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Listening in on MR. HAMILTON

"CONVERSATIONS ON CON TEMPORARY DRAMA

> By Clayton Hamilton The MadMillan Co.

When the prophecy comes true that 'in five years there won't be any more books but only radio readings, we will know where to go for a little lively entertainment, plas-if it is not forbidden to us by that time-some solid information. We will listen in on the readings of Clayton Hamilton. For that is practically what "Conversaon Contemporary Drama" amounts to. A chance to listen in on of brilliant story-telling a new a course of nine lectures on contem- sympathy and insight. porary dama, delivered at Columbia University in the spring of 1924 by an extremely able and clever critic.

Mr. Hamilton explains in a preface that talking and writing being to him very different crafts it was with considerable hesitation that he allowed these lectures which were delivered without notes to be taken down by a stenographer hidden among the audience with a view to the publication. And he admits that, so different are they from his usual writings "It gives me a curious sensation to reflect that somewhere in the world there lives a lady whom I have never seen, but who nevertheless has written a book that bears my name upon the title page."

However that may be we may consider the result a happy one. Mr. Hamilton is equipped as are few critics of today to speak on contemporary drama. He has seen every play of importance that has been produced in New York" over a period of thirtyfive years. To do this and keep one's sanity is remarkable, to keep one's sense of humour and balance is an

Mr. Hamilton rives excellent criticisms of Shaw, Barrie, Galsworthy, Pinero, O'Neill, and a number of others. But best of all that he does is to confront us with the fact that we are living in a very wonderful period of dramatic creativity - one more vast and versatile even - prepare yourselves for a shock, O Past-Worshippers, the periods of Greek or Shakespearean greatness. We who bewail the depts to which the theatre has fallen need to be awakened. To support an intelligent drama there must be intelligent audiences.

Fireworks and Freaks

By Lawrence W. Meynell D. Appleton & Co.

Are, they amusing themselves or ing public, these young things who write of life with the empty laugh and the fine gesture? We have had For Laurence Meynell's esque. From the moment that we look upon the thigh and haughty lady" who is Rachael we know that she is spiritual cousin to Iris March. And the phrasing-this at the start

might be Michael Arlen, "What has loneliness do you think with such an one? Which serves only to show your ignorance of things in general and of women in particular, because the heart of a pretty woman in the world unless she be also a bad woman and then it is even lonelier."

But Rachael though she lives and has her court and rules her world does it all off-stage. She doesn't live for us as did Iris March. And she doesn't do much with life, as Iris did -she misses the heights and depths. But life does a good deal to her in the space of three hundred pages. It gives her three men in a little court of homage about her, Hugh the vivid and inscrutable Chickie the faithful,

Vivian the gay and gallant; then one by one lets her watch them fail. The book is undeniably clever, and one's frame of mind in reading it is that of Vivian walking through life "As if it were an exhibit in a freak show, for that was Vivian's way of viewing mankind, he being the one and only visitor and the rest exhibits." The exhibits are argusing and it is always fun to spend a day at the

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Congested Pole Lines

to the main line until finally pole of the court will permit. towering Norway pine ninety feet in their defense. height and carrying thirty crossarms and three hundred wires.

Telephone exchanges were as near ment. the roof as possible for there it was Dated at Highwood, Illinois, that the wires entered the central of- February 26, 1925. fice building. Typical of the development at this period was the Galveston (Tex.) exchange. An immense cupola was built on the roof to reone-by-four pine boards to which the plates were screwed. It is recorded that the cupola leaked and that, in case of rain, it was necessary to place washtubs and tin cans to eatch the drippings on the floor below.

Study Underground Cables As early as 1880, the Bell engineers began to apply themselves to the special study of overhead and underground cables. The use of cables as a substitute for open wires in order to reduce the congestion in thickly populated cities was not, however, the first phase of their development. The principal earliest use of cables for telephone purposes was to carry wires across rivers, either by placing them on bridges or in tunnels or allowing them to rest on the bed of the stream. In 1882 experimental cables were laid underground for a short distance along a railroad track in Massachusetts, and soon thereafter the first underground cables for commercial use were laid in Boston and Brooklyn, but subscribers using the cable could not talk satisfactorily further than to the suburbs. In 1887, however, the successful introduction of the cables placed today, although ductor, revolutionized the underground construction and payed the way for the extensive use of cables.

