

# Esther's Book Corner

## JUST PARAGRAPHS

Carl Sandburg of whom we like to think as the 'Chicago poet' is in great demand as a lecturer in other parts of the country. From engagements last month in California he is journeying into the south and to the east coast in the next months. In expressing his desire to meet Philip Guedalla, noted biographer, who was recently in Chicago, he said, "I would like to just sit down with him and talk about the craft like two book-makers."

Mrs. Philip Guedalla, who spent about ten days in Chicago, while her husband the noted biographer was making a lecture circuit in nearby towns was charmed with the city. She said, "The nice part of it is that things are because they are, and not because they are trying to be like something else as is the case in New York."

## A MISCELLANY

It seems as if even should be allowed now and then a chance to go wandering backward instead of pushing forward, a chance to pick up some of the good things which for some reason were missed before. The past week has held for this reviewer three of such chances.

The first was Edith Wharton's 'Age of Innocence' which by its very title ante-dates our age. It is a delight because it is so unmodern, and pictures a New York so charmingly distant from the New York we know. It pictures also an age when duty and chivalry toward the outward forms of things in particular, were necessary and cherished parts of any gentleman. It pictures an age, and this above all distinguishes it from our own, when people, with a sort of perverse stoicism, thought that everything they wanted was impossible, a contrast to our own when no one admits that anything he wants is beyond that range. The book on the whole is so competent and so pleasing that it makes one wonder with a sigh where this Edith Wharton has slipped away.

Next there fell by chance into our Townsend Warner, a book quite time-path "Lolly Willowes," by Sylvia less in its setting but actually not yet a year old. This is a delightful piece of sensitive realistic prose which loses a great deal at the end by an effort to become phantasy.

Then last but not least was a rediscovery of Willa Cather's masterpiece, "A Lost Lady." Again we discovered, and were overwhelmed by the discovery, how calmly Miss Cather annihilates all the so-called problems of technique by simplicity. Problems under which so many artists go down but which she simply and surely soars above. The end achieved is something fine and complete like good sculpture.

## ENGLAND VERSUS CALIFORNIA

### "A WOMAN IN EXILE"

By Horace Annesley Vachell  
Frederick A. Stokes Co.

"A Woman in Exile" by Horace Annesley Vachell, is the story of an English woman who marries a California business man and comes to the "great free west" to make her home. It is the story of this woman's reactions to her new environment, her loyalty divided between England and America, and her love for her husband who she sometimes feels loves California more than he loves her.

Lucy d'Aguilar, daughter of a proud English family marries Chester Coward who has made millions in a harvester in America, and goes with him back to California. Here she is welcomed by the few representatives of eastern culture who have never before smiled upon her native western husband. They are just building up a very tolerable society for themselves when the great quake and fire destroy the city. Mr. Vachell misses a good chance here for some dramatic writing.

## The SOUTH AFRICANS

By Sarah Gertrude Millin

Author of "God's Stepchildren." As vivid as any of her extremely vivid novels is this story of Mrs. Millin's of South Africa. Land and people, history and geography are elements in the rich and moving drama.

BONI & LIVERIGHT \$3.50

## THE LINGERING FAUN

A brilliant novel of Paris!  
Mabel Wood Martin

It is after-the-war Paris in which Russian princes droye taxicabs and princesses were steamstresses of which Mrs. Martin writes so movingly.

Frederick A. Stokes Co. \$2.00

ing which he passes by with the pallid excuse "It has been so often described." How could anyone miss doing it again, sure that it had never been done so well as he was doing it? He gives a good picture of the city's recovery, her colossal effort to build on the ruins bigger and better things than were before.

Then comes the War which is hard for Lucy, exiled from her own country and feeling that America ought to be in it too. An there is too, the problem of the two children, whom Lucy would like to make English but who in the end admit that they novel though not an exceptional one. are Californians. It is a good

## Clay Chimney Trail

Continued from page 2

Montoyo said to himself:

"For her, of course!" The gambler smiled, a slow, contemptuous smile while his gray eyes focused watchfully.

"It's a case where I have nothing to gain," said he. "And you've nothing to lose. I never bet in the teeth of a pat hand. Sabe? Besides, my young Mormon cub, where's your ante? For the sport of it, now, what do you think of putting up, make it interesting? One of your mammies? Tut, tut!"

