

# The New Criterion

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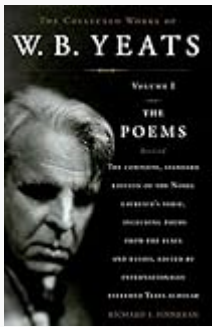
## Yeats revisited

by C.H. Sisson

~~Yeats~~ Review of *The Collected Works of W.B. Yeats Volume I: The Poems: Revised Second Edition* by William Butler

*A review of The Collected Works of W. B. Yeats, Vol. I: The Poems edited by Richard J. Finneran.*

### BOOKS IN THIS ARTICLE



*William Butler Yeats*

*The Collected Works of W.B. Yeats Volume I: The Poems: Revised Second Edition*

Scribner, 580 pages,

Richard J. Finneran's revised edition of the poems of W. B. Yeats is the first volume of a fourteen-volume series that will include Yeats's plays, essays, and autobiographies.<sup>1</sup>[1] It could not have appeared at a better time. Fifty is a dangerous age for a dead man's reputation. The fame of a lifetime has had time to fade, and the echoes are more likely to give an impression of distance than of the enthusiasm which first gave rise to it. The weakening of the echoes is progressive. In 1942, three years after Yeats's death, Allen Tate could still speak of "a poetry which . . . is nearer the center of our main traditions of sensibility and thought than the poetry of Eliot and Pound." I suppose that was a bold...

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