

Esther Gould's Book Corner

JUST PARAGRAPHS

It is interesting to note in this year when the manuscript for "Alice in Wonderland" has just sold for a record breaking sum, and the book "The Ugly Duchess" is a best-seller, that one of the most famous of Sir John Tennile's drawings, that of Alice's Duchess was inspired by a portrait of the other actual duchess. If you have seen the two pictures the resemblance is really remarkable.

Too many people seem to have been struck with the excellence of Mr. Disraeli's advice. He said, "When I want to read a novel I write one."

HONESTY

"BAD GIRL"

By Vina Delmar
Harcourt Brace & Co.

"Vina Delmar is the literary sensation of New York" announces a literary paper. Now what that means or who decides it and why is beyond us to know, yet what we do know is that Miss Delmar has written in her first novel "Bad Girl" an astonishingly honest book. Not honest particularly because almost the entire book is taken up with the experience of a girl marrying and having a child, but honest because the author has stepped across into her characters. There are no barriers, she isn't standing off being cynical or critical or pitying, she is in them, and in consequence so are we.

We are on the boat that night on the Hudson when Eddie meets Dot, gay, impudent, striking random notes on her ukele and singing in a husky voice off key. From that point on during the succeeding weeks, we move with their romance, from the boat to the Chinese restaurant, to the dance hall, and to the rainy night and the seduction. Then because

Eddie is a nice boy who wouldn't let Dot down. We go with them next morning to the marriage license bureau.

It is all so real, so acutely and simply honest that during the reading of the book we are identified with Dot and Eddie and their problems. And they are so ignorant, and so natural in their desire to be happy and do what their world has taught them they ought to do, and more than all they are so inarticulate! It is a real accomplishment this book of Miss Delmar's, one which shows mastery and nothing of the amateur.

WANDERING

"MID-PACIFIC"

By James Norman Hall
Houghton Mifflin Co.

"Mid-Pacific" is another of those fragmentary, haunting books of travel which fortunately for us, James Norman Hall knows how to write. Next best to being able to wander at will over the globe is the opportunity of having the sympathetic and casual record of his wanderings from one who can. Though Mr. Hall is a journalist by occupation as his passport has it, yet his travel is the real thing and his writing a by-product. His books are the leaves of a notebook which he carries and in which he jots down his experiences or his musings as the spirit moves.

He has a charming style and a gift for conveying atmosphere, so we care little whether he is describing the almost mythically odd characters he has met in his far, unknown places, or whether he is musing on the "Person from Porlock" who, dropping in on business one afternoon, disturbed Coleridge at his writing and drove from his mind that priceless remainder of "Kubla Khan."

There is sensitiveness in Mr. Hall's writings and, perhaps we are wrong, but it seems to us a little more wistfulness than there used to be. Is it the wistfulness of one who cutting himself off from all that ordinary people think worth having, finds that

he is reaching out for illusions? He writes at length about a man who did what he has done, left civilization to find happiness and a free life, and whose heartbreaking record appeared in a book called "Isles of Illusion." Mr. Hall is certainly not disillusioned as that man was and he sees far too much to interest him and to enjoy in the world and in men ever to become so, yet there is that recurring note, as if looking back from another country he called to us, less adventurous, behind him, "Yes, it is wonderful but there doesn't seem to be quite what I expected, what I was looking for."

A U. S. British radio war is said to be practically certain. Doubtless we will soon be getting broadsides of static from the other side of the Atlantic.

The American embassy at Mexico City was injured in a recent earthquake, and Senator Hefflin forgot to say that it was due to our imperialistic policy in Latin-America.

A GIRL ADORING

By Viola Meynell

"Has the fragile exquisiteness of rare Venetian glass. The author handles her story with a simplicity and finesse of touch."

—Viola Paradise.

\$2.50

E. P. Dutton & Co. N. Y.

AT LAST WE HEAR THAT

Gentlemen Marry Brunettes

By Anita Loos

Seldom has a book of humor ever swept the country and the world as did "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes." Now we have from Lorelei's friend, Dorothy, the other side of the story in which the brunettes get their innings. Don't miss it!

BONI & LIVERIGHT \$2.00

SPECIAL ASSESSMENT NOTICE
SPECIAL WARRANT NUMBER 512

Public notice is hereby given that the County Court of Lake County, Illinois, has rendered judgment for a special assessment upon property benefited by the following improvement: The construction of a connected system of Sanitary Sewers for Ravinia Drive and Lots 2 and 3 of the Subdivision of Lots 1, 15, 16, 17, and 18 of Lakeside Manor all in the City of Highland Park, Lake County, Illinois, as will more fully appear from the certified copy of the judgment on file in my

office. That the Warrant for collection of such assessment is in the hands of the undersigned.

All persons interested are hereby notified to call and pay the amount assessed at the Collector's Office, City Hall, corner Green Bay Road and Central Avenue, Highland Park, Illinois, within thirty (30) days from the date thereof.

Notice is further given that the said assessment is divided in ten (10) installments. The amount of the first installment is \$1483.45 and that each of the remaining installments

is \$741.69. That all installments draw interest at the rate of 8 per cent per annum from March 25, 1925. The first installment is payable on the 2nd day of January, A. D. 1928.

The second installment one year thereafter and so on annually until all installments are paid.

FRED W. RUBLE,
City Collector
Highland Park, Illinois,
this 17th day of May, 1928.

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