

AMONG THE BOOKS

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Coming as it does from one who knows girls, their problems and their pastimes, their hopes and their fears, their capacity for work and play as only the principal of a large girls' school can know them, *The Girl of the New Day*, by E. M. Knox (McClelland and Stewart, Toronto, 241 pages, \$1.75) should find a ready place on the book shelf of every home where there is a girl who will one day go out to take her place in the world. Knowing that the girl of to-day has many problems and opportunities of which her mother and grandmother never dreamed, the author has tried in twenty intensely interesting chapters to help the thousands of girls who are on the threshold of womanhood to choose and choose rightly that path that inclination or circumstances bids them follow. Whether the way leads to the office, the factory, the farm or the home, the girl of the new day who is groping for something that will be of real help to her, and will make her of real help and value to others, will find here just what she is looking for.

In *Broad Horizons* (The Musson Book Company, Toronto, 224 pages, \$1.50 net), the author, Mr. W. Everard Edmunds, has given us a series of essays, mostly historical sketches, which should find a wide circle of readers amongst those who are interested in the development of our Canadian national life. The Dawn of Dominion; the Canadian Club Movement; The Khaki University, Indian Customs and Legends; A Red River Buffalo Hunt; The Royal Northwest Mounted Police; The Early Ranchers and Cowboys:—these selections from amongst the seventeen chapter titles of the book indicate its purpose and scope. The master of any easy and attractive style, the writer of these essays depicts, in a most interesting fashion, some outstanding incidents in our national life and indicates some of the forces which have been, and are at work in the growth of that life.

The scene of Douglas Durkin's novel, *The Heart of Cherry McBain* (The Musson Book Company, Toronto, 325 pages, \$1.50 net), is a new settlement in Western Canada. It is a tale of the coming to this far away outpost, of a new railway, one of the transcontinental highways. We are taken to Keith McBain's

railway construction camp at the end of steel, into the company of strong, rough men,—men in whom the elemental emotions of human nature have full play and who have caught, in the big out of doors, in which their life is spent, the spirit of a freedom which not unfrequently becomes the wildest license. To this camp comes one day King Howden, a young settler trying to get a new start in a new country after failure elsewhere. Having made his homestead in a northern valley, he, for a year carried the Government's mail back and forth amongst the settlers of the district. On his first visit to the railway camp he met big Bill McCartney, who, for two years, had held McBain's life in his hands. He met, also, Cherry McBain. Trouble started with McCartney, occasioned, at first, by a miserable mongrel dog, but reaching its climax in a conflict, which threatened the destruction of the whole town in a single night. How King Howden won out against Bill McCartney and captured the real prize in the battle, "the heart of Cherry McBain" makes a tale which abounds in thrilling excitement.

Star Dust from the Dugouts (The Abingdon Press, New York and Cincinnati, 236 pages, frontispiece and chapter heading sketches, \$1.50 net) is an interpretation by an American chaplain, who earned the title of "the fighting parson," of the boys in the trenches and the folk at home. It is not a story book, although filled with illustrative incidents,—a book "illustrating great, human emotions, soul crises, and triumphant spiritual victories" by "human-interest experiences." The book will be of special interest to those who are anxious to understand the kind of men who have come back to them from France, and, albeit American in setting and tone, it contains a good deal that is instructive to us on this side of the line. Mr. Stidger writes with the abandon of a big boy who has found his taste of the War a great adventure.

Grace S. Richmond's name has grown to be a household word through her "Red Pepper" books. Her newest story, *Red and Black* (S. B. Gundy, publisher in Canada for Humphry Milford, Toronto, 381 pages, 2 full page illustrations, \$1.60), will add to her