

# THE BOOK PAGE

NEWS OF NEW BOOKS, WRITERS AND MAGAZINES.

I am so much a utilitarian that I prefer the useful to the useless.—Hamilton.

## RELIGIOUS STRUGGLE, LABOR AND CAPITAL, LOVE, IN NEW NOVEL

Sidney Nyburg Handles Story of "The Chosen People" in Interesting Manner.



Sidney Nyburg.

The Chosen People—By Sidney Nyburg. 1. H. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, 132 pages.

In this new novel of the Jews in the United States a brilliant young rabbi of liberal views is called to take charge of the largest and most fashionable synagogue in Baltimore. His congregation is almost entirely made up of wealthy Jews of German descent. They are comfortable in their gold and in their faded, rather orthodox Judaism. The hero, the rabbi, is a great preacher and attempts to awaken his congregation to an appreciation of the spiritual.

The first part of the book deals with the sucking of the young man into the very same comfortable, prideful and well established viewpoint as that held by his congregation. The agencies that bring this about are his pride and the feminine, worshipful element.

One of his main ideas is the necessity for the spiritual union of all Jews. In a free thinking cynical Jew named Gordon he is made to realize that his talk is mostly "smooth stuff" as he associates only with the rich and sees nothing of the great hordes of Russian Jews, who are the backbone of the east side. The rabbi now starts to study Yiddish in hopes that the language will gain him access to the hearts of this poorer element.

The rabbi's struggle is brought to a climax by a strike of the clothing operators, Russian Jew girls, in the employ of Kahn, a rich German Jew, and president of the rabbi's own synagogue. He appreciates that his talk of brotherhood and union has been swallowed as platitudes. He makes every effort to bring the two factions together, but among the rich he discovers that business and religion must be kept apart, and among the poor he finds himself suspected and tainted.

The struggle finally is brought to an end by the force of the banking interests who see in its continuance a blow to the prosperity of Baltimore. In the final scene the rabbi, the employer, Kahn, does not want his name to come out as bowing to the dictates of labor; Gordon, the lawyer of the labor interests, desires his name to be kept out of it; the bankers do not think it healthy that they should be considered as intermediaries, so by common consent they announce to the newspapers that the brilliant young rabbi had brought the warring forces together. It is a fine stroke of irony; the rabbi awakes to find himself famous.

The rabbi incidentally is in love with one of the clan of capitalistic German Jews, and the love theme runs throughout the tale.

## Here's Philosophy Of the Poilu; It Reads Reasonable

Everything might be worse than it is, says the Poilu, and so he has composed a litany. Every regiment has a different version, but always on the same basis, according to Kathleen Burke in the "White Road to Verdun." Here is the way she sums up the French soldier philosopher.

"Of two things one is certain: Either you're mobilized or you're not mobilized, there is no need to worry; if you are mobilized, of two things one is certain: Either you're behind the lines or you're in front. If you're behind the lines there is no need to worry; if you're on the front, of two things one is certain: either you're resting in a safe place or you're exposed to danger. If you're resting in a safe place there is no need to worry; if you're exposed to danger, of two things one is certain: either you're wounded or you're not wounded. If you're not wounded there is no need to worry; if you are wounded, of two things one is certain: either you're wounded seriously or you're wounded slightly; if you're wounded slightly there is no need to worry; if you're wounded seriously, of two things one is certain: either you will recover or you will die. If you recover there is no need to worry; if you die you can't worry."

We're not bothered with dust, anyway.

Au revoir.

How Captain Beith Won Military Cross At Battle of Loos

Nearly everyone has heard of Captain Ian Hay, Beith, author of "The First Hundred Thousand" and "Getting Together," who is to lecture in Portland Thursday, May 24. Many people know that he was decorated with the Military Cross, but owing to the captain's silence on his own deeds, few of the many friends he has made in this country know the occasion of the honor.

It was at the battle of Loos in September, 1915, that Captain Beith's regiment, the Tenth Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, were holding, under terrific shell fire, a hard won position on the third line of German trenches. All but four of the officers had been killed or wounded, and finally, when the enemy had surrounded the gallant little company on three sides, the order was given to fall back.

Captain Beith with four of his men, was left to man a machine gun to cover the retirement of the regiment. One by one the men with Captain Beith fell under fire, and finally, the captain was left alone. It is almost absolutely necessary for two or more men to operate a machine gun, but Captain Beith stuck at it alone. Then, before his ammunition was exhausted the gun jammed and became useless. Nothing remained, therefore, for him to do but retire, and under heavy fire, he rejoined his troops.

