

### OUR BOOKSHELF

By Alice Rowe-Sleeman

Editor's Note—Some weeks ago the editor of The Statesman had a call which developed into an interesting visit, with Alice Rowe-Sleeman, Toronto, who is proud to claim Durham County as place of her birth. She is a daughter of the late R. J. Rowe of Newtonville, who for several years was assessor of Clarke Township and a great temperance advocate. Her brother, Stanley Rowe, lives on the home-stead farm south of Newtonville. Mrs. Rowe-Sleeman is greatly interested in Canadian literature and in the conversation she inquired if The Statesman had ever featured a Book Review Column, which we had occasionally but not for several years. She therefore very generously and kindly offered to write a book review as a trial to see to what extent it met with favor by our readers. The continuance of this Book Review will depend on your candid comments to the editor. G. W. J.

#### Morning Journey

By James Hilton  
MacMillan Pub. Co. \$3.50

This latest book by the author of Random Harvest, So Well Remembered, and Goodbye Mr. Chips, is bound to be controversial both as to structure and characterization. Devotees of Hilton's "gentle" romances may resent his foray into the arena of sophisticated living, but after the first jar of disappointment the reader can prepare himself for several hours of first class entertainment.

The story is centred on Carey Arundel, a successful actress of Dublin origin, who in middle age swathed in minks, the idol of millions, is still beneath the glitter, all Irish—vivacious, vital and very lovable. Sharing, but not in any sense, equally in focus, is Carey's one-time husband Paul Saffron, the brilliant eccentric

who combines a genius for directing, with the terrific driving power of an idealist, forever unsatisfied.

The prologue gives us the familiar setting of an Awards Dinner in Hollywood where we meet Carey the mature beauty at the zenith of her fame. Paul is also receiving an award that night. He is portrayed in sharp contrast to his former wife—feared by his contemporaries, unloved and exhibiting his awful worst in manners. At the outset we are prepared for a stormy voyage with these two who are so diametrically opposed in disposition, but who work surprisingly well as a team. Mr. Hilton's arduous years in Hollywood have borne fruit in this drama, and readers are given authentic details of backstage as well as offstage living among current celebrities. Added to these are scenes from Broadway, London and the Continent, pastoral Ireland and the Abbey Theatre in Dublin.

With the skill for characterization so evident in his English novels, the author weaves a pattern of life that is bright with happiness and warmed by the ardour of first love (Carey's of course). These idyllic episodes alternate with the flitting shadows of disenchantment, even misery, until the mounting tensions and cross-purposes make separation inevitable. Carey has become an essential part of living for Saffron whose ruthless egotism ignores conventions and ethical considerations as he attempts to enter Carey's life. And she? Sheltered domesticity has not been a satisfactory replacement for the dynamic Paul, and once more Carey plunges into stormy waters.

The psychology of Morning Journey is sound as well as provocative and the author has some shrewd observations on many complexities of modern society as it pertains to everyday living.

#### Each Man's Son

By Hugh MacLennan  
MacMillan Pub. Co. \$3.00

Here in a Canadian setting are the elements of powerful drama—a rough, bleak mining settlement on Cape Breton Island, just before World War I. These people were descendants of Scotch Clans who had fled from English oppression years before and were fanatic in their religion as well as their beloved Gaelic, which was always used in the "Second" Sermon on the Sabbath. Isolated from the world outside, these hardy Celts indulged their flair for feuding by mutual head-breaking on Saturday nights. The gifted surgeon, Dr. Ainslie, worked late at the hospital on these occasions, and was known to carry on into the Sabbath mending crashed skulls and splintered jaws.

The author tells us in his preface, "There was a curse upon these people, intensified by Calvin and branded on them by John Knox and his successors. Since they were no part of the outer world, it remained alive with them, like a sombre beast, growing behind locked doors."

