

A Second Novel

Doubleday, Doran published on March 25 under the title of *Three to Get Ready* a second novel by Margaret Herzog, well-known writer of short stories for national magazines.

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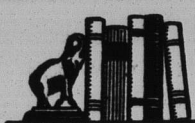
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BOOKS • REVIEWS • AUTHORS



Old English Romance Sets Tempo for Novel by Mary Ellen Chase

Dawn in Lyonesse

By Mary Ellen Chase, The MacMillan Company.

Cornwall, England, is the setting for a new novel about two servant women written by Mary Ellen Chase, also the author of *Silas Crockett*, *Mary Peters*, and *This England*.

Ellen Pasco and Susan Pengilly, the two women, born of Cornish fisher people and reared among the hardships and ancient superstitions of an ancient land, have within themselves that simplicity and nobility of character which often rises from such an environment.

Their story, compressed into the compass of forty-eight hours, holds tragedy and pathos, dignity and intensity. Perspective is given to the novel through the background of the old romance of Tristram and Iseult, against which it is set and which, through its appeal to the imagination of the chief character, proves the motivating force of her behavior when faced with tragedy and sorrow.

Miss Chase knows the coast of Cornwall as well as she knows her native Maine—the setting so successfully described by her in *Silas Crockett*—and not a little of the charm of her new story lies in the accurate and beautiful descriptive passages about Cornish scenery.

Bring Out New Journal, Life of Helen Keller

At a recent meeting of the National Education association, held in Washington, D. C., Helen Keller was given honorary life membership in the organization. Miss Caroline S. Woodruff, president of the organization, made the presentation with the following citation:

"Helen Keller—master of circumstance—not blind but seeing through 'eyes of the soul'—not deaf but hearing through her heart—in the name of the National Education association, and with the authority vested in me as its president, may I present to you this key—symbolic of the highest honor in the power of this association to bestow—the key of honorary life membership in the largest organized body of educators in the world—which will give you official entre to all the activities of the National Education Association of the United States for the rest of your life. The association is signally honored by your acceptance."

Helen Keller's Journal just published by Doubleday, Doran, tells of Miss Keller's life during the months following the death of Anne Sullivan Macy who was her teacher for fifty years.

Deep Fruity Laughs

Is *Alice in Wonderland* one of your "desert island" books? Is *Ferdinand* one of your favorite "modern classics"? Did you go twice or maybe three times to see "Snow White"? If so, the book for you is *The Hobbit*, a new Houghton Mifflin "discovery." Hobbits, in case you may not already have heard, are very small people, smaller than dwarfs; they dress in bright colors; they have long clever brown fingers, good-natured faces and laugh deep fruity laughs. *The Hobbit* is written and illustrated by J. R. R. Tolkien, professor of Anglo-Saxon at Oxford.

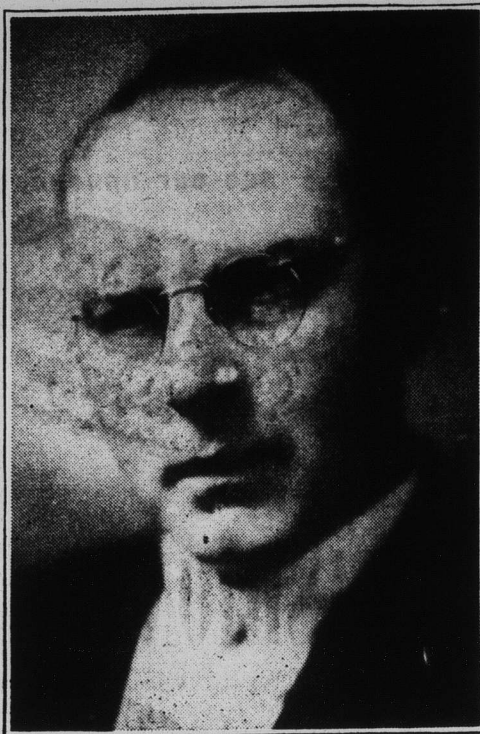
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Hervey Allen



Hervey Allen, the author of "*Anthony Adverse*," has chosen the Civil War as the setting for his new novel, "*Action at Aquila*," published this spring by Farrar & Rinehart.

