

And still their devious course pursue  
To keep the path that others do.

But how the wise old wood-gods laugh,  
Who saw the first primeval calf!

Ah! many things this tale might teach:—  
But I am not ordained to preach.

## BOOKS

### LABOR UNIONS INTERPRETED.

**American Labor Unions.** By Helen Marot. Published by Henry Holt & Co., New York. 1915. Price, \$1.25 net.

There are several sorts of readers to welcome Miss Marot's book: The young worker, who has joined the union as a matter of course, but knows little or nothing of union traditions and ideals, will profit by this record of aims and achievement. So too will the social worker who has so often run amuck of the prejudices, and stayed to admire the loyalties among the organized workingmen and women. But more than anyone else will the plain citizen be glad to supplement his befuddling newspaper with an orderly narrative and a simple characterization of the labor unions in America. The book frankly—"by a member"—is sympathetic with the union point of view but not uncritical of it. "My object," the author says, "has been to interpret each one of these organizations as it interprets itself, with this difference: I have noted the criticisms made by the different groups within the labor movement of each of the others, when these criticisms deal with fundamental things."

Just what the Industrial Workers of the World hold against the American Federation of Labor, and wherein they are not yet true Syndicalists; what are the perplexities of the union labelists, what the most recent labor laws; why unionists look with deep disfavor upon "scientific efficiency" that purposes to gather in all the rule of thumb knowledge of all workmen, "the last vestiges of capital left to the workingman"—all this information follows the first and best chapter where Miss Marot holds the unionist mirror up to Philanthropy and interprets the image thereon.

A. L. G.

## PERIODICALS

### A History of the War.

The New York Times' Current History of the European War (Times Square, New York, Price, 25 cents) the first number of which appeared on December 12 and the fifth on February 6, will hereafter be published regularly as a monthly. No one, it would seem—at least no American—will care to read any

number from cover to cover; but every one who puts the "history" on his bookshelf will some day thankfully find there the very thing talked about and not printed in his daily paper, or seen in yesterday's headlines and lost in today's news. The longer the war continues the wiser we realize all the belligerents' strict censorship to have been. For to subject any nation simultaneously to both a war and a flood of stories from the front, would be to overtax the strong and drive mad the weak. America is a sturdy nation. But she needs all the peace she has if she is to do one-half the reading and thinking that distracted Europe thrusts upon her and that her awakened world-conscience will not let alone.

A. L. G.



### Congressmen and a Suffragist.

The Congressman who sees himself in the February Atlantic as the woman lobbyist for suffrage has seen him in the House Office building at Washington will find solace only in the numerousness of his company. Matilda Hall Gardner's notes of her experiences in going from Congressman to Congressman for direct statements of their position on woman suffrage are delightfully, humanly funny. "The mentalities of Congressmen," as the writer remarks, "are not necessarily sectional," for instance—and the instances are the reader's joy. But how, one anxiously inquires, can the women lobbyists afford to give away so lavishly the secrets of their trade? Is their work all done? Or are Congressmen alone "astute"?—In the same number of the Atlantic is an essay by

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