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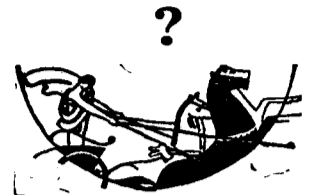
The Phoenix Nest

WE understand that the first editions of *Stephen Hudson* have become rare and sought for items among book-sellers. * * * Mr. *Edwin Muir* has characterized his work as rare and economical. * * * We ourselves have taken no inconsiderable interest in his chronicling of Richard Kurt and Myrtle and Elinor Colhouse and so on. Now his latest novel has wandered our way a little belated. * * * It is "Richard, Myrtle and I." Here we have an exploration of the kingdom of artistic creation and a study of the relationship between woman and the artist. * * * Mr. Hudson works deftly and with keen insight. Don't forget him among modern writers. * * * On May 9th last died *Joseph Mallaby Dent*, a man to whom America is more indebted than it is aware. * * * If we say, J. M. Dent, you recognize immediately the famous English publishing firm. And you may or may not remember that Mr. Dent planned the Temple Shakespeare. * * * America as a matter of fact came to the rescue of his first large publishing enterprise, when his firm was still small. This was the publication of *Balzac's* entire "Comédie Humaine" under the editorship of *George Saintsbury*. * * * An order for a thousand sets from America, and another larger order, prevented this work from being a financial loss. * * * But there is one series through which J. M. Dent became known the world over. Yes, you've guessed it, "Everyman's Library." * * * Dent wished to see one thousand volumes of the world's best literature printed in this series. Well, seven hundred and eighty volumes have appeared and plans for many of the volumes to come had his careful consideration before he died. * * * The removal of the Temple Press to the Garden City at Letchworth, and a new undertaking, the "Kings' Treasuries of Literature," occupied Mr. Dent's last years. The future of his dreams lies now with his son *Hugh Railton Dent*, who has been his father's right hand in all his later mechanical and spiritual enterprises. * * * On the first of April last the Menorah alumni of the City of New York offered a prize of fifty dollars to that student in any of the colleges or universities in the City and State of New York who, during the academic year ending in 1926 produced the best original and distinctive work of Jewish interest in the fields of drama, poetry, literature, or Jewish problems. * * * Manuscripts should be in the hands of the Menorah Alumni Prize Committee, 167 West 13th Street, New York City, by October 1, 1926. Inquiries may be addressed to the same committee concerning the terms of the contest. * * * *Gerald Bullett*, who wrote "Mr. Godley Beside Himself," published in May "The Baker's Cart," a collection of thirteen stories of the grotesqueries of everyday life. * * * Two new stories by *Eden Phillpotts* are "Circe's Island and The Girl and the Faun." They are whimsical satire with a classic background. * * * Now that you've all read *Cameron Rogers's* "The Magnificent Idler," and have formed one opinion of *Walt Whitman*, look up one of the latest volumes in the new series of "English Men of Letters," and see what *John Bailey*, an Englishman, has to say of the immortal Walt. * * * This is a more conservative study of that genius. * * * We haven't read *William Bolitho's* "Italy under Mussolini," but if you wish to know the secret beginnings of the Fascist movement and its course to date, few better books could be found. * * * *Louis Bromfield*, still abroad, implies that his new novel "Early Autumn" will hit the happy mean between "The House of Seven Gables" and "The Little French Girl." Figure that out. * * * Two of *Percival Christopher Wren's* earlier books are being brought out by Stokes in the fall. They are "The Snake and the Sword," and "Father Gregory." * * * *Franz Werfel's* next work,—he who wrote "Goat Song," and "Verdi"—will be "Juarez and Maximilian, a Dramatic History in Three Phases and an Epilogue." * * * The play will be produced this fall by the Theatre Guild, and will be published in book form by Simon and Schuster, who also brought out "Verdi." * * * The translation has been made by *Ruth Langner*. * * * In Berlin and Vienna the play has made a great impression. The German production was under the supervision of *Max Reinhardt*. * * * The play is, of course, based on the tragedy of Maximilian, Archduke of Austria, who was shot while he was Emperor of Mexico. * * * Which reminds us that the best poetic drama we ever read of that exciting historical incident was one

