

BOOK REVIEWS

MODERNISTS IN POETRY

By **RAYMOND GIRARDIN**
Survey of Modernist Poetry. By Laura Riding and Robert Graves. Doubleday, Doran and Company.

At first glance this seems to be a book for the young ladies who seek the solace of poetry but do not know just how to go about it.

At second glance it seems like a manuscript to the much alive Mr. E. E. Cummings and his writing.

The book really is more than that. The collaborators have taken pains to point out many phases of modernist poetry. They say what they have said in clear and at all times lucid technicalities. They are conscientious in their attempt to explain what the mode is today among the poets and the explanation—while silly to some—is welcome to many.

The good writers think highly of the works of Cummings, Eliot, John Crowe Ransom, Pound and a few others. They claim such persons as H. D., Carl Sandburg and John Drinkwater belong to dead movement or dead movements, which ever you prefer to do things merely for the plain reader who remains quite indifferent and unaware to what time it happens to be.

If you like the poems of Mr. Anderson, then you are the kind of person who always manages to keep a distance behind the procession. Despite the fact that the collaborators are rather too insistent on this point, the book is worth your consideration if you are interested in some of the modernist poets. Reading it is not a waste of time, by any means.

PRINTS ATTRACTING NOTICE AT LIBRARY

Considerable interest is being shown in the prints on exhibit this week and next in the Baldwin Public Library. Mrs. Nancy E. Thomas, librarian, reports: "The prints are copies of famous paintings and are furnished by us courtesy of a Detroit publishing house. They are on display in the east room on the second floor. Works of artists such as Crotchet, Thomas Sully and Rubens are included in the collection."



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WHAT THEY READ—HERE and THERE

In a survey of the outstanding books for December the Baldwin Public Library has included the following:

Beard, Charles A., Ed. Whither Mankind: A Panorama of Modern Civilization. Longmans, Green & Co. Some of the foremost writers and thinkers of the day attempt to weigh, dispassionately the gains and losses of modern life in comparison with conditions under older civilization.

Brown, Katharine Holland. The Father. The John Day Co. A romantic story of life just before the Civil War in which Lincoln appears as a friend and neighbor of the principal characters.

Farrell, Andrew. John Cameron's Odyssey. The Macmillan Co. Far into old axiom "Truth is stranger than fiction" is upheld in this story of John Cameron's adventures in the old-sailing crafts, beginning in 1867 and ending with his death in 1925.

Fosdick, Raymond B. The Old Savage in the New Civilization. Doubleday, Doran & Co. Mr. Fosdick asks some pertinent questions about human development in this age of scientific discovery and industrial expansion.

Woodward, W. E. Meet General Grant. Horace Liveright. Describes Grant as a man, not as a hero, telling of his failure before the Civil War, his rejuvenation in the time of national disaster, and his subsequent slump to mediocrity. Woodward sums up his own opinion of Grant thus: "A great general but an incredibly poor business man."

Harness—Hamilton Gibbs. Penelope's Man—John Erskine Old Pybus—Warwick Deeping. Joshua's Vision—W. J. Locke. Point Counter Point—Aldous Huxley.

Hounds of God—Raphael Sabatini.

Elizabeth and Essex—Lytton Strachan. Raiders of the Deep—Lowell Thomas. Meet General Grant—W. A. Woodward. Poems in Praise of Practically Nothing—Hoffenstein. Buck Traverser of the Middle Border—Hamin Garland.

All Depends. Fious Auntie: Now, Chester, if you mother gave you a large apple and a small one, and told you to divide with your brother, which would you give him? Chester: Do you mean my big brother or my little one?

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