

# BOOK PAGE OF THE SUNDAY CALL

CONDUCTED BY UNA H. H. COOL

## PICTURES FROM "IN CLOSED TERRITORY"



EDGAR BEECHER BRONSON AND TOPI BULL HIT BETWEEN



'AN OLD VELD T MONARCH



ISLAND BULL SHOT BY THE AUTHOR



RESTING— AFTER THE ELEPHANT KILL.



WATER PYTHON, SEVENTEEN FEET, FOUR INCHES LONG, NEAR JUNA FARM.



MASAI BONNIE

### "In Closed Territory"

By Edgar Beecher Bronson. Published by A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago. Price \$1.75.

EDGAR BEECHER BRONSON, author of "In Closed Territory," and the "Reminiscences of a Ranchman," is a writer of absorbing interest and one with a clear cut style. The secret of these qualities is that he was a man of action before he was a writer, and saw and felt all he describes before he tried to write about it. Forty years ago he went into the west in search of health and fortune. He progressed from tenderfoot to cowboy, from cowboy to ranch owner and from ranch owner to banker. After writing the reminiscences of those days he went into South Africa and his present book is based upon his experiences there, hunting big game "in closed territory," south and west of Nairobi, which Colonel Roosevelt has made his headquarters for the past 10 months on the trail and brought home with him a magnificent collection of skins and heads.

The introduction to the book is written by Dr. W. T. Hornaday, the director of the New York zoological park. Doctor Hornaday deprecates the fact that so many hunters think the killing of game is the sole end of hunting, and more right of the public interest of the plant life and the character of the country in which the game lives and which, indeed, is responsible for the character of the game. He congratulates Mr. Bronson upon the fact that in his book the beauty and other aspects of the African nature are portrayed in a

manner that brings the reader in closest touch with the hunter and his surroundings.

Doctor Hornaday discusses most suggestively the future of big game. Among other things he says: "Five hundred years from now when North America is worn out and wasted to a skeleton of what it now is, the great plateau region of East Africa, between Cape Town and Lake Rudolf, will be a mighty empire, teeming with a white population. Giraffes and rhinoceroses are now trampling over the sites of future cities and universities. Then the game herds, outside of the preserves, will exist only in memory and in the pages of such books as 'In Closed Territory' and in other books by hunters who shoot for themselves and write for the pleasure of their friends."

The book is filled from cover to cover with the best hunting stories which have appeared in years. The author's great experience and modest manner of telling convince one of their truth. The book is a preliminary to what we may expect when Colonel Roosevelt gets home and settles down to writing. But it is hard to believe that any will be able to write more entertainingly than Mr. Bronson.

The book is embellished by nearly 100 illustrations from photographs by the author, which add much to the interest of the text.

### "Lost Face"

By Jack London. Published by the Macmillan company, New York. Price \$1.50.

The newest Jack London book is a collection of seven short stories of the far north, that country where Jack London is more at home than in civilization. The first one, from which the book takes its name, is a strong tale and tells how a Pole, Sublenkow, after a life of nothing but savagery, is at last made prisoner by a band of Nulato Indians, who intend to torture him to death. Big Ivan, his companion, is almost dead and his sufferings have been terrible. The sound of Ivan's screams and groans from each attack of fendish barbarity is more than Sublenkow can endure, but by a great effort of will he controls his hysteria and sets his wits to work. The description of how he outwits Makamuk, the head of the tribe, is dramatic, and the tale is brought to its logical climax as only London can do it. There is a tragic sort of humor in the tale, only Sublenkow doesn't quite appreciate it as we do.

There is near tragedy in the tale entitled "Trust" too, though its successful ending leaves the reader in a happier frame of mind than after the other story. The description of the young trustee's race down the river and over Chilcoot to stop the boat is harrowing, but one's blood surges in admiration of the indomitable pluck of the young man in overcoming almost insurmountable obstacles.

The stories show the author's steady improvement in style. Many of the crudities of his earlier writings have disappeared but none of his force and vigor.

