THE BOOKSHELF SPEAKS

THE NEW REFORMATION by Michael Pupin

Professor Pupin, as the publishers tell us, has in this book accomplished that which would have been impossible to one who is not a scientist as well as an artist. A scientific treatise or a work utterly devoid of technical background could not have the general appeal that this work has. Fundamentally, the topic is scientific but the style is not that of the scientific writer but the style is not that of the scientific writer yet the reader senses that the author is a scientist.

The author declares that the progress of Science has been due to the progress of "the scientific mode of research," as he calls it. This method of attacking a scientific problem was originated by Archimedes but lay dormant from his time to the age of Roger Bacon. Bacon realized that the Aristotelian philosophy fostered by the Mediaeval Church could not answer his questions so he turned to Archimedes for his model.

It is demonstrated that Religion and Science are mutually interdependent. To be true, during the Middle Ages Religion occupied a far more important place than it does today and Science was looked upon askance. Yet, both rested upon false foundations—iron-bound dogma and ignorance. As soon as Religion abandoned its orthodoxy and the truths of Science were realized, Civilization received a fresh impetus.

We are to consider the scientific mode of research as the foundation of a new philosophy. Science and Religion are terminals of the same realities; one terminal resides in the human soul, the other in the visible realities of the universe. This is quite logical and original. Professor Pupin declares that the world is gradually drifting towards this idea; this is the New Reformation.

While this work is to be highly commended and represents a great step forward in light of settling the Religion versus Science dispute, one rather important item has been overlooked, that of Evolution. The learned Doctor is primarily an engineer yet it seems that before embarking upon the seas of Philosophy, he should have looked into Darwinism a bit and given us some discussion on how this absorbing subject fits into the New Reformation.

The Oxford University Press has recently published an American history which is advertised as "Americana." It covers the period from the beginning of things in North America to the late war. The author, although English, does not spare his countrymen.

Doubleday-Doran announce the publishing of a new book concerning more of the exploits of Lawrence in Arabia. Colonel Lawrence has left the limelight and is at present with the Royal Air force in India under the name of T. E. Shaw. He is a mere private.

THE GANGS OF NEW YORK

By Herbert Asbury

In a volume that represents a colossal amount of research work among old newspaper files, histories, and reports, the author of this book has made a distinct and original contribution to that swelling mass of literature that sports the title, "Americana."

The New York gangster is by no means a new character to the world. For years he has held a place unique among thugs, crooks, and cut-throats, that until the innovation of the machine-gunning lad of Chicago has been considered the last word in the underworld. All those gentlemen that figure in the headlines of the tabloids today are but the progeny of the original group that flourished in lower Manhattan a century ago.

Mr. Asbury says that the gangs grew with the flood of Immigration. The greater part of the undesirables of all Europe flocked to our shores during those early days. Is it a wonder that today these dear United States excel in murders? The officials in charge of governing the various European states in those days must be credited with a far-seeing vision. They got rid of their crooks and today point their fingers at us and comment on democracy. In spite of this the best is to be hoped for. Take for example the Commonwealth of Australia. Originally a colony of convicts, the Continent of the Antipodes today boasts of a happy, well-governed people.

The gangs of New York waned fat under corrupt police protection. The high point of their existence appears to have been reached with the Conscription Riots during the early days of the Civil War. Crookdom was partially disorganized by the earnest efforts of certain citizens. The notorious Rosenthal incident sounded the knell of the organized gang in New York.

Written in a pleasing style, this volume should prove very good reading both for the history contained as well as the blood and thunder.

THE DAY'S WORK by Rudyard Kipling

It is a great balm to the soul of the younger engineer to think that after he finishes up his first big job he will marry the chief's beautiful daughter. In fact, the idea is so prevalent that all authors make a practice of ending up their twenty-chapter agony of the dam break with a wild gallop to the parson, the bold young C. E. and his love being the two main participants. Something should be done to stop this insidious propaganda.