Daniel's right hand stiffened at his side—extended there flat and tremulous like the vibrant tail of a rattlesnake. He blurted harshly:

"I 'laow to kill yu for that! Draw you—!"

We caught breath. Montoyo's revolver, poised half-way out of the scabbard, held there rigidly, frozen in mid-course.

For Daniel had laughed loudly over leveled barrel.

How he had achieved so quickly no man of us knew. Yet there it was—his Colt—out, cocked, wicked, and yearning and ready.

"Haow'll yu take, it mister?" he gibed. "I could 'arn an old caow to beat you on the draw. Aw, shucks! I 'laow yu'd better go back to yore pasteboards. Naow git!"

Montoyo, his eye steady, scarcely changed his expression. He let his revolver slip down into its scabbard. Then he smiled.

"You have a pretty trick," he commented, relaxing. "Some day I'd like to test it out again. Just now I pass. Madam, you're coming?"

"You know I'm not," she uttered clearly.

"Your choice of company is hardly to your credit," he sneered. "Or, I should say, to your education. Sainthood does not fall well upon you, madam. Of your two champions—"

And here I realized that I was standing out, one foot advanced, my fists foolishly doubled, my presence a useful factor.

"—I recommend the gentleman from New York as more to your taste. But you are going of your own free will. You will always be my wife. You can't get away from that, you devil. I shall expect you in Benton, for I have the hunch that your little fight will fetch you back pretty well tamed, to the place where damaged goods are not so heavily discounted."

With that he strode straight for his horse, climbed aboard (a trifle awkwardly by reason of his one arm disabled) and galloped, granting us not another glance.

Card shark and desperado that he was, his consummate aplomb nobody could deny, except Daniel, now capering and swaggering and twirling his revolver.

"I showed him. I made him take water. I 'laow I'm 'bout the best man with a six-shooter in these hyar parts!"

"Ketch up and stretch out," Captain Adams, ordered, disregarding.

"We've no more time for foolery."

My eyes met My Lady's. She smiled a little ruefully, and I responded, shamed by the poor role I had borne.

With that jubilating out to the fore, certainly I cut small figure!

(To be continued)

## TWON'T BE LONG NOW

"Do I bore you," asked the mosquito politely, as he sank a deep shaft into the man's leg.

"Not at all!" replied the man, as he smashed the mosquito gently over the head with a book. "And, by the way, how do I strike you?"

## FACTS OF THE CASE

Reprter: "Were you and Murphy cool and collected after the explosion yesterday?"

Flaherty: Well, you see it was this way. I was cool, but Murphy was collected."

The hens show enthusiasm and persistence in laying eggs just as soon as the prices fall.

Now that congress has adjourned, the field seems to be clear for the circus to go on the road.

Claimed our laws need more teeth, and many of them anyway have not yet got their wisdom teeth.

## FEBRUARY RECORDS SHOW LAKES HIGHER

### GAIN FOOT IN LAST YEAR

## Government Survey Shows This Result; Comparisons Are Made and Figures Are Given

February records of the United States lakes survey indicate that March 1, levels of the five great inland lakes were more than a foot higher than on the same date a year ago.

Basing predictions on past phases of the lakes rises and subsidences sanitary district engineers estimated that by 1940 it was reasonable to expect the highest level in the recorded history of the great fresh water bodies.

Comparative Figures Given Comparative depths of the five lakes for February this year and in 1926 and the mean rise for them are shown by the survey in the following table:

	Feb., '26	Feb., '27	Increase
Superior	600.24 ft.	601.32 ft.	1.08 ft.
Michigan	577.48 ft.	578.55 ft.	1.07 ft.
Huron	577.36 ft.	578.25 ft.	0.89 ft.
Ontario	579.22 ft.	579.97 ft.	0.75 ft.
Mean gain for Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie and Ontario, 1.05 feet.			

