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Associate Editor. Kenneth M. Snyder true culture, and that his heroes fail

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1912.

WRITES FOR REVIEW.

Prof. Philo M. Buck, of the depart ment of rhetoric, has an inning in the current number of the Literary Digest. In this issue, October 5, a page is given to a discussion of an article written by Professor Buck on the subject of Jack London and his writings appearing in the Methodist Review, Quoting from the Digest, we read:

"To be a symptom and a menace at the same time must be a strange experience for an author, but that is just what one educator declares Jack London to be. His books extol and stimulate our best virtues -'our love of the strenuous life, our generosity, our courage, our coolness', but by the same token he stimulates also our worst vices our thoughtless, reckless, inconsequential energy, our love of a blind conflict, our so-called reform and progressiveness.' Like ourselves, says Prof. Philo M. Buck of the University of Nebraska, Jack London 'adores big men who set tradition at naught, who set culture at naught,' and because of this he 'is probably the most popular author in America today.' Professor Buck has the written evidence from the theme papers of his pupils that he is the idol of 'the average college man' As these themes express, it they 'adore his characters because of their virility, their masterfulness, their ability to fight, to trample down opposition.' Students follow 'breathlessly the unequal conflict between the force of an intelligent individual and the collective force of society and tradition' More over, as the writer is in position to know, they with delight draw the an-

"With Jack London, the writer continues 'war is the natural state of existence.' 'Not war that some state or country may be exalted -there is little or no virtue in patriotism to this Indi vidualist-nor war that some abstract principle may be asserted, but War that the concrete rights of the individual may be respected "

In conclusion Professor Buck finds Associate Editor Merrill V. Reed the fault in London to be a lack of in the same measure

"Admirable as are many traits of the barbarian, his industry, his generosity, his courage, his coolness, his cleanness of life, his love of nature, there are as many other traits, equally necessary to a well rounded individual, of which the barbarian is profoundly ignorant. As has been hinted before, his virtues are all of them purely ex ternal, every object he contemplates is distorted by the lens of his peculiar individuality; life with him is a perpetual struggle to assert the worth of his peculiar aims; in a word, his virtues are all purely active virtues, and all directed to individual ends. But culture, true culture, is often passive and never purely selfish. It is passive in that, before it can work, it compels the individual most thoroughly to know himself and the world about him. In its "desire after perfection" it insists that a man purge his nature of all ignorance, prejudice, and false knowledge, that he seek for himself "a complete humanity" that alone can give him a steady outlook on life, the power "to see life steadily and to see it whole"; that before he set himself an aim for life a man inquire what life is and what constitutes a worthy aim, that before he puts on his armor for a battle a man make sure that the fight be a worthy one, and that the fruits of victory be a deeper knowledge and a riper experience; and that if in this battle he be defeated, this defeat will not bring in its train bitter tears and remorse, and a loss of faith in self and others, but will, on the contrary, be a new force to a moral and intellectual regeneration. How different this from the sudden and carelss abandon of the barbarian, full of trust in self and in a favoring destiny.""

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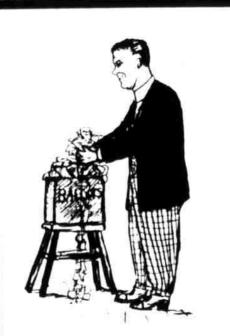
Fashion's Decree, as Started by Lieut. Bowman, Is that Cadets Will Wear Soft Neckhands

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of his heroes and the masculine virtues with which the college berserker goes forth to the battle of crackling ribs and straining tendons which settles to wear stocks during drill this year. the rival supremacy of institutions of They will not be the fluffy, lacy varilearning and culture-for one year.' It cty that Beau Brummel made famous, Is the 'return to the primitive in the but something much more common, present' that explains the popularity an old handkerchief will do, folded of such stories as 'The Sea Wolf,' 'The several times about the neck and just Call of the Wild, 'Burning Daylight,' showing above the uniform collar. For and even 'Martin Eden.' In the Metho- all dress occasions the cadets will sufdist Review (New York, September) fer under a "stand-up" collar, hitherto we read

alogy between the masculine virtues

"'His heroes are successful so long, form.

and only so long, as they employ this This is not entirely an innovation in delight in life in a conflict with nature the military department, for two years and with men in natural surroundings, ago Captain Yates made use of the In the field of their own choice, and same idea, each company having its with this fair and even handed oppo-own color.

nent, their success is assured. No dif This announcement was made durficulty apparently is great enough to ing the second lecture to the cadets cause them a moment's apprehension; last evening. The commandant spoke no game is so strenuous that they are briefly about the principles of courtesy forced to withdraw before the desired and discipline, and discussed the funend; no stakes are so high that they damental points in the formation and do not meet them willingly; in craft, construction of the United States army in skill, in courage, in strength, they from the commander-in-chief to its are equal to any emergency..' lowest units.

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dreaded as a part of the required uni-

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