

For, of both sorts are the fifty-six poems of Robert J. C. Stead, which make up the fine volume of verse, **Kitchener and Other Poems** (The Mussen Book Co., Toronto, 161 pages, \$1.00). Racy and free, and yet with a restraint that never topples into roughness or vulgarity, strong and yet tender, Robert Stead is both type and interpreter of Canadian life and Canadian manhood, especially as these are seen on the Western prairies. His "Kitchener," it has been said, is the only Canadian poem that was ever incorporated, complete, into a telegraphic news service. Within a few hours after the great War Lord's tragic death, its merit was instantly recognized, and it speedily gained a world-wide celebrity. Stead is the brightest star in the by no means mean galaxy of present day Canadian writers of verse.

"Blessed is he of whom it has been said that he so loved giving that he even gave his own life." The man who wrote thus was a rich man's son, an Eton boy and Oxford scholar, a young man of means and of brilliant literary gifts, who, after serving six years as an officer in the British Army, resigned his commission that he might devote himself to good works, especially amongst the poor, and who, when the great War broke out, enlisted as a common soldier, that he might keep in touch with the common man, and who gave his life on the battlefields of the Somme. He loved much; he gave all. And because he so loved and had the heart so to give he understood. This was Donald Hankey, from whose manuscripts, written mostly actually in the trenches, we have now a Second Series of **A Student in Arms** (McClelland, Goodchild & Stewart, Toronto, 246 pages, with portrait of the author, \$1.50). The first book gave its author enviable fame as an interpreter of the British common soldier and his part in the great struggle. This Second Series enlarges the field of his wonderful interpretation of men. This time it is more the officer than the common soldier he depicts, for, under persuasion, he later accepted a commission—for he loved "Tommy" and all his ways—and died rallying his men under raking enemy fire. His discussion of The Good Side of Militarism, and The Bad Side of Militarism, The Romance of War, The Fear of Death in War, are notable chapters. An extended sketch by a loving hand of Donald Hankey as boy and college man; characteristic papers by himself on his home and his school; add interest. The readers of the First Series of **A Student in Arms** will want this Second Series, and readers of this book will want the prior one. Donald Hankey was a rare spirit, with a consummate gift of interpretation of his fellow men.

The All Canadian Entertainment Series, by Edith Lelean Groves (McClelland, Goodchild & Stewart, Toronto, 7 booklets, 25c. each, and 9 booklets, 15c. each). Workers amongst boys and girls who are continually lacking for suggestions that will provide plays, drills and exercises will be grateful for this series. Amongst them are found such as **Santa Claus and the Magic Carpet**, which is a Christmas comedy; **Rule Britannia**, a fancy flag drill; **Wooing of Miss Canada**, a play; **Holly Drill**; **Britannia**, a play; **Saluting the Canadian Flag**, patriotic exercise; **We Will Fight for the Grand Old Flag**, a fancy flag drill.

The War has emphasized in a preeminent degree the importance of a right training of the children; for it is of those now children that the State is to be constituted. A right training has as its basis the religious element. All Sunday School work is being pursued with increasing ardor, under the War cloud. Three familiar helps to the training the Sunday School gives are on our table. **Tarbell's Teachers' Guide** to the International Uniform Lessons for 1918, by Martha Tarbell, Ph.D. (Fleming H. Revell Company, New York, 464 pages, \$1.25 net), has added to its familiar valuable features, amongst other important items 8 full page reproductions of famous sacred pictures and 2 full page colored maps. "Tarbell" is scholarly, interesting and suggestive.

On a less elaborate scale, and from the same publishers, is **Arnold's Practical Sunday School Commentary** on the same series of Lessons (233 pages, 75c. net), closely packed with information on the Lesson Passage, hints to teachers, illustrations, etc. A useful book.

R. A. Torrey's **The Gist of the Lesson** (same publishers, 154 pages, 25c.) is a convenient vest pocket commentary on the Uniform Lessons for the year, which is valued by many.

Other books received, some of which may receive further notice, are as follows:

McClelland, Goodchild & Stewart, Toronto

Under Sealed Orders, by H. A. Cody, 318 pages, \$1.35.

Red Pepper's Patients, by Grace S. Richmond, 285 pages, \$1.35.

With Our Faces in the Light, Frederick Palmer, 123 pages, 50c. net.

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY OF CANADA, TORONTO

How the Present Came from the Past, by Margaret E. Wells, 176 pages, 56c.

The Soul of a Bishop, by H. G. Wells, 341 pages, \$1.50.

THOMAS ALLEN, TORONTO

Cloud Boat Stories, by Olive Roberts Barton, 138 pages, \$1.50 net.

The Newcomers, by Elia W. Peattie, 187 pages, \$1.25 net.

The Red Indian Fairy Book, by Frances Jenkins Olcott, 338 pages, \$2.00 net.

THE PILGRIM PRESS, BOSTON

The Good Crow's Happy Shop, by Patten Beard, 167 pages, \$1.35 net.

The Outsider at St. Agatha's, by Edith Robinson, 121 pages, 75c. net.

HODDER & STOUGHTON, TORONTO

No Man's Land, by "Sapper," 328 pages, \$1.25.