called, we think, "Maximilian," by the southern poet *Olive Tilford Dargan*. * * * In the lives of Maximilian and Carlotta there is certainly great dramatic material. * * * that excellent book-seller, *Edwin Valentine Mitchell* of Hartford, who has recently turned publisher, has edited a miscellany for voyagers on all seas, entitled "The Steamer Book." Dodd, Mead publishes it. It's now in its third printing. * * * And Mitchell, at 27 Lewis Street, Hartford, publishes himself *Thomas Hunt Martin's* "The American's London." * * * And we hear that *Ethel Barrymore* may appear in the dramatization of *John Erskine's* "Helen of Troy," which *Winthrop Ames* is doing. * * * In the autumn a new novel will come from *May Sinclair*. Its title is "Far End." * * * You can buy *Leon Trotsky's* "Whither Russia" of the International Publishers at 381 Fourth Avenue. * * * A few writers in America make so much money out of fiction that the youngster is apt to think the rewards of creative writing are almost sure to mount up considerably after a few years. * * * Such is all too seldom the case. * * * It is usually a long road and a hard one. * * * As we have glanced through it, we think we can safely say that the actualities of publishing—and editorial—offices are set forth in this volume without any buncombe. * * * What advice is given is based on thorough experience and is full of sense. * * * In collaboration with *Grant Overton*, *Michael Joseph* has produced "The Commercial Side of Literature," a book about how to sell the things you write. It comes from Harpers. * * * It is a better book than most of its kind we should say. * * * Want a thriller? Well, you doubtless know the work of *Edgar Wallace*. * * * In "The Terrible People" (Doubleday), Wallace provides something that may, if you are delicately constituted, keep you up nights. * * * How come that the prosecuting counsel, the judge, and the hangman who hanged one Clay Shelton, world-famous murderer, all died within three months after his hanging? And who were The Terrible People mentioned in the murderer's final curse? * * * We guess that will hold you! * * * Such books as "Catherine the Great," and "Peter the Czar" have recently aroused interest in the early life of the Russian Empire. Well, "The Ninth Thermidor" (Knopf), lately published, translated from the Russian of *M. A. Aldanov* by *A. E. Chamot*, finds part of an historical trilogy, which embraces the period between the years 1793 and 1821. * * * The concluding part of "The Thinker," which is the name of the trilogy has already appeared in a French magazine. * * * The general title is taken from the chimera "Le Penseur" (otherwise "Le Diable Penseur") which is on the summit of the Cathedral of Notre Dame de Paris. * * * Another of those college novels, this time the story of a girl's college career at a mid-western State university, is "Co-Ed," by *Olive Deane Hormel* (Scribners). * * * *Haldane MacFall*, who gave us "The Wooings of Jezebel Pettyfer" has produced one of the best of Oriental novels, a tale of Eleventh Century Persia, called "The Three Students." * * * *Herbert S. Gorman's* "Notations for a Chimera" is published by Milton I. D. Einstein, at 295 Fifth Avenue. This is a limited edition of one hundred copies, with designs by Mary Small. * * * Gorman's poetry has a fragile and subtle distinction entirely its own. He achieves some striking effects. * * * Let's go fishing,—but probably you know far more about brook and brown trout than we do. * * * If so, and you're off to meadow, brook, river or lake, take along *Edward Ringwood Hewitt's* "Telling on the Trout." * * * This is not a manual of fishing, as Mr. Hewitt explains, "but the answer my study and experience give to some questions that linger with the tried and true fisherman." * * * And Mr. Hewitt has had fifty years' experience. All fishermen may well value his contribution to the lore of the trout. * * * We haven't been reading the novel by the author of "Flaming Youth" now running serially in the new *McClure's*, which has burst out into such a great picture magazine, but we did read an instalment or so of *Cyril Hume's* new novel, "The Golden Dancer," which is running serially in, of all periodicals, *College Humor*. * * * And we were much taken with it. * * * We shall be back across the bounding wave now almost before you know it,—in fact,

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owing to our own air-mail,—viz. the Tasmanian carrier-pigeons we specially bred and trained ourselves before setting forth on our travels,—we'll bet you have hardly noticed that we were gone. * * * We have been, though; and sometimes pretty far gone. * * * But every week we tucked a little packet wrapped in oilskin under the wing of one of our carriers and loosed the dainty bird from the Eiffel Tower. * * * Cables from the office promptly apprised us of his arrival—or her's; for one of these pretty fowl we named Mary, because,—er that was her name. * * * And she flew faster than any of the gentlemen. * * * She's a high-flier, is Mary. * * * Well anyway, that's how our copy got to the printer every week. * * * If you doubt it write our old friend P. E. G. *Quercu* about it. * * * He knows, because he's been sending us bulletins of how the trade wind were blowing. * * * Now, Joris, stand still, while we attach this week's *Nest* to your pennate fringe! * * * Joris is the fastest of the gentlemen pigeons. * * * Houpla, there you go, Joris! * * * Tell all the crowds at Forty-second Street (an incidentally *George M. Cohan*) that we will soon be there!

THE PHOENICIAN.