Some weeks later, to his great surprise, Captain Beith received his decoration.

How Children in Roumania Grow Up

When I Was a Boy in Roumania, by Dr. J. S. Van Tieslar. Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Company, Boston. 75 cents net.

This is the eighth title in the "Children of Other Lands" series. Dr. Van Tieslar grew up in a country full of interest in its history, customs and natural scenery, and has attained prominence in this country by research work at some of our universities and in public service.

A physician is almost always an intelligent observer and an entertaining narrator—if you get him to talk. Not only will children be interested to know what young life is like in Roumania, but others will find here a good chance to learn much of a little-known country, now in world prominence as never before.

For all readers from eight years upward.

THROUGH THE WINDOW

Mothers' Day. Conveys a pretty sentiment, but why one mothers' day when we know full well that every day, sunshine or rain, is a mothers' day of sacrifice and devotion to their children, and that when the stars twinkle good-bye to mothers' day, mothers' night begins.

Still, if the better self of even one of her sons is aroused; if a sense of appreciation is stirred; if one more letter is written, or one more message, or one more click over the wires; if one more flower is placed in tired hands before they are folded for the last time; if there is just one more expression of devotion; one more kiss; if there is just one more kind word, or thought, or reverent memory of her, because of Mothers' Day, then Mothers' Day is not in vain.

It's always two-lip time in Portland.

They'd be out by Christmas if they let Ted do the tireless tear into the trenches.

At the end of the sinner's trail— jail.

Least we forget—day the fly.

Everyone seems to be more or less of a potato "bug" these days.

Sweet potatoes, of course, having their lady-bugs.

And Monday is youngsters' day, to be celebrated under the "big" umbrella following the usual street parade.

General Joffre's face is now nearly as familiar as that of Santa Claus. Just about as jolly looking, too.

The General by the way being somewhat of a kissing-bug.

News received this week of the finding of 163 gallons of whiskey, buried in the furrows of a potato patch, will probably stimulate early hoeing in some quarters.

Somehow of a "westward ho" parade, it seems.

If Mr. Romanoff and family do go on the vaudeville stage, "The Roaming Romanoffs" would read well on the billboards.

They might put on a double turn a little later with the "Homeless, Hohenzollerns."

In a sketch entitled, "It Isn't What We Are Today, It's What We Used to Be."

We're not bothered with dust, anyway.

Au revoir.

Well known names appear on the roster of the nation's defenders, and well known faces are seen where the makers of history are centered. In the picture above, at the left, is William G. McAdoe, son of the treasurer of the United States, in the uniform of a New York State Naval Militiaman. (C. by I. F. S.) Next are Mrs. Anthony Drexel and Mrs. George Gould, leaders of society in New York and Philadelphia, who arranged a fete in aid of the Red Cross at the F. J. Gould estate, Georgian Court, Lakewood, N. J. (C. by I. F. S.) At the right is Midshipman Billy Vanderbilt, son of Alfred Vanderbilt, who is in active training for service at sea. (C. by American Press Assn.)

Did You Know

That the Italian front is longer than the French, British and Belgian fronts combined?

That some of the Italian positions can only be reached in baskets slung from wires?

That Italian railway trains have been shelled by submarines?

That some of the most famous churches in Venice have been destroyed by Austrian airplanes, which have raided that city more than a hundred times?

That in six days the Italians mobilized and equipped and transported to the front an army of half a million men?

That the French have built a 52 centimeter gun which fires a shell weighing one and one-half tons?

That the French have in commission 7000 airplanes?

That tear-producing shells are more effective and more generally used than asphyxiating gas?

That in places the Austrian and Italian trenches are only six feet apart?

That on the western front men have been drowned in the mud?

That infantry charges are now led by officers in airplanes?

That the British have organized a salvage corps to save everything on the battlefield, that even the rags are collected and sold?

That the traffic on the roads behind the British front is denser than the traffic on Fifth avenue, and that it is controlled by traffic policemen?

That the French have organized a corps of scene painters to paint scenery to deceive the German armies?

That in a heavy bombardment the springs of a field gun wear out in two days?

That soldiers whose faces have been blown away have given new faces by American surgeons?

That there is a Russian army fighting in France?

That an American woman is giving phonograph concerts in the Belgian line trenches?

That in one day the French fired 1,500,000 worth of shells at Arras, that in one week the Germans fired 240 trainloads of shells at Verdun, that in one month the British fired 5,000,000 shells on the Somme?

