

Esther Gould's Book Corner

JUST PARAGRAPHS

Mr. Struthers Burt's publishers have just issued this cryptic paragraph: "Mr. and Mrs. Burt have moved into their new home at Southern Pines, N.C., alongside James Boyd, author of 'Marching On.' Scribner's will publish this spring a new book of stories 'They Could Not Sleep,' and 'The Other Side,' a book of essays, both by Mr. Burt." Is it possible he does not like his new neighborhood?

In the new edition of "Mirrors of the Year" the book designed to make you able to talk about things of which you know nothing, Robert Emmet Sherwood makes a good hit in his chapter on American humor, "Now the satirists, comedians, clowns, gag-men, wise-crackers and other all-around wits turn to 1928, conscious of the lamentable fact, that with the passing of the Model T Ford they have lost the truest and most useful friend of all." That is an aspect we hadn't thought of and one which dwarfs the falling off of the second hand market.

ANCIENT NORWAY

"THE AXE"

By Sigrid Undset
Alfred A. Knopf

In the past five years in America Sigrid Undset has been coming into the position to which her place in Norwegian letters entitles her. "Jenny" her first work published in this country found a certain number of ardent admirers, her next work, a trilogy, "Kristian Lavransdatter," made it still more clear that here was a talent of the first order. "The Axe" is the first book of a new trilogy, of which the second is already in translation.

This, like Miss Undset's other long work is a story of medieval Norway. What was it in the lives of those people of a distant day that gave them such dignity, solidarity, form? Surely it is more than distance. The movement of the story is like the measured swaying of their own heavy beautiful garments—satins, velvets, brocades, never the easy flitting to and from of the modern flapper's abbreviated skirts. Wasn't it, first of all, their religion, which anchored them to spiritual certainties? Wasn't it, second, the closeknit organization of the families which gave form to life, each person being only a unit in a great important pattern. Even their names as "Jonsdatter" or John's Daughter, give constant reminder of the responsibility they bore toward someone else. They were so serious, these people of the thirteenth century, so child-like, so cruel and yet often so wise!

The love story of Olov and his foster-sister, Ingunn, is not a happy one. Yet it is full of beauty, a beauty which is not more in the style than in the very movement of the story itself.

THE OTHER SIDE

"A SON OF MOTHER INDIA ANSWERS"

By Dhan Gopal Mukerji
E. P. Dutton & Co.

In "A Son of Mother India Answers," Dhan Mukerji gives his reply to Katherine Mayo's "Mother India." This latter book has provoked a lot of replies, from economists, scientists, medical men, poets. It is a book which carried a grave indictment of a whole nation of three hundred and

twenty million people by a woman, a "tourist," who spent a few months in their country.

Mr. Mukerji's answer, slight as it is in bulk, has a good deal of interest. In the first place it is made with an admirable restraint. The danger in such a case is that he might be tempted to indulge in satire, invective, bitterness, weakening his own case and strengthening that of his opponent. It is to his lasting credit that he has not. In his opening paragraphs Mr. Mukerji deprecates the use of the name "Mother India" which has for Hindus a symbolic meaning beyond that of a similar term used in other countries. He feels that, considering the spirit of the work this is a needless lack of tact even brutality. So also the dedication "To the Peoples of India," those peoples about whom in her four hundred or so pages of text she can find only enough good things to fill six pages.

Mr. Mukerji proceeds to question a number of Miss Mayo's figures, disproving some by quotation from reliable sources such as the census reports, showing some of her sources to be material gathered anywhere from forty to a hundred years ago, sometimes misrepresented to make it appear new. Then Mr. Mukerji has given a good deal of space to denials by Ghandi and Tagore of the words imputed to them by Miss Mayo. All this, while it is not exhaustive, does throw a serious doubt on the authenticity of the book in question.

In conclusion, Mr. Mukerji, rather futilely it seems to me, outlines—with a few jabs which he cannot resist such as "eliminating from the book all the errors and half-truths thus reducing it to a quarter of its present size"—what Miss Mayo would have to do to make the book what he chooses to intimate she must have meant it to be—an aid to reform among the Indian people.

THIS IS A NOVEL OF GREAT IMPORTANCE but NOT

MAGNOLIA

Edith Everett Taylor

Out of the South comes a haunting story of love and beauty. \$2.00

E. P. Dutton & Co. New York

The Year's Big Biography!

