls wear evening gowns, often décolleté, and without hats. In the boxes and balconies one frequently sees smartly dressed women in low neck dinner dresses, wearing beautiful hats. The effect is graceful and artistic. On the first nights, however, in every part of the house, from roof to floor, are exquisitely dressed women, sparkling in jewels and rare gems. In the orchestra stalls heads are bare or adorned with sprays of pearls, tiaras of diamonds or clusters of rubies or emeralds. In the balconies and boxes gowns fresh from the ateliers in the Rue de la Lait are crowned with wonderful hats, and multi-colored feathers nod and wave with the emotions of their wearers. Instead of tiaras, the women in the balcony wear marvelous necklaces, ropes of pearls and flashing pendants.

Directly you enter the house you see that something unusual is on foot. Leaving their rich furs with the sharp faced old women—veritable harpies, the scourges of the Paris theatre—who, under the pretext of taking care of your wraps carry on a kind of licensed mendicancy at the cloak room—women stroll round the corridors with their attendant cavaliers, meeting friends at every step. None dream of taking possession of their seats until the electric stage bell rings through the house.

When the curtain goes up the seats are filled with a silent, attentive and critical audience, who are seldom led away by admiration for a particular artist to applaud a weak play. But if the author makes a hit it is acknowledged instantly and spontaneously. Then the curtain falls, but rises again to enable the leading actor or actress to announce the name of the author of the play.

This first interval is a busy one. All rise from their places. Groups form, greetings and introductions are exchanged, the sprinkling of Cabinet Ministers gravitate together, men in tuxedoed shirt fronts carry messages from stalls to boxes, and a procession then forms to the foyer. Every theatre has its foyer, or hall for promenading. At the Opera House it is large and spacious; at the Opéra Comique it is dainty and gay. The latest Paris theatre, opened by Mme. Réjane on the fifteenth of this month, has perhaps the prettiest and most spacious of all, with, in addition, a gallery for an orchestra.

In a few minutes the foyer is crowded, and a lively buzz of conversation is going on. This is the time to see the latest creations of the dress-makers. This, indeed, is Vandy Fair, at its prettiest, its most attractive and its best. Beauty holds court, compliments are exchanged, appointments made. The play is forgotten; the function has changed into a conversation.

In these brilliant assemblies one element is conspicuous by its absence. It is that of the Parisian girl. Society débutantes go little to plays, except to classical matinees at the Français. Still less would their parents dream of taking them to premières. Indeed, few plays performed on the Paris stage are at all suited for the mind of the marriageable young girl. Therefore, at a première, although the house is filled with youth and beauty, it is with youth and beauty ripened by philosophical reflection or experience.

In the second interval a number of persons remain in their seats, especially in the boxes, and this is the time for paying calls. By this time all have found their friends and can go and chat in comparative privacy with them. Very good critics are these people. By the end of the second act judgments are formed, and either success is assured or failure predicted.

In the third interval there is a demand for refreshments. Boxes of chocolates are opened, and the festive supper party at some fashionable restaurant, which is to close the evening, is arranged. Back in their places the brilliant company closely watch the last act, applaud, if they think the situation deserves it, and when the curtain falls for the last time, and the stars of the cast have made their last bows, the house empties as if by magic, the lovely frocks and pretty veivers melt into the night and the première is over.

It may be noted that the strange reports circulated abroad, according to which an enterprising Armenian had set up voting apparatus in certain Paris theatres so that people, when leaving, might, with little trouble, cast votes as to whether they considered the performance good or bad, are purely imaginative. No such apparatus has been seen at any of the leading theatres in Paris, and inquiries among theatrical managers indicate that such an invention would not be likely to become popular in Paris, where people leave the theatre in too much of a hurry to consider it worth while to express their opinions of the play, which they can readily do next day in the newspapers. C. I. B.

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TO-DAY TO-DAY A REVIEW and FORECAST Retrospect of the Financial Year 1906 Outlook for the Financial Year 1907 The Evening Post Publishes to-day, immediately after the closing of the New York Stock Exchange, its Special Financial Supplement for 1906 and Forecast of 1907. It will consist of twenty regular size pages of seven columns each. THE TABLES—The tables will be the most complete and comprehensive ever compiled. They will comprise, besides the highest, lowest, and closing prices, and net changes of the year, in all securities dealt in on the Stock Exchange, the similar statistics of important securities, Government and corporation, dealt in on other domestic and European stock exchanges. CHRONOLOGICAL RECORD—It will contain a feature which gained much popularity in the editions of the last seven years—a very complete chronological record of the year's important financial events, each incident following under its proper date. FINANCIAL DISPATCHES—It will also contain dispatches on the financial situation and the outlook for 1907 in Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Pittsburgh; from Kansas, the Pacific coast, Texas, Minnesota and the Eastern cotton States; from London, Paris and Berlin; retrospect and forecast in the iron, cotton, grain, and other staple markets; the views of railway officers on the outlook in that industry. THE YEAR'S RECORD—Also articles by experts on the events of 1906 and the outlook for 1907 in the commercial markets, with record of the highest, lowest and closing prices and net changes, in iron, cotton, wheat, corn, and other commodities; the date of the high and low prices in such markets, and for comparison, the "record prices" of the present generation. Similar tables will be included for the money market; the reserves, deposits, and loans for the New York City banks and of the principal European banks; the holdings of the United States Treasury; the export and import trade in merchandise, gold and silver of the United States and Great Britain. In all these departments the high and low records of 1906, compared with those of 1905, and of earlier years, are set forth in clear and attractive shape. THESE TABLES, never compiled by any daily newspaper except THE EVENING POST, will be invaluable to any well-equipped banking or economic library. Those desiring one or more copies of this edition to keep for reference, can secure them by ordering through their newsdealer or by applying direct to the publication office. This issue will also contain a section of fourteen pages devoted entirely to a Review and Forecast of the Real Estate Years 1906-1907 Modelled after its famous financial review and published this year, for the second time. Among the well-known authorities in the real estate world who will contribute are the following: Robert E. Dowling—William H. Chesbrough—B. Aymar Sands—Daniel B. Freedman—Theodore Starrett—Joseph P. Day—Isaac W. MacLay—Lawson Purdy—Lawrence Veiller—Charles Griffith Moses—John L. Parish—Edwin Hess—George Slawson—Edward McVicker—J. Clarence Davies—Albert B. Ashforth. The Evening Post The Recognized Daily Financial Authority 206-210 Broadway, New York