Up to that time progress, of course had been slow. For example, in 1885, the total wire mileage underground in New York City, where it naturally was needed most, was about the same as would be contained in a quartermile length of modern 1200-pair cable. By 1889, a few cables containing 50 circuits were successfully installed and operated. These cables were two inches in diameter. Since then the technique of making telephone cables had advanced steadily so that many o fthe cables placed today, although only 2 5-8. Inches in diameter, contain as many as 2400 wires.

Every year has seen an increasing amount of underground cable added to the plant of the Bell System. For example, the year 1892 witnessed 20,-000 miles of wire added to the underground plant

Phenomenal Gain

This was considered a phenomenal gain, but in 1922, just 30 years later, two million miles were added-one hundred times as much as in 1892. Today, more than 66 per cent of the wire in the Bell System is in underground cable, comprising more than 26,000,000 miles.

These underground cables, upon entering the modern central telephone office, pass directly into what is known as the cable vaults. Like huge, sluggish snakes they appear, with gray bodies curving upwards toward the ceiling where they disappear from view. From there they go to the terminal room where the cables end and the wires are fanned out to begin their twisting and combings on their

way to the switchboard. It would be difficult to imagine modern city with overhead wires; in fact, telephone development as it is

known nowadays would be entirely of the intersection of said Oak Ter- thereafter as the business of the impossible under those conditions. It race and North Avenue and running Court will permit. seemed that cities had about reached from thence south parallel to and Said assessment is payable in five the point of telephone saturation some twelve and one-half (121/2) feet west (5) installments, with interest at the thirty years ago, because of the con- of the center line of Oak Terrace a rate of six per centum, pursuant to gestion of overhead wires, but the distance of Three Hundred Sixty- laws from and after the date of issue placing of the wires underground and nine (369) feet, in the City of Highthe development of the cables have wood, Lake County, Illinois. The or- of first voucher. All persons deincreased their capacity hundreds and dinance for same being on file in the siding may file objections in said even thousands of times.

SPECIAL ASSESSMENT NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given to all per-Traffic conditions have become one of the City of Highwood, County of hearing thereon will be had on the of the chief problems in our larger Lake and State of Illinois, have or- 14th day of March A. D. 1925, or as American cities. In an effort to re- dered the construction of an eight (8) soon thereafter as the business of the February 26, A. D. 1925. lieve conditions on the surface, part inch vitrified tile sanitary sewer to- court will permit. of the traffic was at first placed on gether with manholes and house con- Said assessment is payable in five elevated structures and later a part nections in, along and under a portion (5) installments, with interest at the of Grove Avenue from and connecting rate of six (6) per centum per an-Much the same development has with the present sewer in Highwood num on all installments from and aftaken place in the telephone industry Avenue at a point twelve and one- ter date of issue of first voucher. All except that here the process was an- balf (121/2) feet west of the intersect persons desiring may file objections ticipated by about a quarter of a cen- tion of said Avenue and running in said Court before said day, and may tury. At first the wires were strung from thence north along a line paral- appear on the hearing and make their on poles and on roof-tops, but the lel with and twelve and one-half defense. time came when the number of wires (12%) feet west of the center line of had swollen from hundreds to thou- Grove Avenue a distance of three hun- Officer appointed to make said assesssands and the overhead method had dred forty-eight (348) feet, in the to be abandoned. Now, in the large city of Highwood, Lake County, Illi- Dated at Highwood, Illinois, commercial centers all the telephone nois the ordinance for same being on February 26, 1925. wires are placed in underground ca- file in the office of the City Clerk of said City, and having applied to the County Court of Lake County for an Previous to the development of un- assessment for the cost of said imderground transmission, the use of provement according to benefits, and NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to larger and heavier poles on the lines an assessment roll thereof having all persons interested that the City in our large cities became necessary been made and returned to said Court, Council of the City of Highwood, Lake as the number of subscribers increas- the final hearing thereon will be had County, Illinois, have ordered the coned. The use of higher poles resulted on the 14th day of March, A. D., 1925, struction of a four inch internal diin the attachment of more crossarms or as soon thereafter as the business ameter cast iron water main supply