### "The Faith Healer"

By William Vaughn Moody. Author of "The Great Divide." Published by the Macmillan company, New York. Price \$1.50.

"The Faith Healer," the play by William Vaughn Moody, is just published. One scarcely wonders at the tremendous success of this play in the eastern states, for it is a subject more and more before the public every day. This play is a few days' episode in the life of the healer. He has prepared himself for years by prayer and study and has been waiting for a sign that the time has come when he may demonstrate his power. Just as he finds himself successful he also finds love, and thinks that that will take away his powers. A vision comes to him, which proves that he was wrong. He says: "I had thought love denied to such as had my work to do, and in the darkness of that thought disaster overwhelmed me. I have come to know that God does not deny love to any of his children, but gives it as a beautiful and simple gift to them all."

The lines are not particularly clever, but the story told will interest many readers. The greatest defect is its lack of humor. It is too monotonous. "The Great Divide" is a far stronger play.

### "Maida's Little Shop"

By Inez Haynes Gillmore. Published by B. W. Huebsch, New York. Price \$1.25.

The overdrawn and fantastic novel which appeared a couple of years ago did not prepare the public for this charming book. Mrs. Gillmore has redeemed herself. She has shaken off the influence of Gelett Burgess. All that was worst in his writing was found in her work and nothing of his cleverness. This is a child's story, but the mother who reads it aloud to the child will enjoy it quite as much as do the youngsters. Maida is a convincing little girl with a very sweet disposition. She is delicate when we first know her and her fragility wins much sympathy. As her character is developed by the author we get to love her just because she is Maida and not because she has been in need of sympathy.

Maida is born with a golden spoon in her mouth and has her every wish gratified. The greatest in the world, however, to keep a store. You must read the book to find out how that came about. The recital of the little girl's adventures, her difficulties, her joys and sorrows is so graphic that it is difficult to believe it is all a story. The other characters in the tale are brought to life and interest. Maida is at last quite well and happy and at the end of the book is going off to Europe. She will come back, we can be quite sure. Mrs. Gillmore must tell us more about her. One of the best children's books of the season.

### "An Admiral's Log"

By Robley D. Evans. Published by D. Appleton & Co., New York and London. Price \$2.

"An Admiral's Log" is the title of the second book by Rear Admiral Robley D. Evans and is a continuation of his recollections of naval life. The first one, "A Sailor's Log," appeared a few years ago and the interest in it was not confined to friends and publishers. The book was a great success, receiving hearty praise everywhere. This book takes up the author's life after the Spanish war and continues to the date of his retirement from active service at the age of 62.

While the portion of the book telling of the great trip from Hampton roads to San Francisco is of the greatest interest, we have had that told by several others before, and the newspapers at the time gave all details. The account of every experience through which the author passed is marked by extreme modesty. His style is simple and direct. His information is not burdened with technicalities which would bore the layman in reading.

Admiral Evans' life has been one long romance and he retired full of years and honor. The book is illustrated with a number of interesting photographs of people and places and many of the author himself. The book takes its place in the historical literature of the country.

### "The Danger Trail"

By James Oliver Curwood, author of "The Courage of Captain Plum," etc. Published by the Bobbs-Merrill company, Indianapolis. Price \$1.50.

John Howland Little thinks he is to be the hero of romance and adventure when he starts for Le Pas to take charge of the building of the Hudson bay railroad. He is only filled with a great satisfaction at the thought of promotion and success, for he is entirely a self-made man, having started in life as a little ragamuffin selling papers in the streets of Chicago. He has always had a tremendous ambition and with it possesses the dogged persistence necessary for success.

He arrives at Prince Albert, where he must rest over night, starting by sled and handcar for his destination the next morning. During the evening, to pass an idle hour, he wanders out to the street and catches a glimpse of a very beautiful girl. Before he can do more than engrave her face upon his memory she is gone and he idly walks on and on the porch, rehearsing the scene in his mind. She is a character, he discovers, but just as his tea arrives the same beautiful girl comes in and also orders tea. She shows him plainly that she would like to have him join her, and when he goes to her table and speaks he is astounded to have her write that she can hear him from the city. She further confesses that she is in trouble and begs for his help.

