

Esther Gould's Book Corner

Are you interested in books of Fiction, Biography, Travel, or History? For lists write to ESTHER GOULD, c/o The Lake Forester

JUST PARAGRAPHS

Shall we grant to the New Yorker that it was clever though not true of "Thunder on the Left" when he said "Hush, hush, whisper who dares, Christopher Merley is saying his prayers."

The female of the species no longer has anything on the male. As long as they had Mr. Pepys' diary, to point to there was hope now Appleton is publishing "The Diary of a Young Lady of Fashion in the Year 1764-1765." It bids fair to out-Pepys Pepys. The following is an extract:

"Last night, so it seems, at some tavern, Ned's friends threw the table and chairs out of window, and on the landlady remonstrating threw her after her chattels. Someone less drunk than the rest called out that she might be dead, whereupon Topsy Wit cried out 'Charge her on the bill!'"

Ring Lardner is breaking into drama. His play, "What of It?" written in collaboration with Gene Buck, is being prepared for production by Ziegfeld, and his movie, a story of baseball and real estate, is now being filmed in Florida with Thomas Meighan in the leading role.

BACK TO NATURE

"THE OLDEST GOD"

By Stephen McKenna Little Brown & Co.

Stephen McKenna has called on the forces of the supernatural for our edification and amusement in his new novel, "The Oldest God." And it is impossible to say just which he was most anxious to do—edify or amuse.

In any case he sees fit to "call the bluff" of those who speak of going back to nature as a panacea for all ills, who speak of Pan with lingering regret.

It is the first night of a house party at an old English country-seat. A discussion arises at the dinner table as to the reason for the victory of Christianity over Paganism. Several members of the party wish for the old "natural" days, and laughingly a vote is taken on a return journey to Arcady. The vote is six in favor, four against.

A few minutes later, a guest unknown to all the party except one arrives, a Mr. Stranger. On that very night incredible things begin to happen. Intrigues among the most respectable of these people are discovered by a member who is relating the story. He remonstrates with one of them, a woman with whom he had been formerly in love, and she, a person of years and discretion, gives him a line of argument which would do credit to a flapper of nineteen, about not "trampling nature under foot," and "being right because it is natural."

Things go from worse to worst, and the few sane members of the party begin to think they are insane. Then comes the denouement and the awakening.

Mr. McKenna has done something quite original and I believe that as well as making an interesting story it was his purpose to give us food for thought.

TALES FROM INDIA

"THE PANCHATANTRA"

Translated by Arthur W. Ryder The University of Chicago Press

"The Panchatantra" is the book of tales on which you were brought up from childhood. When you were fingering over the leaves of "Aesop's Fables," looking at pictures and spelling out the story of the greedy fox and the grapes, it was "The Panchatantra" you were reading. Later when "Uncle Remus" was your delight, and the vivid stories of the "Arabian Nights," it was still "The Panchatantra." By devious routes this group of stories, surely the most famous in the world, have come down to us—through Persia, Arabia, Africa. And now through the efforts of Arthur W. Ryder, "lover of good books," we have the privilege of meeting the original. An original probably com-

posed by Kashmir about 200 B.C. at which time many of the stories were already ancient.

It all happened because "In a city called Maiden's Delight lived a king named Immortal-Power. He was familiar with all the works treating of the wise conduct of life. His feet were made dazzling by the tangle of rays of light from jewels in the diadems of mighty kings who knelt before him. He had reached the far shore of all the arts that embellish life. This king had three sons, and they were supreme blockheads." And the king being unhappy called upon a Brahman and asked him what should be done. The Brahman answered that in six months time he would make the sons incomparable masters of the art of intelligent living. He could do this by making them learn by heart five books, the books which are set before us.

The text of the stories is thickly interspersed with verses which so aptly illustrate every point from several angles that even the supreme blockheads must have grasped them at last.

There is the matter of poverty. Gold, the mouse, has no illusions about that. He tells his friends: "A beggar to the graveyard hied. And there 'Friend corpse, arise,' he cried:

'One moment lift my heavy weight Of poverty; for I of late Grow weary and desire instead Your comfort; you are good and dead. The corpse was silent. He was sure 'Twas better to be dead than poor.'

The foolishness of trusting in a knave is told: "Carries a rascal as you will, He was and is a rascal still; All salve and sweating-treatments fail To take the kink from doggie's tail."

The possibility of making a wrong judgment even in cases of established fact is shown by the proverb: "That firely seems a fire, the sky looks flat."

Yet sky and fly are neither this nor that.

"The Panchatantra" is an opportunity it has taken 2000 years to evolve.

Just Published \$2.00

SLOW SMOKE

By Lew Sarrett

Chicago's Poet of the Wilderness Henry Holt & Co. N. Y.

The 7th PASSENGER

A fast-moving detective story

by the authors of "Shaken Down," Alvie MacGowan and Perry Newberry.

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White Fire

By Lewis Joseph Vance

An enthralling novel of Society and the Stage

\$2.00. Ask any Bookseller E. P. DUTTON & CO. N. Y.

Just Published the first novel in three years by the author of IF WINTER COMES

ONE INCREASING PURPOSE

A.S.M. HUTCHINSON

Little, Brown & Company Publishers, Boston

MUST BE CAREFUL ON WORLD COURT PLAN

Governor of Maryland Insists That Senate Take No Chance On Entanglements

Governor Albert Ritchie of Maryland, Democrat, has added his voice to those who are insisting that the United States senate, before passing a resolution adhering to the World Court, be very careful that the resolution commits us to no foreign involvements. In a speech at Chicago recently Governor Ritchie said:

"We must all recognize America's interest in world peace and its place in world-wide affairs. But before we join any World Court or International League, we must be more than sure that we are not in any way sacrificing any of our traditional rights of independence."

"There should be sufficient reservations and safeguards to insure no European interference in American affairs and traditions and to protect us against any entangling European alliances."

The principal theme of Governor Ritchie's address was the preservation of local government. The preservation of human liberties, he declared, was a question of greater importance than all such questions as World Court, tariff and disarmament.

ENGLISH OPINION OF SPIRIT OF U. S.

"There is a spirit abroad in the States which is sometimes referred to as the 'new leadership' and it is a spirit of co-operation, of initiative and of a 'square deal' on both sides. This spirit alone goes far to explain the amazing increase in the efficiency of American production."

Sounds like part of a speech by some patriotic American booster, doesn't it?

But it isn't. Just an excerpt from the report of the mission sent to America by the Federation of British Industries to investigate the industrial situation here.

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FRANK B. BOICE

Republican Candidate for COUNTY CLERK

At the Primary, Tuesday, April 13, 1926



Equipped with ability through past training to fulfill the duties of the office of COUNTY CLERK OF LAKE COUNTY

Six years clerical experience bearing directly upon the requirements of such duties. Three years training at Northwestern University School of Commerce, Evanston. For the past eleven years a resident of Lake County and loyal to its interests. An active record in the world war, wounded twice. My pledge to the citizens of Lake County (if elected) is: Capable, Conscientious and Efficient Performance of the duties of this office.

Frank B. Boice



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