

**We Recommend****MR. DARBY**by  
*Martin Armstrong*

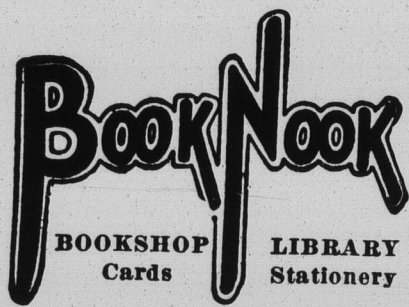
"Mr. Darby is a highly amusing and diverting novel."

—Mary Beimfohr

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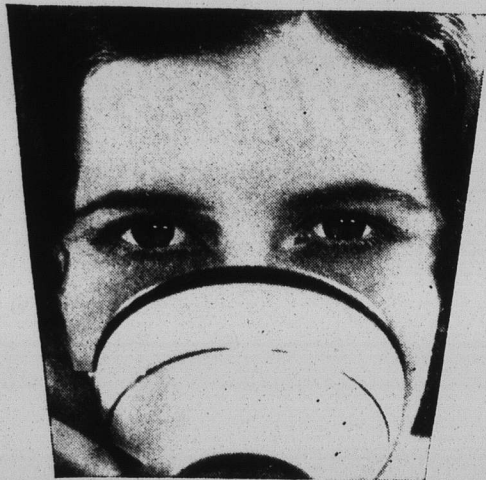
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**MURINE**  
FOR YOUR  
EYES

**COMMENT on BOOKS and AUTHORS****French Writer****JEAN-JACQUES ROUSSEAU.** By Mathew Josephson. New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company.

This is a notable biography. With what may be called objective sympathy the author recreates for us Rousseau's milieu and its effect upon him, but recreates it in the main legitimately, in harmony with the known facts or with the probabilities of the situation. Obviously Josephson has lived his Rousseau, imaginatively identified himself with him, and not merely read him in the ordinary sense of the term. The result is an impression of reality, of an actual person brought before us in the flesh, not of one long since buried in the remote past.

This is a work which aims to be a definitive biography of Rousseau in English. In many ways it comes very near indeed to attaining that aim. It has evidently been carefully and thoughtfully prepared. Mr. Josephson's work is in general so good that it deserves to have added to it supplementary pages furnishing the detailed documentation which might inaugurate a new practice in this respect.

**GRANDMOTHER TIPPYTOE.**

Written and Illustrated by Lois Lenski. Stokes.

One could easily put a name to the delightful and distinctive illustrations in this little book; no one else but Lois Lenski is doing just this kind of thing for children. It is an added pleasure to see her name also as author, for one knows in advance that her imagination will have been given full play.

The story is one of those simple sketches that younger children delight in, and, if one has a leaning to parrots, one's satisfaction herein will be complete. Grandmother Tippytoe, whose portrait endears her to any reader at once, and Solomon the parrot, her partner in housekeeping, carry on a long campaign of companionship and good-natured teasing. Solomon, singing his jingles, wins easily in the teasing, but Grandmother seems always to know that his heart is safely in the right place, even during the grand hunt for the Lost Gold Needle, which occupies so much of the book and furnishes its climax. The whole thing is charming with that deceptive simplicity which requires so much art for its satisfying effect.

**BIOGRAPHER DIES**

The death of Lytton Strachey at the age of fifty comes to us as a shock. His fame is secure as a genuinely great biographer. We need those other works he might have given to the world. He is one of the few literary men of his time concerning the merit of whose work there is no difference of opinion. He started, in fact, a whole new school of biography.

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**Court Life****BETTER LEFT UNSAID.** By

Daisy, Princess of Pless: Dutton.

A fascinating fairy tale, with real princes and princesses, Queens, castles, lords, high councilors, and even villains who whisper evil advice in Kings' ears, are the leaves of this diary of an English beauty, who was married at an early age to a Prussian prince, and who left her home to dwell in his castle—several of them.

Rulers, ambassadors, writers, royalty—intrigues, gossip, scandal—court weddings, balls, dinners, house parties—shooting, yachting, gambling—Daisy, as an international court beauty for a quarter of a century, knew and experienced them all, and her personal diary has painted them with a freshness and candor that makes names, personalities, and happenings, events.

And yet, this is an adult fairy tale, many of the chapters ending in disillusionment for the princess, whose married life was not entirely happy with a German husband incapable of giving her that understanding comradeship necessary to an English woman. She longed for peace and solitude, and received jewels and flattery—"Diary, don't you understand what it all means to a woman like me, feted and admired by everyone else . . . longing for happy walks and talks with husband and children"—for her three boys were her compensation and escape.