More than ordinary chivalry prompts Howland to go with her, and they take a trail leading out of town. When but a short distance out he is set upon from ambush and injured, but is carried back to his rough hotel by a halfbreed who has seen him there earlier in the evening.

This is the beginning of a wild and mysterious chain of adventures which would have discouraged most men, but Howland is decidedly out of the ordinary, and the more obstacles he encounters the more determined he is to succeed.

The secret of the opposition to him is kept up to the last moment and is very cleverly handled. One reads on to the end with breathless excitement, feeling that the author knows his ground and has his plot well in hand from the very first. The story is all of the great out of doors. Primitive nature and primitive people are the stage and characters, but all breathing life. Mr. Curwood shares the honors easily with Rex Beach and other novelists who have pictured the frozen north. He knows the forest isolation and the white immensities as though he were one of the wild people whom he writes of. It is a vivid and strong picture of the north.

### "The Snare of Circumstance"

By Edith E. Buckley. Published by Little, Brown & Co., Boston. Price \$1.50.

Despite the phenomenal success of Anna Katherine Green there have been comparatively few women writers who have succeeded as authors of murder mystery stories. This story tells of a crime which has been committed three years before the story opens. Peter Lompers has been found in his study murdered, and his nephew, who has not been upon good terms with him, is suspected of the crime. They have had a serious quarrel and the nephew, after leaving him, has returned to the house, supposedly for his suit case. At the trial he is unable to prove an alibi and is convicted. An appeal is taken and at the second trial a clergyman comes forward and says that the young man was with him at the hour of the murder. Though this evidence results in his acquittal, many of the townspeople are still unconvinced and regard the clergyman's testimony with suspicion. The love episode is scarcely satisfactory, the heroine being a colorless character awakening little interest.

The book is well printed and artistically bound, and contains some good illustrations by Arthur E. Becher.

### "Idols of Education"

By Prof. Charles Mills Gayley. Published by Doubleday, Page & Co., New York. Price 50 cents.

THE PROFESSOR Gayley has said all he has to say in this little book there is little left for us to answer. He tears the present system of education to tatters and, while he may seem to go to extremes in some of his statements, on the whole he is right. Much as it may hurt to read his arraignment it will do some good, let us hope, in the end.

This book is a plea for common sense in the management of our educational system, and who can resist that? Every parent must be interested, and though the reforms suggested may come slowly, yet they are bound to come in time. The book contains 17 chapters, each one of which is filled with quotable passages. The second chapter, "An Indifferent Generation," is perhaps as severe as any, but who can quarrel with the professor when he says that the world of learning was never better than now, and that our young people were never more indifferent? To quote:

"How many nights a week does the student spend in pursuits nonacademic; how great a proportion of his days? What with so called 'college activities,' by which he must prove his allegiance to the university and social functions by which he must recreate his jaded soul, no margin is left for the one and only thing which is study. Class meetings, business meetings, committee meetings, editorial meetings, football rallies, baseball rallies, pajama parties, vicarious athletics on the bleachers, garrulous athletics in dining room parlors and on the porch, rehearsals of the club club, rehearsals of the mandolin and of the banjo, rehearsals for dramatics (a word to stand the hair on end), college dances and class banquets, fraternity dances and suppers, preparations for the dances and banquets, more committees for the preparations; a running up and down the campus for ephemeral items for a soliciting of advertisements, running up and down for subscriptions to the dances and dinners and the papers and the clubs; a running up and down in college politics, making tickets, pulling wires, adjusting combinations, canvassing for votes, canvassing for votes, spending hours at sorority houses for sentiment; talking rubbish unceasingly, thinking rubbish, revamping rubbish, rubbish about high jinks, rubbish about low, rubbish about rallies, rubbish about pseudo civic honor, rubbish about girls; what margin of leisure is left for the one activity of the college, which is study?"

