

VISITS IN ST. LOUIS

Miss Loretta White, 310 Richmond road, Kenilworth, returned last Sunday from a two weeks' visit with her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Maginn of St. Louis.

BECKER'S
Music Shop
INCORPORATED
RADIO SERVICE
AND PIANO TUNING
REASONABLE
803 DEMPSTER ST.
EVANSTON
Univ. 1640



This
Madame Irene
DUO SETTE
gives you that new
Streamline
Effect

Absolutely backless and made of brocade and imported lace, it's the perfect garment to wear under your evening gown. It's boneless yet it holds your body firmly15.00

Edgar A. Stevens, Inc.
1624 ORRINGTON AVENUE
EVANSTON

North Shore

BY
LUCY ROGERS HAWKINS

PERSONALITIES.

Courtship by correspondence is not uncommon, and sometimes the result of such a romance is satisfactory

I therefore venture to hope that an interview by correspondence, which likewise presents certain difficulties, will also have a chance for success.

Henry Justin Smith of the Chicago Daily News, has granted me an interview by correspondence on the plea that he is a very busy man and preferred at his leisure to jot down notes on the subject I asked for, which was side-lights on the writing of his books on the history of Chicago. In due time came the notes and the photograph I had also asked for. So now I shall let Mr. Smith interview himself.

The biggest satisfaction in writing, he thinks, comes from the friendships he has made. And the best things are nearly always surprises, he says:

"After the first publication of my sketches of newspaper life called 'Deadlines' I had a letter one day from the far east. The writer said he had just read the book while traveling by donkey back in some remote place; he read it 'to the accompaniment of tinkling bells on his mounts and the murmur of milk-white cataracts.'

Russia Reads Book

"Another surprise was a Russian edition of 'Deadlines,' published by the Soviet government for some obscure reason. I never made any known friends among the bolsheviks—nor any kopecks either."

Mr. Smith also recalls that his novel, "Poor Devil," while viewed with distaste by some people, made him a couple of friends who were resident in penitentiaries.

There are many pros and contras in the writing game, avers Mr. Smith, who in his notes has outlined them neatly under appropriate headings and then enlarged.

As to the joy of creation, he says frankly it was a thrill—while it lasted. "But with the penning of the last word, the marking of the last proof, that mood passes. Few writers can bear to read their work after it is between covers, nor of course can they ever recapture the mental state which brought it about."

Meditates Upon "Fame"

Both the established writer and the novice will appreciate his analysis of the second motive in writing, the desire for fame, or as he puts it, publicity, which is a more accurate word, he thinks.

"That impulse, sometimes mere vanity, sometimes a deeper and more admirable sort of self-confidence, frequently lasts through a career to the help (or harm) of the artist. More often the annoyances of the spotlight outweigh the feeling of eminence; and the idea which starts a writer along the creative path, publicity as soon as attained seems to have been nothing worth seeking."

You can see the pros and cons for yourself. But if you need more proof, please note Mr. Smith's note on "financial return." He puts it briefly:

"The money is spent—or saved. If spent, it is gone. If saved, it is just a nice cushion for a time of life when spending loses its allure. And if he sinks into the cushion, the author is 'through.'"

So there you are. The joy of creating is a transitory mood. The fame accruing to a writer is often a

nuisance. The money earned is of doubtful value.

But there is more to the story than this. Having disposed of these points neatly, Mr. Smith becomes mellow and admits to certain rewards which he prizes highly.

"I can think of none as permanent as the making of friends through what one writes," he jots down—"well, let us say, a few worth-while enemies as well as friends. Some writers manage to rouse enmity almost exclusively during their lifetimes, though posterity may view them otherwise.

"A good many other writers however put that into their work which brings a response from strangers whom it is well to know. It brings

those who would like to get Mr. Smith's unalloyed views.

"Some such result might have come about had I published my own writings, or simply produced manuscripts to be read at the fireside. On the whole, those who write for such purposes are often more fortunate in many ways than the men or women who enter the field of writing as a business and who eventually, if successful enough, become involved in the fierce clamor of organized publicity or in the complexities of big contracts or in law-suits or in the illusions of Hollywood.

"Nevertheless there is bound to be a good deal of pride in attaining 'commercial publication,' and it would be too bad if gifted people were so reserved as to keep all their work hidden in desk drawers."

Chicago and the north shore can claim Henry Justin Smith as their own. He was born in Chicago and was graduated from the University of Chicago. He has been with the Chicago Daily News all his newspaper life except for the period 1924-26



not merely conventional praise, but as time goes on a real link between actor and audience. Sympathetic readers turn up in unexpected places. There is an exchange of feeling and of hopes. And the narrower the new circles of friendship prove to be, the better, provided they contain people really to be prized."

Turning from the general to the personal, Mr. Smith divulges his own satisfactions in writing. "Some of my books have drawn me closer to other workers in my profession," he notes. "Thereof I am glad. Others have established new friendships in the city in which I have always worked, and now in the beautiful suburb where I live. I am grateful."

His next comment I offer intact for

when he was assistant to the president of the University of Chicago. He lived in Wilmette for 15 years and has made his home in Glencoe since 1927.

His books are numerous: "The Other Side of the Wall," "Josslyn," "Innocents Aloft," "Poor Devil," "Chicago, The history of Its Reputation" (with Lloyd Lewis), "Chicago; a Portrait," "Senor Zero," "Chicago's Great Century," and "Young Phillips, Reporter."

And for my ending I choose Mr. Smith's last note: "Let us repeat the thesis that the forming of friendships is to my thinking the best result of authorship; as it is certainly one of the finest, if not the finest, royalties one can earn from any mental effort."

DAUGHTER IS BORN

A daughter was born at St. Luke's hospital Sunday, February 4, to Mr. and Mrs. Kingsley B. Colton of 354 Kenilworth avenue, Kenilworth. The baby, their second child, has a sister. Mrs. Colton is the former Dorothy Peacock of Chicago.

Richard Rossman, 1130 Chestnut avenue, left on Wednesday by motor with a group of young people from Evanston to attend a houseparty of Sigma Phi at Cornell university, Ithaca, N. Y.

Men's Club Will Sponsor Dance at Glencoe Temple

The Men's club of the North Shore Congregation Israel will give an informal dance and cotillion at the temple center in Glencoe Saturday evening, February 10. A joint committee of the Men's club and the Sisterhood has prepared the entertainment. All members of the congregation and affiliated organizations and their friends are invited to attend as guests of the Men's club, it is announced.