



NEW BOOKS and their Publishers

"DANTON and the French Revolution," by Charles F. Warwick.—Is a prefatory note the author says: "When Mirabeau and the French Revolution was published, I stated that it would be followed in turn by the lives of Danton, and Robespierre, that it was my purpose to trace briefly, the causes of the revolution and group its principal events around these men who were the manifestation of the revolution in its three distinctive periods. Although each book will be separate and complete in itself, the three volumes will form a series covering the entire period of the revolution. This consequently is the second number in the series, and casts an illuminating view upon the part taken by that colossal figure, Danton, in the history-making period of the French revolution, which not only made history for France, but for the world, and the influence of which the world will never outgrow. Mirabeau was the first great figure of the revolution, and his death marked the close of its first period, and the author truly says: 'When Mirabeau passed out of the revolution Danton stepped in. The great tribune was dead, and there strode forth a man with almost superhuman power, who was to tear down and destroy that system which Mirabeau would fain have saved. Danton gave to the revolution a fresh impulse, his courage and his audacity aroused the spirit of the radicals. From now until the execution of the king he was the master. He rode to the whirlwind and directed the storm.'"

While noting marked resemblances between these two great leaders, the author believes, and every student of French history will agree with him, that had Mirabeau lived, bitter contention would have arisen between he and Danton and who can tell what the result might have been? This is one of the great "ifs of history," which is only speculation, although, after reading both of Mr. Warwick's books it might not be idle speculation to work it out, for are not some of the revolutionary ideas of these two men creeping into our body politic, to produce, perhaps later, our Mirabeau and Danton? The author thinks that perhaps some of Danton's extreme notions, which strongly smack of socialism would not have been entertained, or him, in other than revolutionary times. It was on Danton's motion that the convention decreed in 1792 that "in every section of the republic, when the price of corn is not in just proportion to wages paid, the treasury shall levy a contribution on the rich, out of which shall be defrayed the difference between such price of corn and the wage of the needy." Had not Danton's life been offered up, a sacrifice to his prin-

cles, upon the scaffold at the early age of 35 years he undoubtedly would have worked other revolutions for his country than political. His ideas of education were advanced for his period. Upon one occasion he said: "When you sow the vast fields of the republic, not, I beg you, count the cost of the seed. Next after bread, education is the first necessity of the life of the people. After giving France liberty and conquering her enemies, nothing will be more glorious than to secure to coming generations an education worthy of our liberty." Danton had bitter enemies; enemies who tried, and to some extent succeeded in fastening upon him every form of diabolism, though the author claims that they never produced any positive proof, in a single charge, made. But in the three short years he trod upon the political stage of France was enough to leave his impress upon the ages, and no story of the French revolution would be complete without a large and lasting place given to Danton.

It has been a wise and valuable conception of Mr. Warwick to take up these three great characters and treat them in a single and individual manner. He has made his work a happy combination of history and biography, and in so doing has cast the glow of double interest upon it. The author has a clear, simple style of expression, and a concise manner of presenting facts which tolerates no display of rhetoric, and which is, after all, the purest and best literature.

No less to the student of political and social economy, than to the student of history can we commend Mr. Warwick's books for in treating the subjects as he has done they can give great lessons in both, and give one a more intimate knowledge of motives and conditions, and the causes of the revolution than the usual history where these things are obscured by greater events.

The volume is handsomely bound in coarse linen, suitable for library use, and it is liberally and handsomely illustrated with portraits, copied generally from the famous masters of those times. A frontispiece of Danton is a copy of his portrait by David, George W. Jacobs & Co. Price \$2.50.

"The Mystery of the Yellow Room," by Gaston Leroux.—From the beginning of the detective story era the author could make it a French detective story his fame was won. While it was the prince of American fiction writers, Edgar Allan Poe, who wrote the first detective story—and that before a professional detective was known, or was a necessary part of our civilization, he even at that early date, had the wisdom to place his murder in the Rue Morgue, and make it French story. Judging from Mr. Leroux, name he may have a better claim on France to furnish him material for a story than our own Poe, but, however, this may be, he has gathered some very good material and created a most remarkable French detective story out of it.

The hero, who is a newspaper reporter for one of the leading papers in Paris, is also a detective of extraordinary and intuitive and outshines and puts to confusion the work of the most expert professional detectives of the time. One of the strange occurrences upon the supernatural and appearances would lead the reader to suppose that this is a story of the "Mystery of the Yellow Room." In solving the mystery of the brutal attack upon Madame M. Stangerson, Joseph Boulebillie, a strange detective-reporter proves himself a very remarkable character in fiction, and interests the reader in the manner in which he unravels the mystery and proves himself the ablest detective of the time.

