

People Who Read and Write

By JOHN K. HUTCHENS

IT should be news of a sort this morning that Theodore Dreiser's novel "The Stoic," whose existence was first made public in his obituary published two weeks ago yesterday, is a sequel to his "The Titan" (1914); which is to say, it picks up and continues the career of Frank Cowperwood, certainly one of the most powerful and complex characters in all the Dreiser gallery. It is a long work, and Mr. Dreiser had entirely completed it, but had made no publication plans for it. . . . His next published work, as announced, is "The Bulwark," due in March from Doubleday—a book quite different in tone and method, according to one informant, from anything Mr. Dreiser ever wrote before. "Simple" and "touching" were a couple of the informant's adjectives for "The Bulwark," which will tell of a Quaker business man.

Coming Up

LATELY noted here as a probable Literary Guild selection for April, Taylor Caldwell's "This Side of Innocence" will instead be the choice for May. The April nominee is Little, Brown's "Wake of the Red Witch," by Garland Roark, a Houston, Tex., advertising man who writes for, apparently, fun. How long Mr. Roark has been writing for fun is not divulged, but his hobby seems to have paid off, because this will be his first published work. . . . Gene Fowler's long-awaited memoir of his early, or Rocky Mountain, years is now promised by Viking for April, under the title of "A Solo in Tom-Toms." The same house lists Franz Werfel's last novel, "Star of the Unborn," for next month, quietly calling it "one of the most important novels of our lifetime." . . . On Simon & Schuster's spring schedule, Venture Press division, is "The Saint and the Hunchback," a novel by Donald A. Stauffer, late of the United States Marine Corps and now teaching English again at Princeton. . . . As quickly as it can, Random House will publish "America's Germany," by Julian Bach Jr., which will take the view—in opposition to a good many other views—that the American Army's share of the occupation "has been as successful as any realistic person could hope." . . . Whatever may eventually happen about General Patton's autobiography, Putnam late this week will publish "Patton: Fighting Man," by William Bancroft Mellor, which, to be sure, does not take the general to his death. . . . Somewhat less definite: Robert J. Casey is working on another "Such Interesting People," which must mean more of his fine, screwy tales about the newspaper business, of which he has been a bright part these many years.

Exit Ezra

THE exclusion of Ezra Pound's poems from Random House's Giant Modern Library edition of "An Anthology of Famous English and American Poetry" has singularly failed to stir the public pulse, Saxe Commins, Random editor, reports. The few letters received were chiefly on the side

of the publishers, who omitted the Pound poems (printed in the original edition, 1927) over the protest of Conrad Aiken, editor of the American section of the book (Mr. Aiken had objected on grounds of general principle). Since Pound, who had been under indictment on treason charges, was adjudged insane on Dec. 21, there have been no letters at all, according to Mr. Commins, who, speaking for himself, says he never thought much of the Pound poetry in the first place and, speaking for Random House, says that the firm was merely exercising its prerogative not to publish the work of a fascist sympathizer.

Trade Stuff

WHAT was Farrar & Rinehart for seventeen years is now Rinehart & Company, John Farrar (who left the firm in 1944) being about to start a new publishing house in partnership with Roger W. Straus Jr. . . . Future volumes of Edwin Seaver's "Cross Section" will be published by Simon & Schuster, at whose office (1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York 20) Mr. Seaver is even now receiving



MSS. for the 1946 edition. Closing date for entries: May 1. . . . A Literary Guild bulletin claims an all-time record for Thomas B. Costain's "The Black Rose," to wit: 1,000,000 copies in four months after publication, which total represents the combined trade and book club sale. . . . Doubleday's New Home Library hereafter will publish only original editions, and the standard price will be \$1. . . . Little, Brown announces a third printing of Dr. Herman Finer's "Road to Reaction," published on Nov. 20 and not calculated to make the holidays happier for Dr. Friedrich Hayek.

Donald Porter Geddes, late of Pocket Books, where his editing of "Franklin Delano Roosevelt: A Memorial," and "The Atomic Age" was widely praised, has joined the editorial department of Macmillan. . . . World Publishing Company will launch next month a new series of books for chil-

dren, to be known as Rainbow Classics. It will be a sizable project—some 3,000,000 books scheduled for the first year. . . . Speaking of World, this department erroneously credited it with having taken over Ernie Pyle's "Brave Men" during the paper shortage last year. It was farmed out to Grosset & Dunlap, which sold 250,000 copies of the book before returning it to the Holt list. . . . And speaking of Holt, it will publish—late this month—its first fiction in a long time: "Because of My Love," by Robert Paul Smith, who wrote "The Journey" and "So It Doesn't Whistle." . . . Chester Kerr, until recently a member of the State Department's Interim International Information Service, and before that director of the Atlantic Monthly Press, is now an officer of Reynal & Hitchcock.

Come and Get It

THE top prize of \$2,000 in the first annual short story contest sponsored by Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine has gone to Manley Wade Wellman of Westwood, N. J., for a tale entitled "A Star for a Warrior," scheduled for the April issue of that periodical. It offers not only a new detective but a new type of detective, according to Ellery Queen, for which you would think Mr. Wellman might be entitled to a bonus. . . . A somewhat less opulent tourney, the Prentice-Hall—Sewanee Review Literary Prize Contest, finds Malcolm Cowley winning \$200 for his essay "William Faulkner's Legend of the South," and Andrew Lytle the same sum for his story "The Guide," both of which appeared in The Sewanee Review's summer issue last year. . . . And any California resident who had a book published in 1945 may enter it in the Fifteenth Annual California Literature Medal Award contest before Jan. 31 and take his chances on being honored with one of two gold medals or five silver ones. The donor is the Commonwealth Club of California, at the St. Francis Hotel, San Francisco.

Recount

A CORRESPONDENT inter-ling through Henry F. Woods' "American Sayings," the collection of phrases, aphorisms, slogans, etc., recently published by Essential Books, was mildly startled to note therein that William Jennings Bryan and Abraham Lincoln were tied with six sayings each. A one-time member of the Populist party, the correspondent was also pretty pleased.

"This proves," he advises this sector, "that if Mr. Bryan didn't get to the White House, he certainly belonged there, and that while losing he was a moral, or at least an aphoristic, victor over William McKinley and William Howard Taft, who have only one 'saying' between them in Mr. Woods' book, and, furthermore, that Mr. Bryan would have given A. Lincoln himself an even run."

Just offhand, this appears to be an unanswerable statement, and is passed along as such.