Dragnet, Mystery, Detective, and Espionage Magazines, Michael L. Cook, ed.
"If I have any work to do," W. H. Auden wrote in "The Guilty Vicarage" (1948), "I must be careful not to get hold" of a detective novel. "For, once I begin one, I cannot work or sleep till I have finished it" (p. 400). Given the popularity of the genre from its earliest incarnations to the present, many readers would wholeheartedly agree. The related genres of mystery and detective fiction have captured the American reading and writing imagination as no others have. Source for information on Mystery and Detective Fiction: American Reference Books Annual. Home History Culture magazines Mystery and Detective Fiction. Print this article. Print all entries for this topic. Cite this article. Tools.