

BOSTON POLICE BAR

SCRIBNER'S MAGAZINE

Superintendent Acts on Objections to Ernest Hemingway's Serial, "Farewell to Arms."

Special to The New York Times.

BOSTON, Mass., June 20.—The June issue of Scribner's Magazine was barred from bookstands here yesterday by Michael H. Crowley, Superintendent of Police, because of objections to an instalment of Ernest Hemingway's serial, "A Farewell to Arms." It is said that some persons deemed part of the instalment salacious.

The action of the Police Department, however, was similar to locking the stable door after the horse had been stolen, because the June issue of Scribner's had been on sale since May 25.

Mr. Crowley would not say where the complaints originated which resulted in the banning of the magazine. The story concerns the experiences of an American ambulance driver with the Italian army.

Charles Scribner's Sons issued this statement yesterday:

"The very fact that Scribner's Magazine is publishing 'A Farewell to Arms' by Ernest Hemingway is evidence of our belief in its validity and its integrity. Mr. Hemingway is one of the finest and most highly regarded of the modern writers.

"The ban on the sale of the magazine in Boston is an evidence of the improper use of censorship which bases its objections upon certain passages without taking into account the effect and purpose of the story as a whole. 'A Farewell to Arms' is in its effect distinctly moral. It is the story of a fine and faithful love, born, it is true, of physical desire.

"If good can come from evil, if the fine can grow from the gross, how is a writer effectually to depict the progress of this evolution if he cannot describe the conditions from which the good evolved? If white is to be contrasted with black, thereby emphasizing its whiteness, the picture cannot be all white.

"A dispatch from Boston emphasized the fact that the story is 'anti-war argument.' Mr. Hemingway set out neither to write a moral tract nor a thesis of any sort. His book is no more anti-war propaganda than are the Kellogg treaties.

"The story will continue to run in Scribner's Magazine. Only one-third of it has as yet been published."

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