

NEWS OF AUTHORS AND BOOKS

SERMONS ARE ATTRACTIVE IN RECENT BOOKS

Rev. R. W. Dale Says Religion Is Not Only a Sunday Affair—Writes About Talebearing.

BISHOP ADMIRERS WOMEN Collection Made of Talks of English Churchman, Shows Humanity as Well as Spirituality.

Despite the fact that no one wants to be "preached to," two books of sermons recently issued are so well written, and contain so much thought in the application of religious principles to everyday life, that they should be widely read.

"If week days are never thought about on Sundays, will not Sundays be forgotten on week days?" asks the Rev. R. W. Dale in speaking of his book called "Week Day Sermons."

Thinking that it is not well to separate the laity and clergy, to desert from the hours we spend in the family, the counting-house and shop, he has prepared this book which contains sermons-essays on such subjects as "Talebearing," "Other Men's Impediments," and "Amusements," things that are a part of the lives of all of us.

"There is no occupation in which man can be so fully engaged in which he may not see God," he writes. "So he tries to connect God with daily life."

He does not take the attitude that a thing is wrong because the Bible says it is; he shows why in this physical world it is wrong.

Written in simple and forceful style, the sermons can be understood by anyone who would want to read them. Their appeal is as universal as Christianity.

"Cathedral and University and Other Sermons," by the Right Rev. Handley C. G. Moule, Bishop of Durham, is a collection of the latest and perhaps the strongest sermon preached by this churchman.

These sermons illustrate not only the spirituality of the man, but also his humanity. His interest and sympathies range widely and touch all human things; there is a wide variety of subjects contained in his sermons.

Three of the things that are outstanding in his book are his reverence for some, his love and approval of the medical profession, and his grateful and enthusiastic affection for persons and for places whose dear he feels himself to be.

Among the titles of the sermons are "Your Brothers That Are in the World," "The Unsearchable Riches," and "God's Civic Ministers."

"Weekday Sermons," Doran & Company, New York, cloth, 255 pages, \$1.50.

"Cathedral and University and Other Sermons," Doran & Company, New York, cloth, 278 pages, \$1.50.

A "MAIN STREET" IN VERSE Roscoe Brink's Novel Depicts Drab Life of City Woman.

A new type of "Main Street" is offered by Roscoe W. Brink in "Down the River." This novel is written in free verse and depicts the drab life of a woman, Belle, in a country girl who has always longed for the city. With her marriage comes her chance. She leaves her home "up the river" and goes to the city with her husband.

Life in the city is not what she has expected. The neighborliness of her neighbors is not what she had hoped for. Her love for her husband seems to have disappeared with her marriage. She merely tolerates him as he does her. They even talk of separation. She brings up her boys to be better men than her husband. Her little girl goes off to school and she is left alone.

The novel contains a never-ending recital of the dullness of Belle's existence and ends up with her death.

The book is realistic. Its interest is enhanced by the novel method of writing. Unlike some free verse the words are intelligible. As a matter of fact, the only real verification there is to the lines is the way they are broken up. The story would read as smoothly if it were written in prose and paraphrased.

(Henry Holt and Co., New York; cloth, 171 pages, \$1.90.)

"If Winter Comes" Still Popular. The new "best sellers," according to the Graphix, are being listed in a close race by a "best seller" of last year, "If Winter Comes."

This Week's Best Sellers, Fiction.

"One of Ours," Willa Cather.

"This Freedom," A. S. M. Hutchinson.

"The Country Beyond," James Oliver Curwood.

"Certain People of Importance," Kathleen Norris.

"Baldpate," Sinclair Lewis.

"Gentle Julia," Booth Tarkington.

"Perigine," Progress, Jeffery Farnol.

"The Three Black Pennys," Joseph Hergesheimer.

"The Story of Mankind," Hendrick Van Loon.

"Reconstruction of Religion," C. A. Elwood.

"Three Men and a Maid." P. G. Woodhouse thinks the world is made for fun and frolic. His book, "Three Men and a Maid," says so, and the four of them romp through 304 pages of just the kind of situations that make the tired business man or the worn-out prize fighter or the recuperating lady missionary forget troubles and revel in pure joy.

Eustace Hignett's mother is too tactful to tell her son that she knows of his approaching secret marriage at 11 o'clock and forbid it, but at 10:30 she sends all of his trousers out to be pressed.

But Eustace wasn't permanently heart-broken about failing to arrive at the church before the girl became angry and left. In two weeks he had found another ideal girl of whom he said to his cousin: "There is a sweet womanly strength about her. Sam. She was telling me she once killed a panther with a hairpin. At least I think it was a panther, either a panther or a puma."

Irresponsible youth, impossible youth, irresponsible youth, but an altogether happy youth go into the making of the story.

(Cloth, George H. Doran Co., New York, \$1.75.)

"The Gift of the Desert." A nurse, caring for a ranch woman on the desert edge, is forced to marry the villain in the fifth chapter of the book. The other twenty-five chapters tell how she got away from him.

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bandits, all enter into the story. But still "Frisco Kid" protects her. Then it turns out that "Frisco Kid" is really a captain in the regular army, who is there to catch the thieves and ruffians he has been associated with.

There is plenty of Randolph Parrish's characteristic excitement, and dead men in the story which make two or three hours' adventurous reading.

(Cloth, 205 pages, A. C. McClurg and Co., Chicago.)

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Antoinette Larpent, waif of the streets, but in spite of that Antoinette still, dressed as a boy, follows Lord Saltash who has befriended her, asking him to protect her. He does, and then falls in love with her, too.