The book closes with a double surprise, either one of which would jar the most blasé novel reader.

The story is fine as to plot and presentation, is strong and compelling, but is chiefly notable for its peculiarity of style and its unusual characters. Brentano's. Price \$1.50.

"For Jacinta," by Harold Bindloss.—In plot or scenes, this is totally unlike any of Mr. Bindloss' other stories, but the characters are typical of the author, in that they are brought out mostly through adversity, and, in the case of the men, through love of a woman.

The author has a slow, lazy manner of telling his stories which are always really very good, just enough animation to keep the reader's interest, though in a mild sort of way; just enough pathos to enlist one's sympathies, and a good deal of humor running its entire length. "For Jacinta" is no exception to this peculiar style. There are thrilling scenes, but one does not recognize them as such until after they are passed, so easy and free from excitement is the author in the telling of his tales. This hero is a pursuer on one of the Italian passenger boats, and being over-ruled, and spurred on through the straits of the Straits of Gibraltar, he strikes off for the coast of Africa to help his American friend out of difficulties. It is a tale of adventure, which relates the half-breeds' escapades and trying experiences, of lost hopes and dreaded fevers, and gives the work the coloring of adventure. Through it one learns much of the rubber trade, the habits of the natives, the difficulties of the navigation, and the violence and danger of the swamp diseases.

This, however, does not appear to be the style of the book, for Mr. Bindloss always keeps his story well in hand, without any effort to "point a moral or teach a lesson." Frederick A. Stokes company. Price \$1.50.

"Socialists at Work," by Robert Hunter.—This is an important book, not only those who wish to understand, not only the principles of Socialism, but its present status as a social force. For a number of years Mr. Hunter has been a close student of the movement, not only in America but also in various parts of Europe. The picture which he presents of socialistic activities, particularly on the continent, is an impressive one. It is a picture of a movement that has been growing steadily for the past 50 years, and that Socialism is now forming a factor in the politics of every important country. Mr. Hunter's description of some great Socialist meetings in Europe, and his analysis of the leaders of the movement, such as Liebknecht, Bebel, Jaures, and Kautsky are full of interest.

After reading "Socialists at Work" one has a new understanding of the significance of such books as Jack London's "Iron Heel" and Mr. Wells' "New Worlds for Old."

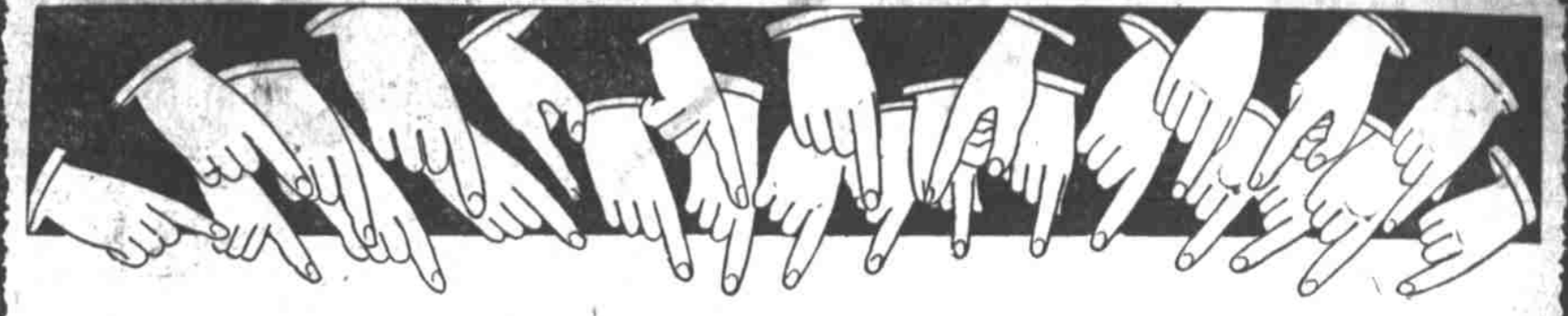
As Mr. Hunter has given us the best account yet of the concrete activities of the Socialists, so Mr. Wells has, by common consent, written the most trustworthy and attractive exposition of Socialistic principles. Mr. Wells is a theorist to the extent that he discusses fundamental principles; but he is eminently practical in the application of his theories. Furthermore, he has gifts not always displayed by writers on economic subjects: patience and tolerance, judicious and attractive use of style, imagination and a sense of humor. It is doubtful if he has ever written more winningly than in "New Worlds for Old," which is well worth reading for its charm quite apart from the value of its Macmillan company publishes both books.