Certain points strain one's credulity, but being neither Calvinistic nor Scot we merely question. Why should so gifted a surgeon remain in this comparative exile? Could such apparently simple characters, secreted within themselves such depths of emotional complications, and only give rare glimpses of these hidden depths? Is the capacity for self-punishment so deeply ingrained in some Highland Scots that they literally enjoy affliction?

Mr. MacLennan makes use of a device successfully employed by another Canadian novelist who also places his theme in Maritime Canada—Thomas Raddall in "The Nymph and the Lamp." In both we have the forces of nature as a backdrop for the stage where the eternal verities of human nature are revealed in the familiar setting of guilt and retribution. Whereas Thomas Raddall chose to portray the rhythmic flood and ebb of the familiar tidal sea, Mr. MacLennan depicts a wild, relentless and cruel world; it is raw and for the most part, crude. This raises our fourth query, namely, the presence of a French musician for so long a time, amid these alien folk. True he acquires an interest in the deserted wife of the prizefighter, Archie MacNeil, and had earlier been the victim of an Italian shipwreck. Still his presence in the story suggests the long arm of coincidence.

The gentler side of the Celtic nature is shown in Mollie, mother of Alan, the boy whom Dr. Ainslie covets as his own, partly to bolster his sagging marriage, but mainly, we believe, to assuage his morbid conscience. Mollie's defection is the doctor's opportunity, and while the reader is sympathetic to both these characters, he is kept as it were on a hot grid of dread—certain that Fate in the form of Archie MacNeil will return and do murder.

Brief descriptive passages of tranquil summers and brutal storms give the necessary relief from the tension that pervades the entire performance—a production of greater literary merit than any previous works by this author.

#### BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

**Summerfield Farm**  
By Mary Martin Black,  
Ages 6 to 10 yrs.  
MacMillan Co. \$2.50

This is profusely illustrated with some especially interesting drawings that give a distinct personality to the hens and pigs, colts and lambs. Adults will join in the chuckles of the children at the tale of the two pigs, Arabella and Araminta. Each story is complete in itself, and together they depict a very happy farm life where everyone from the littlest chick to the farmer himself was content, and where "new clothes" and cars and money to spend" were secondary to keeping the farm.

**Skit and Skat**  
Story and pictures by Morgan Dennis. All ages.  
Viking Press \$2.00

Skit, a cocker puppy had all the repressions of an only child, until Skat, an Angora kitten invaded his privacy and wormed her way into his sacred domain, eventually into his affections. This is a work of art as well as a pleasurable story.

#### WEDDING

**NEALS - ROWAN**  
St. Paul's Anglican Church, Bethany, was the scene of the wedding of Christella Evangelina, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Henry Rowan of Bethany, to Mr. Bernard Emerson Neals, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Neals of Pontypool. Rev. T. S. Gault officiated.

Mr. Rowan gave his daughter in marriage. She wore a gown of baronette satin, with lace sleeves and train of lace panels. Her finger-tip veil was gathered to a wreath of orange blossoms and she carried a shower bouquet of red roses. Miss Lauretta Egan, an attendant her sister as maid of honor, wearing a gown of green silk net and lace with matching hat, and carrying a nosegay of roses. Bridesmaids were Miss Coralie Patterson of Tyrone, Penn., wearing pink sheer nylon net and lace, and Miss Betty Humphrey of Fenelon Falls, in blue. They wore matching net and lace hats and carried roses. The flower girl, who was the bride's youngest sister, Miss Brenda Rowan, wore a gown of yellow brocaded satin and a headdress of yellow net. She carried a heart-shaped muff with mauve flowers. The groom's cousin, Mr. Orval Parkes of London, Ont., was groomsmen, and ushers were the bride's brother, Mr. Cameron Rowan, and Mr. Maurice Whiteside of Bethany.

After the reception, at the Empress Hotel, Peterborough, the couple left for the Southern States.

#### Pictured Following Ceremony



MR. AND MRS. JOHN MARSHALL FRANCIS

Their marriage was solemnized recently in Columbus United Church. Formerly Miss May Prentice Hepburn, the bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Merlin Hepburn, Enniskillen, and the bridegroom is the son of Mrs. J. B. Francis, of Oshawa, and the late Mr. Francis.