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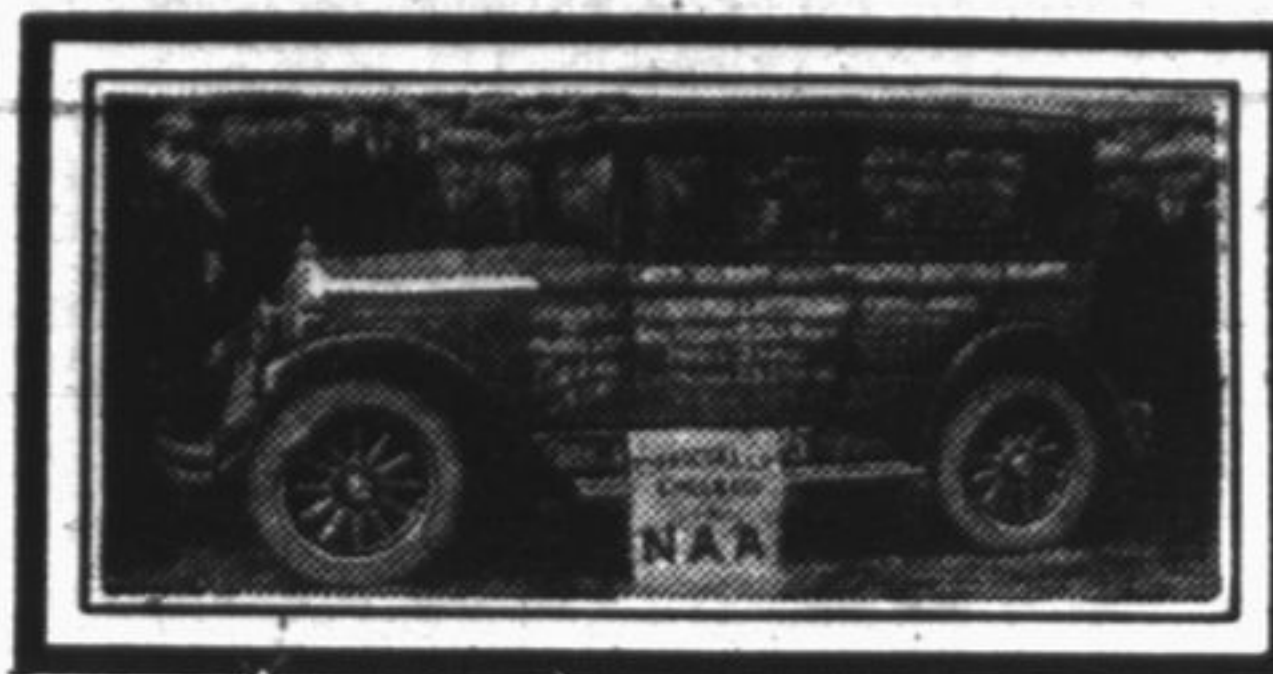
Explain Downward Trend The significance of the figures from the standpoint of Chicago is that the gradual downward trend of levels from 1919 to 1925 was the result of less than normal rainfall and not to diversion, according to Philip J. Harrington, H. P. Ramey and H. P. Ripley, engineers for the district, believe.

These authorities declared they were convinced the lake levels were now returning toward normal in a cumulative series of movements. Fluctuations bearing out their predictions, they claim, have been noted since soundings were taken in 1860.

The first of the upward movements was noted last winter when, instead of the annual hibernal drop usually continuing until February, an upward movement started in December. The rise the engineers point out, more than offsets the unprecedented drop in the winter of 1925-26, when levels reached a new all-time low mark.

It might be consistent for the folks who do not believe it pays to advertise, to decide also that it does not pay for business people to spend their valuable time in giving information about their goods.

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One of the Wilcox Special Built Homes

## As I Was Telling Mr. Walker

all about the double insulation methods used in the construction of the Wilcox Homes it was easy to see that he did not fully understand what I meant. He did not feel sure whether it was something added or taken out of the home I was showing.

But, as it happened the fire that damaged one of the Wilcox Homes made it possible to show him that the 4½ inches of insulation was really added to the ordinary frame wall—4 inches of insulux and ½ inch of celotex. The outside wall is the ordinary construction of 1-inch board sheathing doubly papered and then sided or shingled.

You only buy insulation once—you buy fuel every year! The saving is a secondary matter. The added comfort, summer and winter, is the important thing. Cooler in summer, warmer in winter—it does save half the fuel—very important too as it soon pays for its cost.

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