WHAT TO READ

(Continued from page 2)

and aside from her comments on the Women's building at the university seem, to those who live in Oregon, unimportant compared to many things connected with the schools of higher education which she might have written about. However she brought Marion county into her story although she did not mention Salem at all, probably did not know it was in Marion county, and she did not mention any other county in the state either.

* *

How do present day heroines compare with those of a generation ago? "Changing Fashions in Heroines" by Mary K. Ford in the September Bookman is a study in the manners and costumes of women through the years as depicted in fiction.

From Elizabeth Bennett, beloved by readers of "Pride and Prejudice" to Carol Kennicott and Lulu Bett, the writer traces the "changing fashions". "With all of her absurd limitations, the early Victorian woman was a more sterling character than Carol," she says.

* *

Two letters reproduced in the Contributors club of the Atlantic for September are another illustration of the changing in the last half century. These may not be typical women of their time but anyway they wrote letters which got into print, eventually if not intentionally. One is one written in 1857 while the other is written by an American girl abroad in the present time.

* *

Sinclair Lewis 'gets it going and coming' in The Bookman for September. He is featured in the Literary Spotlight for the month. The writer of the "Spotlight" says that Sinclair Lewis lives and eats "Main Street."

"He has never recovered from his surprise at its success as a best seller and his life still revolves around that success."

* *

"Babbitt", Sinclair Lewis' new book which is said to be more realistic than the small town epc and with all of its power is making a stir in the literary world at the present time.

* *

"Bret Harte and Mark Twain in the Seventies" by Mrs. James T. Field, whose husband was at one time editor of the Atlantic, began in the September issue of the Atlantic.

Those who read "Crowding Memories" by the same author will remember the little lady's cool recepiton of the distinguished "Mark Twain when he was brought home by her husband and by some mistake not introduced to the hostess ,who thought him most crude.

* *

Marie Chapdelaine, a charming epic of the lower French Canadian country, has reached third rank on the Bookman's score card. Many have wondered who the author, Louis Hemon, was or is.

Louis Hemon was a young Frenchman who came out to Canada several years ago. He wrote the book while there and sent it home to Paris where it was published serially. Before the war broke out it had reached the million mark in book form and the government was seeking the author. Soon after the war broke out he was killed in a railroad accident in Canada. The Canadian government in appreciation for his work named two lakes after him—Lac Louis and Lac Hemon.

* *

Reported from London among the best selling novels of the last few weeks are: Maria Chapdelaine by Louis Hemon, The Secret Places of the Heart by H. G. Wells, and Conn of the Coral seas by Beatrice Grimshaw, whose recent return to England after fiftee nyears in New Guinea has aroused fresh interest in her stories of South Sea life.

* *

Zona Gale writes in the Yale Review: "When to-day is dust and They read about us", two of the books that "will interpret to The our spirit are "A Son of the Middle Border and "A Daughter of the Middle Border, by Hamlin Garland. To us of the Middle Border these books are epic. Their unashamed provincialism is their glory.

"A daughter of the Middle Border" is primarily a personal narrative, a saga of a family. There is nothing in American literature which is more truly of the family than the chapter "Mary Isabel's Chimney." It stands next to Knutson's account of the bringing home of the mowing machine.

"The book wins respect and delight; the book which fixes Hamlin Garland for all time among the beloved figures in American literature.'

It was this book that won the Pulitzer Prize as the best American biography of 1921.

* *

Maria Chapdelaine, by Louis Hemon, has inspired some of the best of the volunteer book reviews lately contributed to the Des Moines Register by enthusiastic readers. We quote one of these in toto:

"Here, in a Canadian forest background, are Millet's peasants in pioneer struggle with Nature—the uncleared land, the lonliness, the long winter. Here are their bowed figures, their deep patience, their elemental hardihood, their symbolic grandeur. American life has nothing nobler to delineate; American literature nothing finer to offer.'—Ruth B. Safford.

* *

Late fiction seems to be osmewhat in the control of women. Mrs. Mary Roberts Rinehart, Kathleen Norris, Edith Wharton, Honore Willsie and Miss Hull hold a prominent position among the most popular authors according to reviewers.

* *

Kathleen Norris' "Certain People of Importance" is a story of California without the story of the gold rush which has held such an important place in California stories of the early days as a general rule. This new book of Mrs. Norris' is different from most of her long novels in that it has not appeared serially.

* *

During July, for the first time in months, neither Harold Bell Wright nor Gene Stratton Porter figured in the ten most called for books as recorded by the Bookman.

"The fact," according to the scoremarker of the Bookman, "is offered not by way of commentary upon the literary taste but merely as an item of news to which may be coupled the safe, in this instance, prediction that as soon as either Mr. Wright or Mrs. Porter write another book it will find its way into the list with the utmost promptitude."

* *

"If Winter Comes", still leads in the fiction class while Wells' "Outlines" is away ahead of other non fiction.

* *

An autobiography of Oscar Strauss, "Under Four Presidents" began in the Outlook, Septtember 6.

* *

No one knows when it was first proclaimed that two and two are four but everyone knows it is so and no one will take $3 to settle a debt of $4, says Ben Coler in a book "Two and Two Make Four" which is at the city library.

Coler, who is prominent in New York state politics, reviews the history of the church in matters of state and shows the peculiar situation which made this not only possible but the only arrangement which could be made, he says.

His treatment while not scholarly is easily read and treats of everyday matters in the matter of fact manner of the politician who goes right to the bottom of things to find out the inside story and the truth under "what people are saying."

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Colgate's Shaving Cream 29c
Pompeian Night Cream (small) 39c
Pompeian Night Cream (large) 89c
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