

Division. And why, you may ask, is that so important? Simply for this reason—Sergeant Olson is the first serving member of the RCMP to write a novel about the Force and receive official approval for its publication. In itself, this reviewer feels, that is a pretty fair recommendation for “Mountie on Trial”—the reader will at least be assured that the story is one which will reflect no discredit on the Force.

The tale centres around the fortunes and misfortunes of a detachment man in “F” Division, who through some dirty work by a former suitor of his wife’s—and a somewhat faithless betrayal by said wife—is convicted of theft of some bonds. The poor corporal receives the ultimate in sentence—ignominious dismissal from the Force he loves and a penitentiary sentence for the theft charge. As the story progresses he completes his prison term, sets out on a new life devoid of family and with but one thought in mind—revenge. Through a peculiar quirk of fate he once again becomes a member of the Mounted Police, establishes for himself a new life in a different division and ultimately in a thrilling climax to the book, satisfactorily resolves all the problems which a few short years earlier, changed the course of his entire life.

It’s a good story. Sergeant Olson tells it in a simple style but the reader finds himself gripped by the tale and extremely reluctant to put the book down. We would suggest that this is the mark of a good work of fiction. It’s the same sort of appeal that made the books of Zane Grey so popular and we must confess that while reading “Mountie on Trial” we were reminded of Grey’s writings.

One other point we liked was that Sergeant Olson has made no attempt to change the thinking of the world with endless discourses and profound observations on matters entirely unrelated to the theme of the book. This it might be suggested is the fault of all too many fiction writers.

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE, by Richard L. Neuberger. Illustrated by Lee J. Ames. Random House, New York, N.Y., and Toronto, Canada. Pp. 182. \$2.

The author of this book, a senator in the Oregon State Legislature, is well known to

Quarterly readers, for several of his interesting articles have appeared between the covers of this magazine. Mr. Neuberger is undoubtedly one of the best “salesmen” this Force has, for his articles on the work of the Mounted Police have appeared in many publications. Now he has completed this worth-while little history of the Force especially for young people.

Designed to suit the reading tastes of youngsters between the ages of nine and 12 years, Mr. Neuberger’s book is written in a style bound to hold the interest of the young. Unlike most histories, there has been no attempt to record a mass of dull dates and statistics, but the important phases of the Force’s progress from 1873 to modern times have been recorded in a simple and interesting style that makes good reading.

The author’s interest in the RCMP dates from the days when he served in the northwest with the United States Army during the construction of the Alaska Highway. He numbers among his friends many officers, NCOs and constables of the Force whom he met and worked with during those days and his writings reflect the great respect he developed for the Mounted Police through this close association.

JUNGLE LORE, by Jim Corbett. Oxford University Press, Toronto, Canada. Illustrated. Pp. 168. \$2.50.

When this book was recommended to this reviewer, it was referred to as “a delightful little book” and it is just that. The author is a naturalist from away back. Growing up on the edge of an Indian jungle, he was learning the ways of birds and wild animals at an age when most youngsters are playing “cops and robbers” or “cowboys and Indians”. His love for wild life in its natural habitat is no less genuine because it is tempered with a profound respect for the fiercer denizens of the eastern jungles, but rather, has enabled him to understand the nature of the more dangerous animals and to destroy those which became a menace to human lives.

Jim Corbett writes: “Had I realized in those far off days that a time would come when I would write this book, I would have tried to learn more than I did, for the time I spent in the jungles held unalloyed happiness for me, and that happiness I would