"The Long Tomorrow" Chosen by Book Club

Evelyn Voss Wise's *The Long Tomorrow* has been selected as the Catholic Book club choice for April. It will be published by Appleton-Century on April 8 and is, the publishers say, a remarkable and moving story of pioneer life in Northern Minnesota, the tale of a priest who came to the sparsely settled, poverty-stricken prairie and, despite the coldness and suspicion which greeted him, set about bettering the lot of his neighbors. Finally he saw his dream realized in a cooperative cheese factory which brought prosperity to the countryside.

It is, into the bargain, a first novel. Mrs. Wise, who was brought up in Minnesota and knows intimately the scene of her story, says that Father Pierre is not a product of her imagination but was inspired by two priests whom she had known in her girlhood and whose "absolute unselfishness" won her admiration.

"Although I am not a Catholic" adds Mrs. Wise, "it has always seemed to me that too little is known of men like this, men whose lives are spent in small towns or in the country, building character as well as communities, neither seeking nor wanting self-aggrandizement in any form, men who move proudly but humbly through the history of our country. I have tried in this novel to show the accomplishments of a man like this, and many people are still living who remember when their priest was both doctor and nurse, teacher, veterinarian, and business adviser, as well as Father Confessor."

Radio in Europe

Houghton Mifflin company published this week Cesar Saerchinger's *Hello America!*, a volume based on the author's radio adventures in Europe. Among the topics discussed are what radio does in war, why dictators don't go to studios, what radio propaganda does, how radio killed a dictator, why radio helps democracy, how the detectives lost Trotsky, how radio regiments a nation, how a broadcaster escaped Franco's bombs, etc.

Hervey Allen Chooses a Civil War Setting for His Latest Novel

Action at Aquila

By Hervey Allen. Farrar & Rinehart, Inc., New York.

Action at Aquila will be read, and read quite widely, if for no other reason than because it was written by Hervey Allen, the author of *Anthony Adverse*. One can hardly expect a writer to repeat such a success as the latter, and, as a matter of fact, Mr. Allen doesn't try to repeat it.

This time he has turned aside to entirely new subject matter. Discarding the picaresque novel, he takes up historical fiction and uses a Civil War background, and a Pennsylvania and Virginia setting.

On Furlough

Colonel Nathaniel Franklin of the 6th Pennsylvania Cavalry is on furlough, the first in several years. He finds life at his home village near Philadelphia changed since the War, and because he is a bachelor with no particular ties to hold him, decides to spend the remainder of his leave rambling about the country-side on Black Girl, his handsome mare. First, before leaving Philadelphia and setting out upon his wanderings, he buys a pack of toys.

There follows a series of adventures—a visit to former President Buchanan, the reorganization of military discipline in a town given over to complete demoralization, the friendship of a youth who attaches himself to the Colonel and wishes to enlist. Finally, with his raw recruit at his side, Colonel Franklin returns to his regiment stationed near Aquila.

A Pack Of Toys

It was for children in a Confederate family, whose handsome old home the Yankess had burned in accordance with Sheridan's orders, that the Colonel brought back to Aquila the toys purchased in Philadelphia. His association with this family, and the participation of all of them in battle which later takes place at Aquila make up the last half of the book. Plot, action, and characterization are all found here, while the first half of the novel is essentially a travel story. The two parts leave a disjointed impression, and scarcely hang together as a unit.

Moving descriptions of Indian summer in the Alleghenies and the beautiful Shenandoah valley, several highly individual personalities scattered through the yarn, and an effort to furnish a rich and accurate historical background are the outstanding qualities in the book.

Old Copy Book Reveals Child's Life in California

Julian Dana, whose *Lost Springtime* appeared on March 22, has loaned to Macmillan a charming oval daguerreotype of his grandmother, taken when she was about four years old—the spirited girl whose enchanted childhood in a raw California mining town in the eighteen-fifties and sixties Mr. Dana brings back in this book.

The story of Elaine Revell's adventures, as she wrote it in an old copy book, is read by firelight on a Sierra camping trip on which Mr. Dana is accompanied by Mr. Dillaby and his talking dog, Henry.

The "cloth and paper" house which sheltered the Revells, the little dame school, the bearpit and the circus, the saloon and the bawdy house, Chinese and Indians and unscrupulous folk who mined for gold beneath their neighbor's houses all play a part in this—perhaps the first—story of a child's life in early California.