The foundation is weak, says Professor Gayley, and the majority of the liberal students do not know the rudiments of one subject thoroughly. They can not reason accurately, think clearly nor express their thoughts effectively and correctly. Again, to quote:

"How many can spell, how many write a letter not illiterate; how many use a diction simple, pure and idiomatic, clearly enounced, justly pronounced?"

We know, too, that his next questioning denunciation is only too true:

"How many know the difference between Sennacherib and a floating rib, the Maid of Orleans and the Maid of Athens, the Witch of Endor and the Widow of Nain, Dionysius and Dionysus, the jewels of Cornelia and the diamond necklace, the Lion of Judah and the Lion of the North? Or, if some have some vague impression of some of these things, for how many do they possess an historical or literary flavor? If a speaker refer to Apollon or the Hony-hums; to the Delocatable Mountains or Mount Hymattus, or the Horn of Rommel; if he quote a line of Horace, a French bon mot or a German commonplace; if he refer to the Seven against Thebes, the Electra, the Buscolles, the Telemague, the Sorrows of Werther, to Glottio's O or Botticelli's Spring, to Gargantua or Pompella, how many eyes light with recognition?"

The author is not scolding entirely because the students do not know all these things. The system has been defective for long; so long that many of his criticisms apply to those teaching in the fine institutions of the country. He says: "Our Ph. D.'s are lamentably prone to error in the use of their own tongue. Of the later crop of instructors in universities, some say, 'I don't,' 'hospitable,' 'lucky,' 'exquisite,' 'mineralogy'—confessing that 'they hadn't ought to'; others never fall, they 'fall down'; they never win, they 'win out'; they are never at a loss, though they are frequently 'up against it.'"

The motto on the title page is taken

### New Books Briefly Noted

The green and white and gold cover of "The Book of Easter" is full of springtime suggestion, and its contents carry out the idea. All of the many selections are concerned with the spring; some of the Easter season from the religious standpoint, some from the natural. The customs and beliefs connected with this new life idea are all set forth in the various articles. These contributions are from every possible source—from the Bible to Robert Herrick, from the Brownings to Charles G. D. Roberts, from Hans Andersen to Thomas Hardy. There are many illustrations, some reproductions of famous pictures and some decorative drawings of George Wharton Edwards. Bishop William Crosswell Doane writes an excellent introductory which is interesting in itself. The book is timely and attractive. (The Macmillan company, New York. \$1.25.)

Dr. Horatio W. Dresser, author of "The Power of Silence" and "A Physician to the Soul," has found so many friends for his books that he has been encouraged to collect more essays and letters on his favorite topic and present them to the public. "A Message to the Well" is the title of his newest book, and its practical quality will appeal strongly to all readers. He says that this book belongs with the two already mentioned and "Health and the Inner Life" and "A Book of Secrets," all of which outline a general practical faith in relation to health. They will be found of great help to those who are interested in the new thought ideas. (G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. \$1.25.)

### BOOKS REVIEWED

- "In Closed Territory," by Edgar Beecher Bronson
- "Idols of Education," by Prof. Charles Mills Gayley
- "Maida's Little Shop," by Inez Haynes Gillmore
- "From the Bottom Up," by Alexander Irvine
- "The Snare of Circumstance," by Edith E. Buckley
- "The Faith Healer," by William Vaughn Moody
- "An Admiral's Log," by Robley D. Evans
- "Lost Face," by Jack London
- "The Danger Trail," by James Oliver Curwood

### "From the Bottom Up"

By Alexander Irvine. Published by Doubleday, Page & Co., New York. Price \$1.50.

What reads like a very human document is a unique autobiography entitled "From the Bottom Up." It is written by Alexander Irvine, now "lay minister" of the Church of the Ascension in New York city. The book is the story of his life and the author has succeeded in making every page interesting.