"The Servant in the House," by Charles Rann Kennedy.—The author has many impressive views on the drama, one of which is that it should reflect some permanent interest of the people of all ages, as well as to mirror the absorbing features of the day. Mr. Kennedy has in hand a series of seven dramas which he plans shall do this. He says that their central themes are the question of brotherly love, the destructive force that comes from a lie, the woman question, the cold influence of the sun, and the debated idea of freedom. None of these has any allegorical suggestion except in the latter the problem in the vicarious family takes hold of many people quite apart from the symbolism of Mansel the servant. The fact that the play is outlasting all of its neighbors in New York and that the Harper stock of the book has exhausted is an interesting comment on the appeal that allegory can make to a twentieth century public.

"Marion"—by John Aveson.—This is one of the most delightful novels of the season and has just been published by the Putnams. It is a story of Sicilian life, gentle and simple. The heroine, daughter of a titled Sicilian family, is singularly lovely, a woman pure, without coldness and one whose religious nature cannot blind her eyes to the human appeal of the world and of love.

The story of her love is interesting to the last degree. We follow the development of her fine nature as she earnestly questions life for its meaning and learn to accept alike joy and sorrow, transient happiness or scattered hopes and ideals. The spiritual element is indeed strong in the book and besides it there is enough and to spare of the life of the world and the flesh. Thanks to this "spiritual element" many critics have set their seal of approval upon the book.

"Glimpses of Medical Europe," by Dr. Ralph L. Thompson of the University of St. Louis School of Medicine.

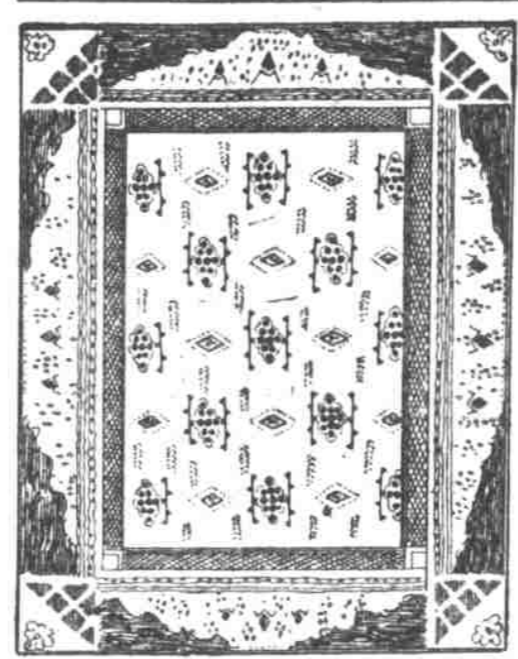


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CANUCKS.
Canadians Among Us Object to Being Dubbed With That Title.

From the New York Sun.

"There seems to be a great deal of misapprehension hereabouts concerning the significance of the word 'Canuck,'" says a Canadian who is in business in New York, "and for myself and my fellow expatriates, I wish to protest against its term."

"Most New Yorkers seem to have the idea that all persons hailing from Canada are Canucks, and many of them use the term as if it were one of approbrium. Now a Canuck is a French-Canadian or habitant, and the samples of that type who have drifted across the border into New England certainly have done little to make the title one of good repute."

"But the Canuck in his native Quebec village is a pretty decent sort of citizen, as those who have read Sir Gilbert Parker's stories know, for Parker has recorded the habits and traits of these people with faithful exactness."

"These habitants have stuck pretty closely to the Province of Quebec, but there was not a living for all of them as the population increased, and French-Canadian population does increase at an amazing rate, with no consideration at all for economic principles as laid down by the theorists."

"This surplusage of humanity, largely imported, naturally sought over the border into New England. Many of the workers in the mill towns are these French-Canadians, or Canucks, and their rank in popular estimation not far above the dumb animals. There are no Canucks of this class in New York, but the name has got here and is used all too frequently for Canadians of straight English ancestry."

"Of late years these habitants have been invading the maritime provinces of Canada, where they are regarded no more highly than in New England. The French were cleared out of these provinces more than ten years ago and now the race is drifting back."

"Canuck means French-Canadian and nothing else. Will New Yorkers please remember that."

Too Hasty.
"What's the matter, old man? You look as if you were disgusted with yourself."

"I am. I got up in a street car, a little while ago, to give a pretty woman my seat."

"Didn't she seem to appreciate your courtesy?"

"Oh, yes, but a prettier woman got aboard a few minutes later."