The characters of the book are well drawn, and there is a suspense to the story that adds to its interest.

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There is a tremendousness about the book that is gripping. The reader will fight against believing it. He may throw the book down in disgust, but he will pick it up again. He will find a glimpse of that shameful inner self of his own in it; then he will wonder if it isn't true.

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Rebecca West. Center top. Stewart Edward White. Left bottom.

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New Stars in Fiction's Horizon

"Polly the Pagan."

We almost believe Isabel Anderson when she tells us that the interesting journal and letters that make Pagan Polly's history were found by her in Paris. It is that well told. Much as there has been of this sort of thing, there is still a charm in the book made from diaries, letters and telegrams.

Polly the Pagan, as she calls herself, an American heiress, travels with an aunt, of course, in Europe. She has many lovers as one would expect her to, since she calls herself Pagan. There is a prince, vaguely Russian, who falls madly in love with her and who follows her from city to city as the wont of love-stricken, story-book, vaguely Russian princes. And then, disappointed in not finding in her breast a responding flame of love, he sends her a bomb which her real lover plunges into a bucket of water just in time. Even after that the prince had the presumption to attempt an elopement with the austere aunt.

The letters are cleverly written, and contain living bits of description of various European cities and society.

(Cloth, 239 pages, Page and Co., Boston.)

"In Naaman's House."

Miriam, an Israelite girl, who was captured by the Syrians and taken to the house of Naaman in Damascus, is the heroine of Marian MacLean Finney's book, "In Naaman's House."

A love story of 3,000 years ago flashes upon us. With Miriam as the heroine, and Isaac, a Syrian soldier, son of a Jewish mother as the hero, the tale has all the warmth and ardor of a 1922 love affair.

The book is written in the dignified language of the Bible.

(Cloth, 294 pages, The Abingdon Press, New York, \$1.75.)

"Northwest."

Just what "those big open spaces" and a girl can do for a young man who is a gambler and a waster of time, is told in "Northwest," by Harold Bindloss.

It wouldn't be a tale of the Canadian Rockies if there were not the mounted police, who chase the hero, innocent of the game warden's blood, over mountains of snow and through boulder-lined valleys. Battling nature, the elements, the unjust law, the hero is very much like a thousand and two other heroes who have fought and won in the Northwest. One admires him—and names him Ben.

Escapes barely made, breath-holding moments while the police just miss the hero, fighting—these are the things that give the book its interest. There is no originality in incident or in treatment.

(Cloth, 309 pages, Frederick A. Stokes Co., New York, \$1.75.)

"At the Earth's Core."

Where men are underlings and beasts of burden for animals, where there is no night but constantly a noon sun, where the huge "thidpurs" swoop down to devour terrorized maidens—that is "At the Earth's Core."

A scientist builds a machine which carries him and a friend of his through the earth's crust to its core, where they find a race of Stone Age people. The fact that Dian the Beautiful was a Stone Age girl didn't keep the younger man from falling in love with her, however.

Animals for thousands of years extinct on the earth, live there. Utterly absurd, the whole thing, yet striking in its possibilities.

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Several hours may profitably be spent by the one who wishes to know more of the intimate details of authors' lives. Those who like books will read the volume with zest. Anyone who is at all interested in life will find it worth while at least to read here and there in "When Winter Comes to Main Street."

(George H. Doran Co., New York; 372 pages, cardboard cover; illustrated with photographs.)

15 Almy street, Saylesville, R. I.

Very truly yours,

Joseph P. Choquet.

Truth, Not Propaganda, Says Author.

Editor Columbia Evening Missourian: I read with much pleasure and interest your very kind and to-the-point criticism of my story, "Under Canadian Skies."

Your flattering acknowledgment of the merits of the book is gratifying and very much appreciated by a poor author. Permit me to express sincere thanks.

In the course of your write-up, if I am not mistaken in reading "Between the lines," there appears some doubt as to the authenticity of some of the statements in the story.

You write: "The author insists that the book is not propaganda against the English, although one might think so from some of the scenes wherein the Englishman is not portrayed in a very favorable light." Again, "Under Canadian Skies" gives us sugar-coated history. In other words, the "real" hides what is beneath the surface.

Allow me to call your attention to George Bryce's "Short History of the Canadian People." Under the titles: "Papineau, Louis Joseph," and "Rebellion of 1837," as well as "Language of French-Canadians," you may find corroborative evidence of what has been written in "Under Canadian Skies." If telling the truth is propaganda, then I plead guilty.

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Sherwood Anderson



Sherwood Anderson is one of the distinctive literary figures in America today. Though he came here only six years ago, each of his six books produced since then marks another step in the advance of American literature. His work stands on its own feet, using no imitative emblems. His stories of the Middle-West are imaginative, analytical and perhaps more sympathetic than those of contemporary Middle-Western writers. "Winesburg Tales," a collection of Ohio stories and perhaps his most widely known book, has given him instant place in the front rank of creators. His latest collection of short stories, "The Triumph of the Egg," has attracted enthusiastic comment since its publication.

NEW TEXT ABOUT LETTERS

"Business Letter Practice" Valuable to Correspondent.

"Business Letter Practice," by John R. Oplpycke, is a thorough book on business letter-writing. It is full of do's and don'ts that are valuable to the correspondent whether in a big office or small one.

The book contains an appendix of abbreviations and a business letter lexicon. Suggestions for beginning and ending letters are given.

Hundreds of letters are used to illustrate the points made by the author. (Isaac Pitman and Sons, New York.)

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