

## Esther Gould's Book Corner

### PARAGRAPHS

Dodd Mead Co. announces a new book by Stephen Leacock, "Winnowed Wisdom," for publication in June. There is in the book, say its publishers, a recipe for dandelion wine which is worth the price of the volume. Which is all very well but will Mr. Leacock dig the dandelions?

Little Brown & Co. has published "Craig's Wife" the play which as well as having a successful winter's run in New York has just been awarded the Pulitzer prize for this year's best drama.

### THE WAY OF THE FLAPPER

#### "FLAPPER ANNE"

By Cora Harris  
Houghton Mifflin Co.

Cora Harris has gone about the difficult task of interpreting the "flapper." She is quite frankly interpreting, as explained in her "note to the reader" at the beginning, and interpreting to those of her own generation, just beyond the flapper. As if they all sat down to tea together and talked it over, in a very kindly spirit, and tried to realize what was the meaning of this strange youthful phenomenon. If you like that sort of thing, you will probably like the book, for it is quite well done.

The style is sprightly, the analysis is fairly keen, and it holds your interest. Yet there is that element of talking about the characters instead of letting them talk for themselves. The writer even enters as "I," a foreign floating element not in the story and entering, for me obtrusively, as a scene shifter accidentally caught up on the stage.

Anne is indeed a "flapper." Yet as any class has as many kinds as it has individuals, she is not all flapper, but only "Flapper Anne." She has been brought up with the maximum of freedom by an indulgent father who becoming the victim of a paternal qualm on his deathbed, wills her his fortune only in case she goes back to his old home in Georgia, arriving on or before her twentieth birthday, to spend a year with her grandmother. It is on this little old grey silk figure that the rocket of Anne's personality descends. But not even descends until exactly one hour after the appointed time so that her little grandmother, whose reputation for truth has been kept clean through these many years, goes about turning the hands of all the clocks back an hour.

Anne's coming is only the beginning of the fireworks. But her grandmother finds her always honest, the chief merit of the flapper, perfectly ready to acknowledge the new and simple code of life by which she lives.

But in the end the he-man comes along to tame the undisciplined Anne and we end on the hopeful note: "She insisted mildly that she believed Anne was a good girl at heart—which is precisely what I think of her myself—and saved from being a bad one by the skin of her teeth." Whether all the flappers are thus snatched from the burning or not, we are unable to say.

### UNIVERSITY—PAST AND PRESENT

#### "CHIMES"

By Robert Herrick  
The MacMillan Co.

It is very fitting that the history of a great Middle Western University which is in "Chimes" the University of Chicago, should be written. And Robert Herrick having undertaken the task, executes it with thoroughness, perhaps too much thoroughness for the casual reader. He has tried to give the development of the university in thought and deed since the time when from a raw prairie, there rose half a dozen isolated stone buildings.

Claverin, a young Harvard professor, is the eye through which it is seen, chosen by the author perhaps because against his academic background the great commercial, money-raising, education-spreading university is thrown in sharper relief. It is the old versus the new in education, the thing for which Harvard stands as against the ideal of the dynamic, unkempt, self-made president of Eureka University. Here women are taken in on the same basis with men, and education is for the many not for the cloistered few.

Mr. Herrick has taken one personality after another and attempted to make it clear, though he does so a little stiffly and has not sufficiently welded them into a whole. The element of the story does not weigh heavily in the book, the stilted romance of Claverin and Jessica Mallory, wife of a colleague and a woman scientist.

This seems to serve a slight purpose except as a level to lift the book from the class of history where it would have been a more influential work, into that of fiction where it does not quite belong.

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### MAKES STUDY OF INHERITANCE LAW

#### FINDS PECULIAR FACTS

Common Human Malformations Are Subject of Investigation For Post-Graduate at Northwestern

Miss Bess Lloyd, of Genoa, Illinois, who was graduated from Northwestern university in 1921, has just won a degree of Doctor of Philosophy at Northwestern for research work in biology. She is reputed to be the youngest of her sex ever to have won this coveted award at Northwestern, and doubtless one of the youngest persons anywhere to have worked her way to that high educational pinnacle. The title of her dissertation was "The Inheritance of Skeletal Anomalies" and in it she demonstrated that dislocation of the hip is congenital in origin in a majority of cases.