UNCLE JOE CANNON

By L. White Busbey

"Makes better reading than almost any biography since Boswell." N. Y. Times.

Henry Holt & Co. Illus. \$5.00

AN ARTIST IN THE FAMILY

The splendid novel by Sarah Gertrude Millin

Here is the other side of "The Way of All Flesh," the parents' side, the side of the Unremarkable Majority. Its question is "How much should be conceded to the artistic temperament?"

Boni & Liveright \$2.50

TO OPEN TAX BOOKS EARLY NEXT MONTH

C. TREASURER ANNOUNCES

Bills Will Be Sent Out Soon as Possible and Use of Mails Urged in Paying Same

County Treasurer J. B. Morse announced late last week that he expects to be able to start collection of taxes at his office the first week in April. The tax department of the office of County Clerk Lew A. Hendee has been working nights and Sundays on extending of taxes, so as to turn over all tax books to the treasurer at as early a date as possible.

County Treasurer Morse says bills will be sent out as soon as it is possible to do so and requests property owners to refrain from calling his offices asking about taxes as it only delays the work of his force.

Use the Mails

It is urged by County Treasurer Morse that people use the mails instead of coming to his office to pay taxes. He says it will be more convenient for the taxpayers to use this method as it will save them from perhaps standing in line for several hours, while it will also aid his force. He says that personal checks should not be sent, but either money orders, cashier's checks or certified checks.

Mr. Morse is making arrangements with banks on the north shore and in the western part of the county to handle tax money, as in the past.

LIBERTYVILLE PLANS NEW WATER SYSTEM

At the regular meeting of the Libertyville board of trustees last week necessary legal steps were taken to submit to the voters of Libertyville the proposition of a bond issue to raise funds for the rebuilding of the municipal water plant, when an ordinance covering the proposition was passed and approved by unanimous vote of the board. A supplementary ordinance providing for that purpose at the annual village election on Tuesday, April 17, was also passed.

The ordinance is entitled "An ordinance to improve the fire protection of the village of Libertyville by rebuilding the water system and providing for the issuance of bonds in the sum of \$44,000 for the payment of the same. The amount was set at that figure after an exhaustive study of the conditions by the members of the board and the engineer and it was found that the above sum was the smallest amount with which the immediate necessities can be secured.

GLENCOE PLANNING TO CUT BUILDING HEIGHT

The Glencoe Village board at its meeting, Thursday evening discussed an amendment relative to the provisions of both the building code and zoning law, in which one of the most important changes in the reduction in the height of buildings, which, according to the new provision, shall not exceed forty feet, as against the previous fifty foot limitation.

The other requires property owners' consent for the erection of "any livery, boarding, or sales stable, automobile livery, public garage or building for the keeping, repair or storage of automobiles or other like vehicles for hire or profit, any oil filling station, hospital, reformatory, rescue or shelter institution, blacksmith shop, lumber yard, foundry, machine shop, laundry, theater, medical dispensary, sanitarium, junk store or yards, or any mercantile manufacturing or other business." The matter was referred to the zoning committee.

FARM BUILDINGS ARE DESTROYED BY FIRE

Loss of \$10,000 Estimated in Blaze Southeast of Libertyville, Ill.

Damage estimated at over \$10,000 was caused last week when fire made a clean sweep of the buildings on the old Daniel Morrison farm located on Bradley road southeast of Libertyville. The farm is owned by Si Mayer of Chicago and has been untenanted for some time past.

The fire started in a field a short distance from the house and, fanned by a high wind quickly followed the dry grass and weeds which have grown up around the buildings. The fire first attacked the house and then spread to the other buildings.

GRAND JURY RETURNS NINETEEN TRUE BILLS

The March grand jury last week completed its work in one day, submitting a report in the court of Circuit Judge Claire C. Edwards stating that 19 cases had been investigated and 17 true bills returned. John E. Hayes, Sr., of North Chicago was foreman of the grand jury. The cases investigated were mostly thefts and similar crimes reported from Waukegan and vicinity.

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GARLAND COURT (half block west Michigan Blvd. on Lake Street) to East South Water Street, thence half block west.
MADDOCK PLACE (State Street half block south of Wacker Drive) to Madison Court, thence Court to lower level Wacker Drive, thence half block west.