He was born of poor Irish parents, his father being a shoe maker. Each of his brothers and sisters had, therefore, to go out into the world and work as soon as they were able. There was little time or inclination in Ireland, among that class of people, to acquire an education, and only the great natural force of character possessed by Irvine made him ambitious to succeed. He worked constantly and has been ditch digger, soldier, miner, socialist and preacher. Always he has spent every spare moment in study and forced himself to the top.

This book might well be placed with the supplementary reading in a study of socialism. It is a picture of life from the side of the laborer, but of an honest and willing laborer, not the lazy, shiftless one always ready to cry "Down with aristocracy." The author says that the facts and experiences of life led him to socialism and in the last chapter of the book, "My Socialism, My Religion and My Home," he expresses his whole belief in his ambition. He writes in the simplest of language he tells his story and that chapter alone, the result of his life's experience, is a lesson. He says:

"Socialism is a passion for the regeneration of society; it is a state of mind, a point of view. The religion of the peasant Saviour and the movement for industrial democracy expand as they are understood. Both thrive under opposition and are retarded only by unfaithful friends. I caught the spirit, then studied the forms. I got tired of doing out aims. It became degrading to me to take them from the rich or to give them to the poor. Almsgiving deludes the one and demoralizes the other. I had distributed the crumbs that fell from rich men's tables until my soul became sick. I expected Lazarus, the legion, to be grateful. I expected him to become pious, to attend church, to number himself with the saved, and he didn't. Almsgiving not only degrades the recipient, but the medium also."

Reflections like these drove the author to serious study of the great problem of living. He says: "My socialism is the outcome of my desire to make real the dream I have dreamed of God. It came to me, not through Marx or Lassalle, but by the way of Moses and Jesus."

The early socialists met their worst opposition in a corrupt church and their writings were colored by the conflict. We are asked to stand sponsor for all they said. One might as well charge twentieth century Christians with the horrors of the Inquisition!"

Here is the first writer on the subject who, while frankly believing in the great principle of socialism, does not hesitate to say common sense must be used in handling the subject. He says the methods of accomplishment are not what they might have been centuries ago:

"The remedy is not revolution in the historic sense; it is not a cataclysm; it has no room for hatred. Its method is revolutionary; its watchword is solidarity; it is the hope of regeneration."

The book is interesting throughout and a remarkable exhibition of the possible rewards of ambition and labor.

### Gossip of Books and Writers

We have novels by authors in almost every walk of life, but "Cab No. 44," published by Stokes, shows some thing new in the way of authorship. R. F. Foster, who wrote it, has been to every house keeper who desires to economize without having her family suffer.

N. J. Locke, author of "The Morals of Marcus Ordeyne," was recently named as correspondent in an undefended divorce suit.

**Books Received**

- "Stories of American Discoveries for Little Americans," by Rose Lucia. American book company, New York.
- "The Story of the American Merchant Marine," by John R. Spears. The Macmillan company, New York.
- "Agriculture for Schools of the Pacific Slope," by Paul E. Dashi. The Macmillan company, New York.
- "Petra's Letters to Classical Authors," by Maria E. Coester. The University of Chicago press, Chicago.
- "The Cooked-Up Peary-Odd-Icicle Dictionary," by Paul E. Dashi. John W. Luce & Co., Boston.
- "From the Cup of Silence," by Helen Huntington. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York.
- "The Gift of Nietzsche," by Henry L. Mencken. John W. Luce & Co., Boston.
- "The Fascinating Mrs. Hailton," by E. F. Benson. Doubleday, Page & Co., New York.
- "The Soul of Man Under Socialism," by Oscar Wilde. John W. Luce & Co., Boston.
- "The Beauty," by Mrs. Wilson Woodrow. The Bobbs-Merrill company, Indianapolis.
- "In Unfamiliar England," by Thomas D. Murphy. L. C. Page & Co., Boston.
- "Many Gods," by Cale Young Rice. Doubleday, Page & Co., New York.
- "Pepita Jimenez," by Juan Valera. American book company, New York.
- "A Married Priest," by Albert Houtin. Sherman, French & Co., Boston.
- "The Student's Standard Dictionary," Frank & Wagnall, New York.