lines in many cities were carrying Said assessment is payable in five tions, bends, shut off valves and speas high as a hundred open wires, (5) installments, with interest at the cial castings to be constructed and wires were carried. Poles rose from num on all installments from and af- Avenue from the line of the present fifty feet in height to sixty, seventy ter date of issue of first voucher. All water main in Washington Avenue

HARRY OLANDER,

SPECIAL ASSESSMENT NOTICE

Court of Lake County for an assess- fense. ment for the cost of said improvement according to benefits, and an assessment roll thereof having been made Officer appointed to make said assesssons interested that the City Council and returned to said Court, the final

. HARRY OLANDER,

SPECIAL ASSESSMENT NOTICE

pipe together with necessary connecwhile in a few cities from 150 to 200 rate of six (6) per centum per an- laid along and under North Central and eighty until finally the highest persons desiring may file objections south to the present water main in of all pole lines was built along West in said Court before said day, and North Avenue, in and along North street, New York City-every pole a may appear on the hearing and make Avenue from the west terminus of the present water main in North Avenue west for a distance of sixty (60) feet Officer appointed to make said assess. more or less to a point in said North Avenue (8) feet east of the west line of Grove Avenue extended North into 52-1 said North Avenue, in and along Grove Avenue from the line of the water main herein specified to be laid in North Avenue, south to the line NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO of the present water main now laid in ceive the wires from every direction ALL PERSONS interested that the Highwood Avenue, in the City of and to distribute them inside. It was City Council of the City of Highwood, Highwood, County of Lake and State about ten feet high by eight feet long County of Lake and State of Illinois, of Illinois. The ordinance for the and six feet wide and was provided have ordered the construction of an same being on file in the office of the on the outside with crossarms eight (8) inch vitrified tile sanitary City Clerk of said City, and having equipped with porcelain insulators to sewer, together with manholes and applied to the County Court of Lake receive the bare, open wires, and on house junctions in, along and under County for an assessment for the cost the inside with heavy, brass-plate, a portion of Oak Terrace from and of said improvement according to saw-tooth lightning arresters, adjust- connecting with the present sewer benefits, the final hearing thereon ed as close as possible to heavy cop- now laid in North Avenue at a point will be had on the 14th day of March per ground wire, tacked to the same twelve and one-half (12%) feet west A. D. 1925, at 10 o'clock, or as soon

office of the City Clerk of said City, Court before said day and may appear and having applied to the County on the hearing and make their de-HARRY OLANDER,

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THE NORTH SHORE LINE found its birth in 1894 in a little stretch of singletrack line from Waukegan 5 miles south to Bluff City-now Lake Bluff. Gradually it pushed its way through Lake Forest, Fort Sheridan and Highland Park. Gaining strength, it reached Evanston over a double-tracked right-of-way in 1902, with a power house at Highwood and a single substation at North Chicago.

A branch line to Libertyville tapped the gravel pits there for row oed ballast in the march northward to Kenosha and Racine. In 1908 the rails were laid into Milwaukee. Here was the nucleus of the North Shore Line, reaching uncertainly forward thirty years ago. Today this road serves the ninety-mile stretch of the North Shore with the most modern type of transportation.

North Shore Merchandise Despatch

on the North Shore Line. Through service to Sheboyun, points on the Milwauker North-For rates, deliveries, etc., write-of telephone local North Shore Agent, or Traffic Department: Chicago office, 79 West Monroe Street, 'phones State 5723 and Central 8280; Milwaukee office, 403 Security Building, 'phones Grand 990 and Grand 2762.

But this growth, in terms of mileage, is less remarkable than the growth in terms of service. For the North Shore Line has concentrated within its destined territory the fullest degree of efficient transportation. It has made its own growth a reason for encouraging the growth of every North Shore community.

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