These are a few of the revelations made by E. Alexander Powell in his new book, "Italy at War, and the Allies in the West," published by the Scribners.

Are Parents Unfair?

"I wonder if anybody in the world is quite as unfair as a parent." Edward Leigh Pell in "Four Feet on a Fender," which E. P. Dutton & Company has ready for publication. "We often hear that what our children need most is love, but I know many children who would be glad to get simple justice." The book is a series of innuendoes upon a great variety of subjects and it takes its title from Oliver Wendell Holmes' reply to the question as to whether or not he could express his idea of happiness in five words.

Play-Work Book For Little Folks

"Story Plays for Little Children," by Mary Leora Hall and Sarah Ellman. Beth Palmer (Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Company, Boston, \$1.25 net), with music, finger plays and rhyma, is a well-arranged volume of special value in the kindergarten and lower grades. The authors are graduates of the National Kindergarten college, Chicago, and the work presented in this volume was prepared by them for practical work.

The volume is attractive in appearance and will doubtless prove popular in the field for which it is primarily intended.

Special Reading For Club Women

The chairman of the literature department of the General Federation of Women's Clubs has mailed to club women throughout the country a list of reading material, especially recommended at this time, as follows:

Books about the great war: Fiction—"The World Set Free," by H. G. Wells; "Mr. Britling Sees It Through," by H. G. Wells; "The Dark Forest," by Hugh Walpole. Drama—"Der Tag," by Sir James Barrie; "War Brides," by Marion O. Wentworth. Poetry—"The Collected Poems," by Rupert Brooke; Poems, by Alan Seeger; "The Hour Has Struck," by Angela Moraghan; "Harvest Moon," by Joseph Peck; "Lyrics of War and Peace," by William D. Howells. Essays—"The First Hundred Thousand," by Ian Hay; "The Little House on the Marne," by Mildred Aldrich; "The World Decision," by Robert Herrick; "What Is Coming," by H. G. Wells; "Counter Currents," by Agnes Repplier; A Sheaf, by John Galsworthy. Books that discuss social and domestic relations: Fiction—"The Research Magnificent," by Robert Grant; "The Prisoner," by Alice Brown; "The Heart of Rachel," by Kathleen Norris; "The Rising Tide," by Margaret Deland. Drama—"The Immigrants," by Percy Breakey; "Fires," by Cora Harris; "The World Decision," by Robert Herrick; "What Is Coming," by H. G. Wells; "Counter Currents," by Agnes Repplier; A Sheaf, by John Galsworthy. Industrial conditions: Fiction—"The Harbor," by Ernest Poole; "The Turmoil," by Booth Tarkington; "Clark's Field," by Cora Harris; "The Leatherwood God," by W. D. Howells. Poetry—"North of Boston," by Robert Frost; "Mountain Interval," by Robert Frost; "Spoon River Anthology," by Edgar Lee Masters. Biography—"Letters of Richard Watson Gilder," an O. Henry Biography, by C. A. Smith; "The Melancholy Tale of Me," by E. H. Sothern.

Public Library Notes

"A clergyman had taught an old man in his parish to read and found him an apt pupil. When he called at the cottage some time after, only the wife was at home. 'How's John?' he asked. 'Very well, thank you.' 'I suppose he can read the Bible comfortably now?' 'Bible, sir? Bless you, he was out of the Bible and into the sporting papers long ago!'"

This story related in "Everyday" illustrates the experience of a public library in "keeping pace" with its readers—it can suggest, but cannot pursue the reading public in its devotional courses. One method of giving a certain cohesion to its suggestion, however, is in the "lists" compiled on various subjects. To the mother who came for guidance as to "when to begin to spank the baby," which was developing "temperament," lists on "Child study" and "For parents" were found useful. For the hundreds who are this year becoming "backyard farmers," lists on agriculture and gardening may act as finger-posts. Those who expect to "use service" abroad might be interested in lists of books in French, Russian, Italian and other foreign languages.

"Mountain Adventures" will attract the interest of those who plan a vacation in the wilds. For the serious-minded there is "The Best Twenty-five Books," compiled by the Springfield library, and covering recent years.

Art students, music lovers, business men, travelers, the dilettante, foreigners in night schools, home-builders, journalists, nurses, men from Ireland and India—will find lists which may serve as "stepping stones" to lead them to the resources of a great public library.

The Newark, N. J., Museum association has lent the library a collection of examples of fine printing by Bruce Rogers, this consists of special editions published under his direction by the Riverside Press between 1900 and 1912. To these Mr. Rogers has added title pages, circulars, broadsides and books published since 1912. The collection will be on exhibit in the second floor lobby of the Central library until May 31.