Studying other malformations, such as hare-lip and cleft palate, which are more or less prevalent, Miss Lloyd says of them:

"Hare-lip and cleft palate appear to be congenital in origin in the majority of cases and were found to be so irregular in distribution, when there were several members in a family, that no definite mode of inheritance could be determined."

Miss Lloyd in her studies investigated the physical histories of many families and traced certain defects over several generations. She received co-operation from various hospitals and many medical authorities. A general opinion which she formed by reason of this research was that "traits appearing in numerous members of the family may be assumed to be of hereditary origin, if they occur with a frequency which corresponds to the expected mode peculiar to the Mendelian law of inheritance. Those traits which occur intermittently according to no law of frequency may be observed to be of somatic origin and considered as congenital characters."

The young woman's research included anomalies of the skull, the trunk and extremities of the body and their transmission from generation to generation, in many instances, according to the Mendelian law. Extra thumbs and fingers, web-toes or web-fingers and similar anomalies Miss Lloyd investigated thoroughly; also ossification of the cochlea which causes partial or complete deafness. In the matter of deafness in children, she quotes Shambaugh who surveyed the Chicago schools in 1925, finding 50 per cent of the deafness to be congenital, with 57.9 per cent of these children totally deaf.

Polydactylism, or extra fingers, Miss Lloyd's studies reveal "has a strong tendency to be inherited." Many variations of extra fingers and toes, were found to exist, but the anomalies appeared to be in close re-

lation. After graduation from Northwestern, Miss Lloyd took graduate work at Washington university, then studied two years at the University of Illinois Medical school, and finally returned to Northwestern to study for her doctor's degree which she has just won.

### KNEECESITY MOTHER HOSEIERY INVENTION

A writer in "Nation's Business" pens as follows upon a new invention: With so many American women favoring abbreviated skirts, "kneecosity" might easily be mistaken for the mother of hoseiery invention. For where is the pride that can survive a run in the stocking when its complete exposure is assured by fashion's skimpiness with skirts? Truly pride goeth before a run. And who has not been surprised at sight of a silken ladder ascending from even the best regulated clocks? But from now on, American women may expect every stocking to do its full duty. A machine has been invented by Monsieur Serra of Lyons to make run-proof hoseiery from silk, rayon, or cotton. The patent rights in England are held by the M. C. Foister company of Leicester.

Even if only as a low sort of pun, it does seem worth while to add the footnote that the run is on the run.

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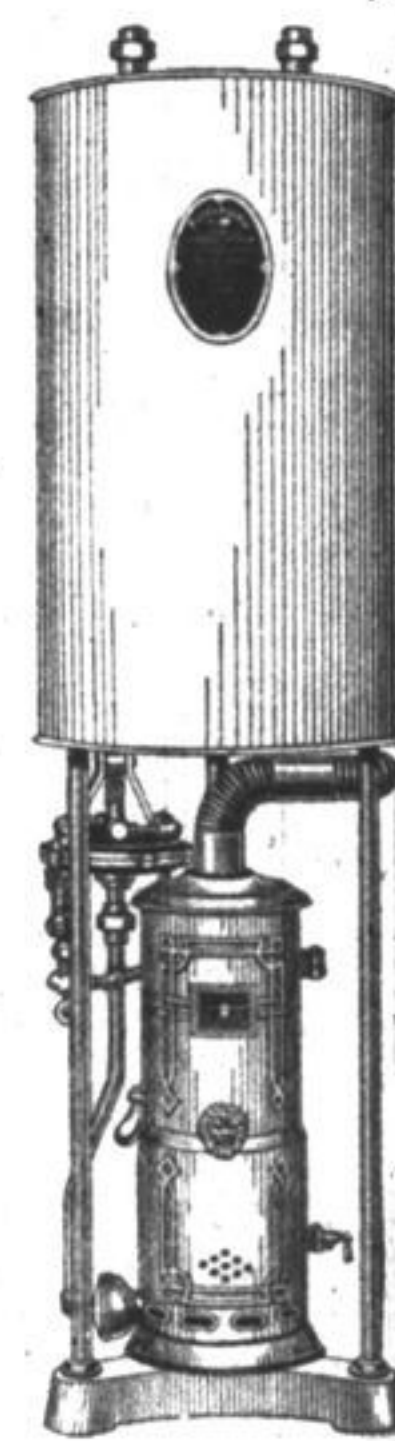


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