

volume, indeed, is given over to demonstrating the fact. Once he has demonstrated it, what follows? Nothing follows. The human mind, at its present stage of development, cannot function without the aid of fictions, but neither can it function without the aid of facts—save, perhaps, when it is housed in the skull of a university professor of philosophy. Of the two, the facts are enormously the more important. In certain metaphysical fields, *e.g.*, those of mathematics, law, theology, osteopathy and ethics—the fiction will probably hold out for many years, but elsewhere the fact slowly ousts it, and that ousting is what is called intellectual progress. Very few fictions remain in use in anatomy, or in plumbing and gas-fitting; they have even begun to disappear from economics. Vaihinger's work is thus not a system of philosophy, in any true sense; it is simply a foot-note to all existing systems. Moreover, it is not a foot-note of much solid value. It is curious, but it is unimportant.

Brief Notices

SAINT JOAN, by Bernard Shaw. New York: *Brentano's*.

THE Old Master, at 68, breaks out with one of the best plays that he has done since "Caesar and Cleopatra," and the best preface, by long odds, since that to "Androcles and the Lion."

RE-CREATING HUMAN NATURE, by Charles W. Hayward. New York: *Alfred A. Knopf*.

A sweet book of mush by a forward-

looking English medical man. A specimen: "I appeal, with all the power of which I am capable, to each and every individual now—or in the future—engaged in the Press, to stop—immediately and forever—the production of any single line which could act as a temptation to any weak character."

ROOSEVELT, PROPHET OF UNITY, by Hermann Hagedorn. New York: *Charles Scribner's Sons*.

The faithful disciple drops the bones of his hero into the pot yet another time, and again brews a nourishing mess.

NOSOGRAPHY, by Knud Faber, M.D. New York: *Paul B. Hoeber, Inc.*

A history of the long efforts to classify human diseases, and to determine their basic nature. Written for medical men, but perfectly comprehensible (and very interesting) to the enlightened layman.

EVOLUTION: THE WAY OF MAN, by Vernon Kellogg. New York: *D. Appleton & Company*.

An elementary statement of the facts of evolution, with stress upon the evolution of man. A useful book to give to Rotarians, clergymen, and adolescent children.

THE REAL JOHN BURROUGHS, by William Sloane Kennedy. New York: *The Funk & Wagnalls Company*.

The garrulities of a man who hangs the discussion of himself upon the discussion of his subject. Nevertheless, it has its moments, and the Burroughs who breaks through the fog at last is far more real than the familiar stuffed shirt.

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