In connection with it, the library has a moving picture film from Doubleday, Page & Company, New York city, showing the process of making a book as it is carried out by that firm. This will be shown every afternoon at 3:30 o'clock from May 15 to 19, inclusive, and the evenings of May 15 and 19 at 8 o'clock.

A cordial invitation is extended to all book lovers to view both the exhibit and the pictures.

The municipal reference library in the city hall has on file copies of both proposed charters. The London or short charter and the Shepherd or long form charter. Both charters, by virtue of the initiative petition, will be submitted to the voters at the June election.

New Volumes of Bunner's Stories

"Short Sixes" Stories to Be Read While Candie Burns, and "More Short Sixes," are two volumes of H. C. Bunner's little masterpieces, published by Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. "Through 'Short Sixes' have for the most part seen previous publication in the magazines, these new volumes will be welcomed by the man of literary inclination in his hours of ease.

Mr. Bunner has long been recognized as a past master in the art of short story writing, that is, the better class of short story. In ease of expression, character delineation, situation and general workmanship, his work is markedly "finished," and more fully appreciated as time passes.

Another Story of Rome and Romans

Cleomenes, by Maria Warrington Billings. John Lane Company, New York. \$1.40 net.

Will the history of Rome ever fall the novelist on themes—and stirring ones, at that?

Cleomenes is another romance of Rome at the height of its splendor, with its central figure, the Emperor Nero, Cleomenes, the sculptor, with a beautiful slave girl at the third point of the triangle.

The narrow escapes of the lovers from death in horrible forms at the hands of the emperor, chariot races, gladiatorial combats and imperial entertainments, are woven into a story of interest and thrilling climax.

"Why We Are at War"—W. Wilson

"Why We Are at War" by Woodrow Wilson, president of the United States, is a compilation of the president's messages to congress, the proclamation of war, and the president's message to the American people, April 15, 1917. It is published in conformity with the order of President Wilson's literary works, with a jacket in red, white and blue. The price is 50 cents.

Brewers' Year Book

The 1916 year book of the United States Brewers' association, New York city, has been received.

The book contains, naturally, the "other side of the liquor question"—the liquor man's side, special attention having been paid to European developments in the matter of prohibition and regulation, as a result of the war.

The volume also includes the principal reports delivered at the fifty-sixth annual convention held in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1916. A postscript carries the text of the Webb-Kenyon decision.

Natives of Bolivia preserve potatoes indefinitely by alternately freezing and thawing them until all moisture is removed.

ARE WOMEN REALLY, AT HEART, LOVERS OF WAR AND WARRIORS?

Countess of Warwick Believes So, and Says Man is the Reason.

Though it's a grave question whether or not women, as a majority, are in favor of war, the Countess of Warwick, in "A Woman and War" (Doran), has her own ideas on the subject, and asks:

"Why is it that woman is actually a war lover at heart, an inciter to, and encourager of, war? I have often been asked, 'Oh you explain why, while some women condemn fighting, the great majority do not shrink from it, and even regard the fighting man as the proper object of their admiration.' It is a challenge that I will answer to the best of my ability.

I can never forget that my eldest son has been in the fighting line, that my other boy gave up Cambridge for the aviation school, and is now flying in France, that my son-in-law is a soldier, and that of my many friends and a few relatives only the memory remains. But I feel from the bottom of my heart, that the death and glory idea is wrong.

"Why is woman actually a war lover at heart? The question stings me. I am almost reluctant to answer. Yet though the fault is woman's, the responsibility is man's. Down to only a few years ago, woman was no more than man's toy. Is it the irony of fate that man must pay the terrible price for having made woman what she is, for having stilled or sought to stifle her common sense; for robbing her of the rights that she possesses by reason of being a human being; for distracting her with frivolities and seeking to keep her merely as a minister to his pleasures and a mother to his children?"

"I have paid for the supreme folly of generations with the price of the lives of millions of his best and bravest, with the ruin of flourishing cities and fair country, with the poverty of the generation to come, and with many another bitter offering of which he is not yet fully aware.

"Man was not born merely for glorious death, he was born for glorious life, and in the systematic and universally conducted slaughter of man by man there is neither honor nor glory. The world, properly administered, can produce enough food and clothing for all, it has work and a measure of happiness for all.

"Woman falls in love with war because she has not the least inkling of its realities; her mounting of opinion are edged with pride; she has been left to this terrible struggle to tear some of the bandages from her eyes, and to rob her of an unworthy ideal."

