

AMONG THE BOOKS

We will mail to your address any book mentioned in the Teachers Monthly, on receipt of price plus 10c. postage. If postage is found to be less than 10c. balance will be returned to sender. Address R. Douglas Fraser, Presbyterian Publications, Toronto.

"Wayne MacBlane wanted to know just who or what Sanctus Spiritus and Company were, and Professor Niederstadt looked at him eager for an explanation. Then he told them the story of the three old men. Of Father Anton Kalman, Pan Yan Szenitzky and Moritz Redlish, who were the survivors of the good old time when men of different races and faiths could live together like brothers, and how one by one they went down under the new nationalism, which claimed not only them as a sacrifice, but drew nearly ten million more men into the abyss, and almost wrecked the world." These sentences from the close of *Sanctus Spiritus and Company*, by Edward A. Steiner (George H. Doran Company, New York, McClelland & Stewart, Toronto, 320 pages, \$2.00) contain the motif of the book. The story opens in Hungary, which, with the going and coming of emigrants to the United States, has become linked up with the new world and had been caught up into the whirl of the world's competitions and strifes. Dr. Steiner's book has been well designated an epic of the immigrant. Against the background of life in his old home in Central Europe, with its conflicts amongst Magyars and Slovaks and Jews, between Protestant and Catholic, is pictured the environment of the newcomer to the mines and factories of Pennsylvania. Over the whole rests the dark shadow of the Great War, whose titanic upheavals left no part of life in the countries affected by it untouched. Dr. Steiner writes out of an intimate knowledge of European and American conditions and of the problems of emigration. He makes the reader see and hear the clash and conflict of the old-world and new-world ideas. And amidst the turmoil and confusion may be followed the thread of a love story of genuine human interest.

Sweethearts Unmet, by Berta Ruck (Hodder & Stoughton, Toronto, 339 pages, \$1.75) is a story about boys and girls. It deals with a very real problem,—how, in a big city and amid the complexities and conventionalities of our modern society, boys can meet the right kind of girls and girls can meet the right kind of boys. Boys and girls themselves will need no inducement to read this book,—its subject matter is of vital

interest to them—and older people will read it, too,—at least those of them, who, while growing older, have kept alive their sympathetic interest in all that concerns young people.

It is not only because *The Man of the Forest* by Zara Grey (Harper & Brothers, New York and London, The Musson Book Company, Toronto, 383 pages, 4 illustrations, by Frank Tenney Johnson, \$2.00) is a book full of exciting adventure that it gets and holds its grip on the reader. Milt Dale, the hero, during his solitary years in the woods, has penetrated the secrets of nature concealed from the more casual observer, and has learned, in his intimacy with wild things, a deep and true philosophy of life. From him one may learn many things not taught in books. But one thing this "Man in the Forest" had missed,—and that the greatest thing in life—love. At last, however, this came to him when chance brought to him the opportunity of saving Helen Rayne, from the plot of Beasley, a scoundrelly rancher, whose covetous greed sought to rob her of the inheritance designed for her by her uncle, old Al Auchincloss, Beasley's chief rival and his bitter enemy. The Man of the Forest is a strong and compelling tale.

The Man with Three Names, by Harold MacGrath (S. B. Gundy, Toronto, 284 pages, \$1.75). An underlying mystery, the solution of which does not appear until the end of the story, keeps the hero from revealing his real family name. Under his assumed name, he champions the cause of justice in the town to which he has gone to win the love of a beautiful girl. Under a pseudonym, the hero has made a name as a novelist. The girl's father becomes an enemy, and discovers the hero's real name. It is a stirring story of mystery and love.

Basil Everman, by Elsie Singmaster (Thomas Allen, Toronto, Houghton Mifflin Company, New York, 305 pages, \$2.00), is a story of a little college town, not far north of the Mason and Dixon line. The story takes its title from a character who never appears in person, but who, nevertheless, dominates the whole course of the narrative. With great sureness and delicacy of touch,