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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1925

ITALIAN REALISM

"THE OUTCAST"

By Luigi Pirandello

E. P. Dutton "The Outcast," by Luigi Pirandello perhaps the foremost Italian play-

plays, "Six Characters in Search of

an Author," is a stirringly realistic Strikingly dramatic, it has every unity and continuity which a play whole. would demand. This method is one of swift, clean, strokes not the tortuous windings of our Sinclair Lewis

type of realism.

The scene is laid in a small Italian town. Rocco Pentagora, accusing his wife of unfaithfulness, casts her out of his house. His evidence is a letter from a wealthy man of the town, which, though it is formal in tone, uses the informal "tu." That is enough. Primitive, violent, unprincipled, Rocco accuses her and rushes

Marta, bewildered by the injustice and cruelty of her husband's action, goes to her parents also. Tacitly the world, even her own family, takes up her husband's charge. Her father shuts himself up in a room and refuses to come out, until months later he fiannly dies of rage. Marta is publicly insulted. Each time she tries to raise herself by slow tortuous effort out of the mire there is someone ready to push her back.

It is human version of Katherine Mansfield's unforgettable story, "The Fly." "He plunged his pen back into the ink, leaned his thick wrist on the blotting paper, and as the fly tried its wings down came a great heavy blot. What would it make of that? What indeed?" It made what Marta made, what anyone would make of it in the end, it succumbed to the ink. And when after long months her husband offers to take her back, Marta's cry has the poignance of all the bitterly oppressed, "Justice-reparation. Do you believe there can be such a thing? Who is going to take away from us the memory of all that we have suffered?"

A NOVEL OF YOUTH

"QUEST"

By Katharine Newlin Burt Houghton Mifflin Co.

"Quest" is an interesting story of two youths in their search for God, one of whom approaches in a spirit of fear, the other in the white heat of ecstacy.

Little John's first immediate experience with God was on a day, when after a harsh punishment from his father, he had been shut in the dark room for repentance, the parrot of his just arrived Aunt Tabby intones from a corner, "I am the Lord Thy God. I am a Jealous God." Poor Little John terrified, believes him, and never quite ceases to do so.

Nicholas after a less harsh punishment, wakes up from a wonderful dream and sees a star shinging thru his window. He feels himself to be enveloped by a beautiful comforting

Little John grows up timid and unassertive. Nicholas gay and lovable, yet always slightly remote. And each one continues his search for God with truly remarkable zest. One it leads into the Valley of the Shadow, one up to the lonely mountain peaks.

Sometimes the story dips slightly toward the melodramatic, at other times it is remarkably good depiction of a group of characters living a very real life.

> HISTORY THROUGH GLASSES

> "ENCHANTERS OF MEN"

By Ethel Colburn Mayne G. P. Putnam's Sons

To look at history through personalities is like looking through opera glasses at a stage. The entire stage is not visible at once but the part on which the glasses are fixed is extraordinarily clear. In Ethel Colburn Mayne's fascinating volume "Enchanters of Men," we turn the glasses on the Renaissance, the France of Louis XIV and of the Revolution, the Revoltion, the England of Dickens

and Swinburne. And for such short Are you interested in books of Fic- | swift glimpses as these must be, the effect is remarkably vivid.

> Who can ever forget the reply of Diane de Poitiers when she was ordered to leave her palace and Paris where she had reigned as Queen for added to that. Aparently no paint banker, business man and premier next was the dramatic fate of these

The author has performed the dif- Look at the difference now." wright, the author of among other ficult feat of making this a scholarly

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PRESS WANT ADS BRING RESULTS

B. COLBY ILLINOIS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

By Lester B. Colby

(Illinois Chamber of Commerce) "Five years ago this city looked I have mentioned the mayor. Let bitious plan this:

The above is quoted direct from for one dollar a year. the remarks of a business man of work, in which she has sifted down Jacksonville, Illinois. It's a consid- Mayor Crabtree is a member of the chamber sessions, these words: the most important points of history, erable story and one with a moral in Rotary club, the Chamber of Com- "Everything for the good of the city." and yet not in any way losing the it. It is something for any town to merce and other organizations. He element of contrast and suspense of understanding and the spirit of the think about, especially if affairs are has consolidated all of them into a a pattern to cut to here it is. If one not going well.

City That Redeemed Itself

City that Redeemed Itself." Several the Rotary club. He said, when I set the people of Jacksonville to ganization had been worked in Jackthinking. One of these was the re- sonville, with a motion of his hand: fusal of the Western Union to accept "These men are the mayor." Then a telegram from the mayor, to be he added that members of the Kiwanis charged to the city, on the ground and Lions clubs are just as active, just that the city's credit was not good as interested and just as eager in the Lines wanted to know and the comfor the message. It would have cost upbuilding of the city as the Rotarsixty cents!

In those days Jacksonville was a Jacksonville is thick in history, ing 1924. Of these 214 were chaufhotbed of factional bitterness and Twenty-one granite markers scatter- feurs and became motormen. There petty political intrigue. I may as well ed through the city indicate spots were 90 teamsters, 71 of whom betell the story plainly, mincing no made sacred by Daniel Webster, words. That's the only way the pic- Stephen A. Douglas, William J. Bry-

this -not many months ago Will Ir- started his career here. win, the author, after driving across the continent wrote an article in which he said Jacksonville was the institutional city in Illinois-institutional city in Illin most beautiful city he saw on his en- tions here for the blind, the deaf and tire tour. Today it is painted, pros- the insane-about 3,500 in the three perous, happy. Then something must institutions. It has been called "The have happened

Started from Within awakening. Most things that happen, ness college. you know, must start from within. What happened to Jacksonville did

start from within. For one thing in those days when Jacksonville was afflicted with the itch, beri beri, locomotor ataxia and the pip, figuratively speaking, the city had no decent or adequate water supply. A waterworks project, costing \$300,000, had gone to smash. Twenty miles of pipe line had been torn out and junked. Property owners stood in fear of a fire sonville did it themselves. More than that might sweep the city.