#### WEDDING

##### STINSON - GATCHELL

Jean Elizabeth Gatchell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Gatchell, Oshawa, and Keith Stinson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stinson of Lotus were united in marriage by Rev. L. M. Somerville in the parsonage of the United Church, Courtice, Saturday afternoon, June 30.

The bride wore white satin with lace with a finger-tip veil and carried a cascade of sweetheart roses.

Her bridesmaid was Miss Edith Irons of Burketon who wore

mauve taffeta with matching accessories, a nosegay of pink and yellow carnations comprised her corsage.

The best man was Mr. Donald Stinson, Lotus, brother of the bridegroom.

A reception was held at the home of the bride's mother, Mr. Earl Gatchell and Mrs. Gatchell, Oshawa. The bride's mother wore green flowered crepe with white accessories. The bridegroom's mother was in navy blue with matching accessories. Both wore corsages of red carnations.

Later Mr. and Mrs. Stinson left on a wedding trip to Goderich and points west and upon their

return will live in Lotus, Ontario. For travelling the bride chose a pale pink taffeta dress with white accessories and a corsage of sweetheart roses.

#### WEDDING

##### BRADBURN - FIELDER

On June 9th amid a profusion of spring flowers Janetville United Church was the scene of a very pretty wedding when Patricia Oriole Fielder, Toronto, formerly of Viewlake, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Fielder, Oshawa, was married to Maurice F. L. Bradburn, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Bradburn, Janetville, in a double ring ceremony, performed by Rev. Clare Kellogg, Janetville. The wedding music was played by Mrs. H. Heaslip, Janetville.

Given in marriage by her uncle, Mr. James Fielder, Weston, the bride looked charming in a floor-length gown of white satin trimmed with tulle and work and rhinestones with long sleeves pointed at the wrists. Her embroidered tulle illusion veil was held by a band of pleated net. She carried a cascade of red roses and white sweet peas and wore the gift of the groom, matching rhinestone necklace and earrings.

The groom's sister, Miss Patricia Bradburn, was maid of honor, gowned in a floor length gown of mauve taffeta with green net over skirt, wearing a headdress of mauve roses and green net mittens, carrying a bouquet of blush roses and mauve sweet peas. Miss Helen Butt, Pickering, was bridesmaid, gowned in a floor length gown of yellow taffeta with yellow net overskirt, headdress of yellow roses and yellow net mittens, carrying a bouquet of deep pink roses and mauve sweet peas. Each were wearing the gifts of the bride, rhinestone necklace and earrings.

Misses Janice and Judy Hugill, Oshawa, twin cousins of the bride, made sweet little flower girls, gowned in identical floor length gowns of green taffeta, wearing poke bonnets and long mittens of taffeta, carrying white crocheted baskets with green streamers of mauve sweet peas, also wearing the bride's gift of sterling silver monogrammed lockets.

Little Wayne Holloway, ne-

phew of the bride, was ring-bearer, carrying a white satin and lace pillow.

The groom was ably assisted by Mr. Tom Gregson, Toronto. The ushers were Mr. Bruce Lawson, Yelverton, cousin of the groom and Mr. Theodore Watson, Norland, cousin of the bride.

The groom's gift to the groomsmen was a wallet, to the ushers gold tie clip and cuff links and to the ring-bearer a pen flashlight.

The reception which was held in the lower auditorium of the church was attended by 80 guests during which Patricia Bradburn was baptized by Rev. Kellogg.

The bride's mother received, wearing powder blue crepe and corsage of pink roses, assisted by the groom's mother, wearing

blue sheer and corsage of deep red roses.

Later the bride and groom left for Toronto and points west, the bride wearing a grey gabardine suit with navy accessories and corsage of red roses. They will reside in Toronto.

A solemn and religious regard to spiritual and eternal things is an indispensable element of all true greatness.—Daniel Webster.

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