

"New World Writing"

An important development in the reprint field has come with the publication of "New World Writing" by the New American Library, publishers of Signet and Mentor books. It is designed to bring to the low-price field "an important cross-section of current literature and criticism" and is described by its publisher as a "cross between a 'little magazine' and a book."

This first issue contains articles, short stories, plays or criticism by Tennessee Williams, Thomas Merton, Shelby Foote, James Laughlin, Gori Vidal, Alain Locke, and Christopher Isherwood among others. Dr. Locke's article here is called "The Negro In American Literature" and it will appear in slightly different form as a chapter in his forthcoming book "The Negro In American Culture." In it the author traces the history of the literature of the Negro. It is interesting and informative except that his appraisal of William Faulkner's writing as showing "unorthodox integrity" in the treatment of the Negro is not accurate in my opinion.

At 50 cents "New World Writing" is a bargain and represents another feather in the New American Library's cap.

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