The crash of the \$300,000 waterworks project and the episode of the sixty cent telegram were merely the extremes of a thousand tragedies of every sort and kind. The people could not get together. But in the end they did, as we shall shortly see -.

What did I find the other day in Jacksonville. I found miles upon miles of fresh-laid concrete boulevard. I found a system of boulevard lighting going in throughout the city; ornamental lights all. I found an elaborate and 100 per cent perfect water systed and a filtration plant.

To make sure of sufficient water a lake has been built, three and a half miles long and in some places a mile wide. Public spirited citizens bought the water bonds in self defense, halfbelieving them donations to the city. They now find them gilt-edged, worth

Fine Parks

In the old days the city had parks and there was ground for a country club close in, but all was grown up to high grass and weeds. The park, with lagoons, swimming pool, boating and athletic grounds is now lawned and tended. It looks prosperous, suc-

Men who know that it pays profits to bring happiness and joy of living to a city wanted a country club. It took two weeks to raise \$50,000 for

In those evil days of dry rot and political festering, citizens of Jackonville told me there was little heart or room for music or cheer. The other day a citizen counted on his fin-

The Jacksonville Community band, 50 pieces; Jacksonville State Hospital Veterans band, 50 pieces; Illinois State School for Deaf band, Illinois College band, Jacksonville High School band, American Legion band, Centennial orchestra, State School for Blind orchestra, High School orchestra, DeSilva's Fife and Drum Corps, American Legion Drum Corps, Illinois College Gee club, Illinois Conservatory chorus.

Probably there is no more amazng band in the world than the band composed of deaf boys who make music, accurate in tone and measure, purely through knowledge of notes guided by vibrations.

Open Air Theater

I found in Jacksonville an open-air Greek theater. Already more than \$7,000 has been spent on it not counting the site which was owned by the city. Plans call for an expenditure of \$5,000 more and then, probably, still more. It is 200 feet in diameter and can be used for basketball as well as plays. When the seats in the center are taken out, and they are movable, it can be flooded. That means wading

Jacksonville spent the entire year Jacksonville and Morgan county of 1925 in celebrating its centennial, maintain a full time medical officer During the series of events of var- and a health school for children. ied sorts more than 2,000 persons The city boasts that it has the only have taken part. That's about ten plant in the world making Ferris per cent of the population!

in this work gots a "Certificate of making steel bridges, one making add-Community Service." It is signed by ing machines, a meat and a poultry the mayor, the chairman of the cen- packing plant. It possesses sometennial committee and the president thing else-an "incubator building" of the Chamber of Commerce.

as if a cloud of poison gas had swept us see how he fits into the picture and over it and as if a plague had been why. The mayor is E. E. Crabtree, industries, a place where baby busiso many years, "Le roi est mort?" had been put on in twenty years. It organizer. He accepted the task of Queen one day and a driven exile the was a favorite joke of farmers on lifting Jacksonville out of its mental arriving at the business section to and physical jungle in May, 1919, for say, I fell out of my Ford three times the elaborate salary of one dollar a women who played for the highest after reaching the city limits.' The year. He has been serving ever since. holes in the pavement were that bad. Six of the eight aldermen elected that year also pledged themselves to serve over and had painted in bold letters

> strong vehicle for the upbuilding of city takes inspiration from this story the city. I sat at his right hand the my work as a message carrier is not Jacksonville has been called "The other day at a noonday luncheon of in vain. things developed, large and small, to asked him how the miracle of reor- WHERE STREET CAR

> > ians. That is organized unity.

ure can be painted-by contrasts. | an and many others. Douglas lived One of these sharp contrasts is here, Bryan was graduated here and Institutional City

Athens of the West," because of its educational facilities. One of the I went down to Jacksonville to see buildings of Illinois college, I was if I could figure out what it was that told, is the oldest structure in the happened to Jacksonville and why. state. Other schools are the Illinois To know why may mean progress for Womans' college, Methodist, Routt other Illinois cities, development and college, Catholic and Brown's Busi-

The city also has Passavant and Our Saviour's hospitals, 75 beds each; the Norbury sanitarium for mental diseases, 125 beds and a tubercular

wanted. Citizens raised \$200,000 and a \$400,000 hotel has been built, the property being bonded for the second \$200,000. It is modern, has 135 rooms in it and the people of Jacksix hundred citizens invested in the

wheels. It has three clothing factor-Each person who has had a share ies, employing 600 persons, a plant which has for its noteworthy and am-

> It is to be the birthplace of new ness in manufacturing may grow!

They told me, in Jacksonville, that the new day started when Mayor Crabtree, the dollar-a-year mayor and his dollar-a-year council got together, put organized faith and united effort on the wall of the council chamber, which has no secrets and no star

If any city anywhere wants to find

MEN COME FROM

Where do street car motormen and conductors come from?

A patron of the Chicago Surface pany reported that 1,182 me nhad been employed for train service durcame motormen, and 88 office clerks, of whom 84 became conductors; 73 farmers, of whom 41 became conductors and 32 motormen; 48 salesmen of whom 42 became conductors and 6 motormen; 40 machinists, 38 mechan-Jacksonville is called the greatest ics, 35 railway clerks, 18 receiving motormen and 13 conductors from other electric railway companies.

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