



JUST PARAGRAPHS

Another first novel to stir the critics is "Green Forest," by Nathalie Sedgwick Colby. "Brilliant," "flawlessly drawn types," "unforgettably" are some of the hackneyed by heart-felt phrases the N. Y. Times uses in its praise.

Emil Ludwig in his new powerful story of "Napoleon" calls him both prophet and genius. It seems strange for a German to present such a sympathetic picture of France's war-lord.

THE OLD SOUTH

"HEAVEN TREES"

By Stark Young
Charles Scribner's Sons

The admirers of Stark Young who have written so ably on the drama have wanted him to write a novel. He "Heaven Trees." Actually, however, has done so, in name at least, in that it is a remembrance, a story told "Heaven Trees" is less of a novel one evening to recall a once vivid scene. It comes no closer to us than a story told by someone else of something which is past, a scene glimpsed through a window of a moving train. The scene is complete, we see a great deal in that glimpse, but we have never lived in it.

Mr. Young has taken an old southern country place before the Civil War — an audacious thing to do, considering the number of others who have done it before him. Yet he managed to do it well enough to make it new. He has bent his skill toward the recreation of atmosphere and in this he has admirably succeeded. The lovely house, the gardens, the genial hospitality of "Heaven Trees" are as real to us as fire, flood and famine in a more adventurous story.

The characters, too, are more real than the action, what happens to them seems no more important than what once happened to a lovely old brocaded gown. It is real and it is lovely and has been preserved for us so we do no more than smile at its vicissitudes. Georgia, the southern beauty, and Grandfather McGhee, the southern gentleman, and "my Uncle George," genial owner of "Heaven Tree," are real and we enjoy them as if they were old pictures — and that is enough, isn't it?

MYSTERY AND THRILLS

"THE HIDDEN KINGDOM"
By Francis Beeding

Little, Brown & Co.

Francis Beeding takes a large canvas for his mystery stories. In "The Seven Sleepers" it was the starting of another European world war for which the game was played. Now the terrible Prof. Kreutzemerk, who seems to be in league with the devil himself, appears once more, this time in an endeavor to let loose the half savage hordes of Asia as conquerors of the world.

For his ends the Professor is using an ancient prophecy, made in the time of Genghis Khan, that one day will come a deliverer who will bring forth the ruler of a Hidden Kingdom which is under the earth and lead that ruler to victory over the world. Mr. Beeding might have gotten the idea from that teller of true mystery stories, Ossendowski.

Of course, the Professor knows the legend isn't true, but he is relying on the fact that the wild hordes of Asia believe it. And he is going to play the deliverer. This calls for the gallantry of those three intrepid adventurers, the two Frenchmen and the one Englishman, to whom, because of their activities against "The Seven Sleepers," the world should owe much.

From the bull ring in Spain to the waste spaces of Mongolia they are led on their chase, and our interest with them. Mr. Beeding has the art of making his villain fiendish yet attractive, for all the world, alas, has a sneaking admiration for the rogue who is as cool as he is bad and plays his part with a high hand.

This is "just a mystery story" but if you are one of the hordes — numerous as those of Asia — who nevertheless like a good one you will welcome "The Hidden Kingdom."

ECHO ANSWERS

By ELSWYTH THANE

author of "Riders of the Wind"
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Many eminent gentlemen being mentioned for the presidency, and some of them probably first mentioned to their friends that they would consent to be mentioned.

Claimed the boys not as eager to earn money as formerly, perhaps because they save time and effort by getting it out of the Old Man.

Predicted that the national debt may be paid off in 20 years, and if they could assess all the people who overspeed automobiles, it might be paid off in 15.

One reason why many of the non-voters do not vote, is that it is not considered proper in these times to hire them to go to the polls.

The income taxpayers should be extremely careful not to return too much income, as they will undoubtedly wish to do if not warned against the same.

The people who read the home town newspaper in each issue, do not have to keep asking their neighbors what has happened.

The taxpayers who want to save the government surplus should persuade the congressmen, that their country needs their services at home until the regular session begins next December.

It is said that Germany now has more workers than she had in 1914. But how about the jobs?

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