Mr. Kipling, the well-known author of Danny Deever and some twenty-odd volumes of prose and poetry, must have noticed this practice quite a period back. He wrote a story about an engi-

(Continued on Page 24)
The Franklin Blue Print
and Supply Company

73 South Fourth Street
Columbus, Ohio

For fifteen years this Company has
been serving Columbus and Central
Ohio with their needs in Blue Prints
and Engineering and architectural
supplies.

Students have found it pays to buy
from a company that has backed the
goods it sells with its reputation.

Owned and operated by Ohio State
Alumni, we stand ready to co-operate
with the Ohio State Student.

Thesis Blue Prints are our specialty.

Your Good Will Is Our Profit

The Bridge Builders.
This is the first story and the best one in the
book. It is about Findlayson, an engineer who is
building a bridge across the upper part of the
Ganges. The construction work is practically
finished when the story opens. He has success-
fully weathered all of the trials and tribulations
that go with the job of chief engineer, slipping of
booms, breaking of tackle, failure of the cranes
and drag-lines, fever and pestilence among the
workmen and a thousand other details. He was
beginning to pat himself on the back because he
had come through. The job was finished but there
was one trial he had overlooked: the vengeance of
Mother Gunga or the spirit of the Ganges. Peroo,
his henchman, had oft warned him that Mother
Gunga did not like the idea of being hampered
with steel and concrete and would seek retribu-
tion ere the work was completed.

Mother Gunga sought retribution and how she
did it makes a pretty tale. If we had more of
these stories there might be less disillusioned en-
geineers.

.007 is another god story. It is a rather pecu-
liar title, sounding like the code name of a secret
agent. Mayhap Kipling was the first to invest
a machine with a personality. It does make good
material for a story.

There are also a couple of sea yarns that are
not bad reading. Stories of the sea are read with
avid interest in all corners of the globe. You
ought to enjoy The Ship That Found Herself.

As one goes through a volume of Kipling the
most outstanding fact concerning his writing
that will be noted is his great versatility. Besides
being a master of both poetry and prose he is a
master of local color. It is not a great feat to
write about a land where one has been born and
raised but it is an entirely different matter to
write about places where one has merely toured
through. Kipling knows his India. Read .007
and find out what he knows about the U. S.

MARK ALLEN, '31.
WIRE

automobile and airplane wires, electrical wires, submarine cables, bridge-building cables, wire rope, telegraph and telephone wire, radio wire, round wire, welding wire, flat wire, star-shaped and all different kinds of shapes of wire, sheet wire, piano wire, pipe organ wire, wire hoops, barbed wire, woven wire fences, wire gates, wire fence posts, trolley wire and rail bonds, poultry netting, wire springs, concrete reinforcing wire mesh, nails, staples, tacks, spikes, bale ties, steel wire strips, wire-rope aerial tramways. Illustrated story of how steel and wire is made, also illustrated books describing uses of all the above wires sent free.

AMERICAN STEEL & WIRE COMPANY
Sales Offices
Chicago New York Boston Cleveland Worcester Philadelphia Pittsburgh Buffalo Detroit Cincinnati Baltimore Wilkes-Barre St. Louis Kansas City St. Paul Oklahoma City Birmingham Memphis Dallas Atlanta Denver Salt Lake City
Export Representative U. S. Steel Products Co., New York
Pacific Coast Representative U. S. Steel Products Company, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle

LUFKIN Tapes and Rules
The Recognized Standard of Accuracy and Service
They are offered in patterns and grades best for General Engineering, Surveying, Construction and Maintenance
SEND FOR CATALOG
NEW YORK WINDSOR, ONT.
SEND FOR CATALOG
SAGINAW, MICH.

TYPEWRITERS
RENTALS SALES SERVICE
RIDER'S PEN SHOP
15th AND HIGH DELIVERY SERVICE

MAY, 1928