NEW YEAR'S DAY or any other day in the year. GOLF. One of the best 18-hole courses in America, always in commission. Ideal turf. Splendidly kept greens and well-managed club house at Atlantic City, NEW JERSEY. Special preparations have been made for the entertainment of guests over New Year's. Write for information, rates, etc., to any of THE LEADING HOTELS. MARLBOROUGH, THE WILSHIRE, BLENNHEIM, HOTEL TRAYMORE, HADDON HALL, CHALFONTE, HOTEL ST. CHARLES, HOTEL RUDOLF, GALEN HALL, HOTEL DENNIS.

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HOTEL DENNIS, ATLANTIC CITY, N. J. OPEN THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. Special preparations and attractions being arranged for the holidays. Over \$300,000 expended in improvements and additions since last season. ONE HUNDRED PRIVATE BATHS, BOTH SEA AND FRESH WATER. WALTER J. BUZBY, Owner and Proprietor.

FRENCH STUDENTS' BALL TO-NIGHT. The annual midwinter carnival of the French Students will be held at the Grand Central Palace to-night. Handsome gifts will be presented to the women.

Winter Resorts. FLORIDA. FLORIDA. FLORIDA EAST COAST SOLID PULLMAN TRAINS To St. Augustine from New York and Chicago En route to the De Luxe Winter Resorts—Ormond, Palm Beach, Miami, Havana, Cuba, and Nassau, Bahamas. Souvenir Booklet, Tickets, Full Information, Reservation at Hotels and Sleeping Car Space on application to FLORIDA EAST COAST RY. NEW YORK OFFICE 245 Fifth Avenue GENERAL OFFICE St. Augustine, Fla. CHICAGO OFFICE 139 Adams Street

THE BELLEVUE AND COTTAGES, BELLEAIR, FLORIDA. Opens Saturday, January 12th, 1907. THE CENTRE OF WINTER GOLF. Hunting, Driving, Riding, Golfing, Sailing, Fishing and Bathing. Illustrated Booklet on application. Address: B. H. YARD, Manager, 71 Broadway, New York, until Jan. 1st. After that date to Belleair, Fla.

CHALFONTE ATLANTIC CITY, N. J. ON THE BEACH. FIREPROOF. ALWAYS OPEN. THE LEEDS COMPANY. HOTEL TRAYMORE ATLANTIC CITY. Overlooking the Ocean. Open all the year. TRAYMORE HOTEL CO. CHAS. O. MARGUETTE, D. S. WHITE, Manager, President.

THE PENNHURST Atlantic City, N. J. Rooms on suite, with baths; long distance phones in rooms; elevator to street. Special Winter rates. WM. R. HOOD. HOTEL RUDOLF. Directly on the Beach. Special Winter Rates.

Marlborough-Blenheim ATLANTIC CITY, N. J. RAN POOL PARLOR WITHOUT LICENSE. Captain Shaw Raids Suspected Gambling Place, but Gets No Evidence. Harry Jacobs, who conducts a pool parlor at Nos. 7 and 9 East 4th street, was in the Yorkville court yesterday morning, charged with running the place without a license. He was arrested at midnight on Saturday by Captain Shaw, of the 5th street station, who suspected that gambling was going on in the place. The door was slammed in the captain's face, but he

The Lakewood Hotel LAKEWOOD, N. J. "The Hotel that made Lakewood famous." 400 handsomely furnished rooms, one-half en suite with private bath and open wood fires. The cuisine and service equal those of the famous restaurants of New York and Paris. A hotel for those accustomed to the best. TO LAKEWOOD BY AUTOMOBILE: splendid roads and the Lakewood Hotel Palm Room at the end. The trip can be made from New York in 3 1/2 hours. Write for road map; free. AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN PLAN. CARL BERGER.

NEW YORK. ELEGANTLY FURNISHED APARTMENT. 12 rooms bath, \$150 daily; including meals, two, \$12 weekly; one, \$118. THE ALABAMA, 15 E. 11th St.

VIRGINIA HOT SPRINGS NEW YORK OFFICE, 245 FIFTH AVENUE. Rates bath, \$1.50 daily; including meals, two, \$12 weekly; one, \$118. THE ALABAMA, 15 E. 11th St.

HAMILTON HOTEL BERMUDA OPEN DECEMBER TO MAY Elevated location, overlooking city, harbor and Victoria Park; send for illustrated booklet. A. C. BROOKS, Manager.

was finally admitted. No evidence of gambling was found. The police said they heard the chink of money and chips being tossed. In court Jacobs said he did not know he had a license. Jacobs promised to get a license, and was paroled until this afternoon.