

# Some Books Worth While

## NEXT-OF-KIN

(\$1.35)

By Nellie L. McClung

Again this popular author has endeared herself to her great galaxy of readers. The 16 brief tales of this book are bound together by the same thing which draws the people who figure in them—the war. For the author is concerned with the way in which war and the sacrifices made for it and the burdens borne for it touches those whom she knows best, the women of Canada. With few exceptions these are stories of women who have given up their sons, of others who are widowed, because they cherish the idea of the British Empire and are ready to give bread and blood, the "sacrifice of Empire," to save it. And almost every one is a story of cheerful sacrifice or of proud courage in sorrow. There is the story of the woman who has lost three sons and who came down to the station to see the other boys off, in the hope of adopting one of them, to be a war-mother to him. This is matched by that of the wife of the disciplinarian doctor, whose recruiting speeches give her courage to defy him and adopt two small children orphaned through the war.



NELLIE McCLUNG  
Author of "The Next of Kin"

But though the book is naturally full of the tragedy of war, it is relieved by the author's nice sense of humor and by the thread of suffrage argument running boldly through it. These lend it a certain charm. For they are in strong contrast to many of the stories and to all of the verse. The stories are all that is popularly known as "human" stories. They should have a large popular appeal. The note of optimism is strongly stressed, even in the more tragic tales. Sacrifice is rewarded. Courage is blessed. Nobility is crowned with honor. Nowhere is there absolute, unrelieved misery. Never are vain oblations made.

## MORE LETTERS FROM BILLY

(\$1.10)

By the author of "A Sunny Subalterner"

Everyone who has followed the adventures of "A Sunny Subalterner" will be eager to read this new volume, in which the Sunny Subalterner (a young Toronto officer) in his own free, delightful way continues the story of his experiences. The letters are really just breezy epistles to his mother—a spontaneous natural telling of events as they come in a way that a joyous boy with a strong sense of fun, quite remarkable literary skill and a keen eye to the picturesque would tell them. Billy indeed, with his human touch, proves himself the Bruce Bairnsfather of the pen.

These natural, spontaneous letters of a frank, stout-hearted Canadian boy beautifully reveal one of the most sacred relationships of life—a mother's love for her son and a son's love for his mother.

The unusual thing about this really great little book is that some alchemy of the human writer—a part of himself—is conveyed into the printed page, thus made far more real than any novelist's most perfect work.

## FARM MANAGEMENT

Agricultural education in the past has been directed almost entirely to teaching how to grow crops and animals. Farmers' institutes, agricultural colleges, the publication of bulletins and of the majority of

farm papers, have all been conducted with the idea of increasing production. The scientific investigation and teaching of the last 40 years has behind it centuries of accumulated experience in agricultural methods. The result is that there is now a vast fund of popular knowledge of the methods of successful production. But while our knowledge of productive agriculture has rapidly increased, the most important fact concerning farming has received scant consideration. That fact is that in one generation the farmer has been changed from a simple producer, supplying most of his own needs, to a business man with complex interests. The world is now drawn upon to supply his needs. He requires a large outfit of expensive, complex machinery. Expensive buildings are necessary. Much of his clothing is made from cotton grown in the south and manufactured in England. Food and clothing materials produced on his own farm are for the most part exchanged for similar commodities that have been through long and intricate processes in distant cities. In fact he is a business man of wide and varied interests. Any system of agricultural education that loses sight of this salient fact is neglecting the most important part of the farmer's education.

The man who has done more than any other to analyze the business of the modern farmer and to determine the relative value of the different factors of his success is G. F. Warren, Professor of Farm Management in the college of agriculture at Cornell university. The methods he has adopted are simple and business-like. "The best way to find out what methods of farm organization and management are most successful," he says, "is to study the methods now used and the profits secured on large numbers of farms and determine how the more successful ones differ from the less successful, and find to which of the differences the success is due."

Professor Warren has made complete surveys of over a thousand farm businesses, both successful and unsuccessful. On these investigations, supplemented by the study of cost accounting and census returns and by extensive travel and practical farm experience, he has based his great book, "Farm Management," (\$1.90). This is one of the few epoch-making books in agricultural literature. Its publication has been followed by a vast amount of investigation work along the lines first suggested by Warren. Such investigations have been conducted in Missouri, Nebraska, Montana and other states, and in every case the teachings of Warren's book have been strikingly corroborated. A start has been made in Canada, and a farm survey is now in progress in Peel County, Ontario. All this goes to show the importance that is being attached to the study of business principles in farming. But the farmer need not wait to have his farm surveyed for him. The great purpose of the book is to enable him to investigate his own farm business. "Farm Management" is written for the practical farmer. Its object is to teach him how to analyze his own farm organization from a business standpoint and make it a profitable business concern. There are many good books in agricultural subjects, but undoubtedly the first one to read is Warren's "Farm Management."

## THE LAW OF HUMAN PROGRESS

"Political economy and social science cannot teach any lessons

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that are not embodied in the simple truths that were taught to poor fishermen and Jewish peasants by one who, 1,800 years ago was crucified. The simple truths which, beneath the warpings of selfishness and the distortions of superstition, seem to underlie every religion that has ever striven to formulate the spiritual yearnings of man."

Thus it is Henry George, the great political economist and reformer sums up the teachings of his own great works, which have spread so rapidly throughout the civilized world in the past generation. Henry George, a poor working man, made the world see and understand the chief causes of the inequality of wealth. He laid bare the reasons why the hovel of the pauper existed within a stone's throw of the millionaire's mansion. Some of the finest chapters of his great book, "Pro-

gress and Poverty," have been gathered together in a smaller volume, "The Law of Human Progress" (50c.). This little book of 121 pages is a gem of moral uplift and spiritual inspiration. It is encouraging to all social and political reformers, showing them the pathway of human progress and the certainty of what must come as the truth is wider known and understood.

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