The princess' personality runs through the pages of her book like one of her own strings of diamonds—bright, scintillating, vivacious. Vain and proud and even selfish she was, but humanly so, so that one excuses and even condones it.

"Better left unsaid"—perhaps. Only the reader is glad that she said it, and so colorfully.—Mary Winner Hughes.

**SEA CHANGE.** By Eleanor Mercein (Mrs. Kelly). Harper.

Previous semi-travel, semi-fictional books by Mrs. Kelly have dealt with the Basque country, giving pleasantly sympathetic accounts and interpretations of both land and people. Perhaps wisely, for even the best friends can be over-enthusiastic, Mrs. Kelly turns now to a fresh scene, to Mallorca, the largest island of the Balearic group, in the western Mediterranean.

Behind the shelter of the novel, Mrs. Kelly dwells freely upon the customs, the habits of mind, the history of this island people. She writes as a friend and an admirer, intelligently and without any air of condescension. Mallorca's antique charm becomes something that we should gladly experience. And if we were setting out today, we should take along Mrs. Kelly's book as an informal Baedeker, in spite of the fact that much that she describes would be jealously guarded by the good islanders from the brash eye of the tourist.

**AMERICAN POET HONORED**

George Horton, former representative of the United States Government in the Far East, is one of the few protestants ever to be honored with the order of Saint Gregory.

Mr. Horton was created a Knight of Saint Gregory the Great by the Pope for saving the lives of Christians and giving them aid during the destruction of Smyrna by the Turks in 1922. Mr. Horton is the author of "Poems of an Exile," including many verses written during his stay in Turkey.

**China****THROUGH THE DRAGON'S EYES.** By L. C. Arlington. New York: Richard R. Smith.

This book contains personal experiences of Mr. Arlington in China over a period of fifty years. His has been a long and a varied life in the Chinese navy, customs, and post office. He has been at hand to see one fourth of the human race undergoing tremendous changes, culturally, politically, and industrially. He has traveled up and down, covering one-fifth of the habitable surface of the globe, and has watched with lively interest the gigantic drama of a whole people moving from one mode of life to another. So the book is very valuable to the student of contemporary China in search of local color, insight into a foreign life, and authentic Chinese atmosphere.

He went to China in the latter part of 1879, living through the Boxer rebellion and the Franco-Chinese trouble of 1884-85. Afterwards he served in the customs and post services, and then we know he became interested in Chinese literature and politics. His recent book on the Chinese drama is testimony to his enormous research work in the archives of the Chinese library.

Mr. Arlington's views on the Chinese situation are somewhat different from those to be obtained from the newspaper reports which we read here. He appears to feel as one of the Chinese, having found, so his dedication page states, "in China a congenial and kindly home." Pointedly he disagrees with some well-known scholars, who, backed by university research councils, theorize overmuch about China. On the other hand, he has a great respect for some names, such as that of Jo P. Bland.

**MARY HAD A LITTLE LAMB**

Mary Hughes who was the original of the Mary who had a little lamb, has now passed away. She had been born ninety years ago in the Vale of Llangollen, North Wales. Staying at the Hughes farm, at the time of the lamb incident, which actually happened, Miss Sarah Josepha Buel wrote the poem immediately after the happening. Miss Buel afterward came to these States and married Horatio Hale, author and ethnologist. She died in Philadelphia in 1879. The other story is that one John Rolston wrote the poem concerning a Miss Mary Sawyer who lived at Redstone Hill, Sterling, Massachusetts. Henry Ford, it may be remembered, bought part of a school at Sterling and had it set up again at Sudbury, Massachusetts, believing it to have been the true scene of the lamb incident.

**NEW BOOKS**

Sparks from the Anvil, by Clara Lundie Askew, Banner Press, Emory University, Georgia; Swift Water, by Clifford Allen, Poetry Publishers, Philadelphia, Pa.; Emmaus, A Book of Poems, by Raymond Kresendy, The Torch Press, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; He Who Rides the Sky, by Eliot Kays Stone, Poetry Publishers, Philadelphia, Pa.; Horizon Frames, by Tom Sweeney, Poetry Publishers, Philadelphia, Pa.

**PLAY CROQUET**

Anyone who has ever visited the Norris ranch at Saratoga, California, knows what croquet addicts both Kathleen Norris and her husband, Charles Gilman Norris, are. They also play the game at their winter home in Palo Alto.