

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

Suzanne Lenglen seems to have made a fairly good start toward fame in literature as well as tennis in her novel just published, "The Love Game." Besides the love interest of the story Mlle. Lenglen has woven in a good deal about tennis and her ideas of what a tennis school should be. Her style is sprightly with a sprinkling of French wit.

Clubwomen who will soon be planning their spring programs will be interested to know that if their programs have anything to do with books they can get valuable aid from a little booklet "Program Outlines on Books and Authors" which may be had by writing D. Appleton & Co., 35 West 32nd st., New York City.

Joseph Hergesheimer as well as furnishing his famous house with antiques has been writing novels and his new one, "Tampico," starts running serially in "Harper's Bazaar" for March.

"TIMES HAVE NOT CHANGED"

"THE DIARY OF A YOUNG LADY OF FASHION IN THE YEAR 1764-1765"

By Cleone Knox
D. Appleton & Co.

Nothing could be more diverting than this "Diary of a Young Lady of Fashion in the Year 1764." Miss Cleone Knox was gifted with a sense of humor more penetrating than Mr. Peppy's and with frankness as delightful as that gentleman's, although the sketchy entries of her journal scarcely compare in thoroughness with the tomes of the latter.

Miss Cleone's literary muse seems to have been awakened by an unfortunate episode which transpired when she was twenty years of age, in her love affair with a certain Mr. Ancestor, "who," to quote the lady herself, "is the indiscreet young man alive. Last night . . . he was seized suddenly while riding home with the desire to say good night to me. He climbed the wall, the postern gate being locked at that hour, and had the boldness to attempt to climb the ivy below my window; while but half way up the Poor Impudent young man fell." "Papa" roused to the gravity of the situation decides to take his wayward daughter and his son Ned who has during his sister's disgrace "put on monstrously virtuous Prudish Airs," on the Grand Tour of Europe.

It was a surprisingly complicated thing in those days before Cooke and Son were functioning to make the Grand Tour. It involved coaches and footmen, the carrying of bedding and the protection by armed servants.

The remainder of the diary gives a remarkably intimate picture of the social life in that day of both country and city. The fetes and gossip of the country, in Derbyshire, the fetes and scandals of the city in London: They are at last forced to leave London by the irreproachable Ned becoming involved in a duel with a relative of Mr. Pitt.

In Paris and on the great estates of France the party was entertained with much the same kind of social whirl as might entertain them in similar society today. But in the background and sometimes very close were the rumblings of the Revolution. Switzerland the Knox party found very simple and delightful, Venice the most wicked and delightful city of all. Here the diary abruptly ends after brother Ned has been imprisoned for trying to elope with a nun, and Cleone does elope with the suddenly reappearing Mr. Ancestor.

Besides the instructive side of this most unusual document it is valuable for its quaintness, its gaiety, its foolishness and its charm.

HUMAN STUDIES

"LODGERS IN LONDON"

By Adelaide Eden Phillpotts
Little Brown & Co.

Sometimes the scene of a play is arranged so that the audience can see into more than one room at a time and watch the actions of groups of people seemingly independent of each other and yet with fates which are intermingled. So it is with this book, "Lodgers in London," by Adelaide Eden Phillpotts, daughter of the well known English novelist, Eden Phillpotts. It is as if the front of Mrs. Nodden's lodging house had been lifted away as was the front of Katherine Mansfield's "Doll House," and inside we see the foolish, pitiful, gay or tragic little people who are living within.

Miss Phillpotts has been interested in the study of sociology which may account partly for the keenly analytical, almost scientific attitude which she takes toward her characters. She is not emotionally involved with them any more than the vivisectionist with the specimen under his knife, she is merely coolly interested, accurate,

probing. This leads her into the style which we call realism although it is not the extreme of that type, surcharged with emotion, which Mr. Dreiser, for example, gives us. Here is a realism of an easier, more kindly sort.

Every character is drawn with a great deal of skill. Mrs. Nodden, whose lodging house it is, a fat, sleepy little person who solves all difficulties by sleeping through them, but who loves the primitive emotions of life, her vindictive sister Selina Wick, who would rather have others unhappy than gain happiness for herself, and Mr. Cole the copyist who, until his eyesight fails, sits on a stool faithfully copying the "Age of Innocence," and dreaming of the supper of bread and sausage and margarine. There are no hero and heroine in the usual sense in the book, nor is the book itself a novel in the usual sense. It is more a brief glimpse such as we might have in life, into the lives of a number of people, and then a losing sight of them as they are whirled off on their separate ways.

White Fire

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SALONIKA EUROPE'S BIGGEST BOOM TOWN

The city of Salonika, which was known in Biblical times as Thessalonika, is enjoying a building boom such as seldom comes to any European city. In the section which was burned during the war, more than 1,350 new buildings were erected in the past year. The total value of new buildings, according to a report by the Near East Relief, is \$37,000,000. The report adds:

"The growth of Salonika is one of the significant events of recent European history. Its pre-war population of 150,000 has jumped to 500,000, and the city is building at an astonishing rate. Everywhere one sees new buildings, houses, roads, walls and gardens, pushing up in accordance with a sound general city plan. There are 170,000 refugees in Salonika and 700,000 more in the surrounding district.

"These refugees are a difficult and expensive problem for the time being, but as regards the future they are certain to prove a virile and invigorating element.

"Salonika has a magnificent harbor, one of the finest in the near east, and it is the nearest port to the heart of the Balkans. It is about as far from Belgrade as New York is from Buffalo, and commercially the parallel is significant.

"Salonika and its surrounding province of Macedonia match in latitude and location a strip of the American coast from Philadelphia to Cape Cod. In this strip Salonika corresponds to New York. Within a radius of 400 miles is most of the commerce and industry of Greece, Turkey, Bulgaria, Jugo-Slavia, Albania and the Aegean Islands. Salonika is a natural business center for the trade of this entire region.

"A geological split runs up the Balken peninsula from Salonika to Belgrade. Trade and travel have always followed this line on the face of another earth. There is available a vast area of fertile soil and abundant natural resources which are rapidly being opened to development. This is the basis on which Salonika has become Europe's boom town."

Not So Curious After All
Women are supposed to have more curiosity than men, but so far none of them have tried to see the North Pole.

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RARE PRINTS BY JAPANESE ARTIST

Recently Installed In Buckingham Collection at the Art Institute

The Japanese prints by Okumura Masanobu which have just been installed in the two eastern Print galleries of the Art Institute, are new acquisitions to the Buckingham collection. They are rare specimens of the work of this Japanese artist, and consist of four series of prints, twelve in all, mainly depicting scenes from Japanese plays and incidents in the lives of famous personages. Masanobu was extremely precocious, for at the age of fifteen he was producing notable prints. The prints shown in the present exhibition, which are black-ink-prints on white paper, were produced approximately between the years 1704-1710.

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