New Books in the Library

Among the books recently added to the Central public library are the following:

Books in Foreign Languages. "Thyrsa"—"La Douceur de Vieir." La Re-belle. Description and Travel. Bickley—"Where Doesst Meet Devom?" 1911. King & Okey—"Italy Today." 1909. Marshall—"Watermarks," a novel. Milligan—"Fetich Folk of West Africa." c1912. Fiction. Bellamy—"The Balance," a novel. Dams—"Regiment of Women." Hardy—"Helen." Marshall—"Watermarks," a novel. Mitchell—"Bobby in Search of a Birthday." Fowley—"Jenny in Charge." Weston—"Oh, Mary, Be Careful!" Fine Arts. Bellamy—"Fighting Man." c1916. Second—"Power Ballads." Brady—"Pleasant Hours," melodies for soprano. Wright—"Creative Will." 1916. History. Ferrero—"Between the Old World and the New." 1914. Hildebrand—"Charles XII, King of Sweden." 1916. Hankey—"Student in Arms." 1917. Hines—"Red Indians of the Plains." 1915. Klipping—"Sea Warfare." 1917. Leffort—"Ismakade, the Epic of the French Marines." 1916. Swopce—"Inside the German Empire." 1917. Wheeler—"Sixty Years of American Life." Taylor to Roosevelt. 1917. Literature. Baker—"Contemporary Short Story." c1916. Sebaste—"Misadventures of Three Good Boys." 1916. Webb—"How to Write an Essay." 1914. Philosophy. Flournoy—"Philosophy of William James." 1917. Religion. Scott—"Religion, Theology and Morals." 2v. 1907. Science. Cox—"Beyond the Atom." 1913. Homer—"Alimata." Ed. 2. rev. 1916. McChubb—"Practical Surveying for Surveyors' Assistants." 1915. Martin—"Modern Chemistry and Its Uses." 1916. Williamson—"Surveying and Field Work." 1915. Sociology. American Political Science Association—"Teaching of Government." 1916. Carter—"Horses, Saddles and Bridles." 1906. Hecker—"Russian Sociology." 1915. Howe—"Universal Military Education and Service." 1916. How to Sell More Life Insurance. 1911. Hu—"Railway Problems in China." 1915. Juvenile Protective Association of Chicago—"Study of Mentally Defective Children in Chicago." 1915. McFall—"Railway Monopoly and Rate Regulation." 1914. Mason—"Primer of Political Economy." 1914. Eddle—"Relation of Imports to Exports." Ed. 2. Enl. 1914. Russell—"Why Men Fight." 1917. West—"Butter Industry in the United States." 1916. Useful Arts. Alexander—"Safety in the Foundry." c1915. Hildebrand—"True Food Values and Their Loss." 1916. Duryea & Homans—"Automobile Book." 1916. Fritts—"Watch Adjuster's Manual." Ed. 4. Rev. 1912. Gephart—"Analysis and Cost of Ready-to-

New Printings Offered.

Houghton, Mifflin company announces before publication a second impression of "The Yukon Trail" by William McLeod Raine, to be issued under the Campaign Diary of a French Officer by Rene Nicolas, translated by Katharine Babbitt, and a seventh printing of "An Occurrence Number 19" by Leslie Buswell.

Serve Poets." 1915. Harvey—"Anatomical Disquisition on the Motion of the Heart and Blood in Animals." 1908. Hoover—"Submarine Torpedo Boat." 1916. Hove—"Practical Shipbuilding." Ed. 6. 2v. 1916. Kline & Cooley—"Food and Health." 1916. Murray—"The Story of the Authors." Talbot—"Submarines, Their Mechanism and Operation." 1915. Russell—"Wasted Spinner's Practical Handbook." 1915. White—"Methods in Metallurgical Analysis." 1915. Wood—"Story of a Loaf of Bread." 1913. References. American Art Association—"Illustrated Catalogue of Colonial and Revolutionary Books." 1917. Battle—"Labeling Engineer's Handbook." c1916. Benthum & Hooker—"General Plantarum ad Exemplaria Imperialis in Herbario Kewensi." 1916. Churchhill—"Imprints." 1916. Lane Clayton—"Milk and its Hygienic Relations." 1915. Russell—"Pictures of the Wonder of Work." 1916. Russell—"Modern System of Naval Architecture." Ed. 3. 1905. Smith—"Medical and Surgical Help." Ed. 4. 1912. United States Mounted Service School, Fort Riley, Kan.—"Mounted Service School." 1916.

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