

Esther Gould's Book Corner

JUST PARAGRAPHS

It is pleasant to think in this trying weather—it may be cold by the time we go to press—of someone being cool. Such it seems is the case with Edwin Arlington Robinson, who, his publishers report, is spending the summer at Peterborough, the MacDowell colony, where he has done most of his poetic work.

A life of Thomas Hardy will appear in the Fall. Most of the material was gathered by his wife, Florence Hardy from his own diaries and writings. At the same time they are going forward for a memo to Hardy in his native Dorsetshire which he made so famous.

St. John Ervine, well known as novelist and playwright, the most famous among his plays perhaps being "Jane Clegg," has been weaned away from London to become dramatic critic for the New York Herald-Tribune. It will be interesting to hear a new voice in the familiar chorus.

SLEEP-CHASING

"THE MYSTERY OF THE BLUE TRAIN"

By Agatha Christie
Dodd Mead & Co.

Summer is the time for mystery stories. A hot night, a buzzing mosquito, and sleep which eludes one's grasp and might therefore as well be driven definitely hence by a hair-raiser. "The Mystery of the Blue Train" by the famous Agatha Christie, whose royalties must make an enviable little sum each year, is such a hair-raiser. Or perhaps not exactly that for the initiate; a single murder may scarcely stir the hair of those who live in a perpetual atmosphere of fictitious crime.

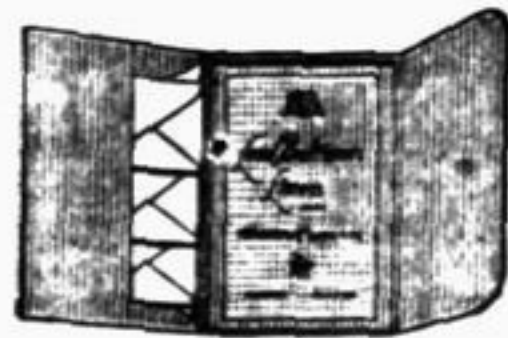
And the mystery of the "Blue Train," the millionaires' special run between Calais and the Riviera, hangs on a single murder. Poor deluded Ruth Kettering traveling with her famous rubies to meet her lover is murdered en route. No one is particularly sorry, except her still more deluded father, certainly not her unforgiven husband.

A wonderful detective is on the train and takes up the case with the hindrance, as usual, of the infallibly wrong police. All we have to do from then on is to disagree with the police, suspect the most impeccable of the characters and the mystery is solved. Yet the fun comes from the fact that we never do suspect that noble straightforward creature, and so are as much in the dark as anyone except perhaps the corpse. This outline is not meant to convey that the story is uninteresting, it is exceedingly so, as the statement that it banished heat, the mosquito and sleep will prove.

The most interesting thing about a mystery story to me, is the atmosphere of doubt, of treachery, of crime, which it builds up—so that the ring of your bell means a robbery if not an attempted murder, and you don't dare leave your room to get a drink of water. Then as you follow on to the end, and the mystery is solved, you regain your composure, order returns to the world, the law takes its course, mankind is protected against itself and you go to bed. You have moved in those moments

On Trains and During Vacations

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EASY MONEY

"GALATEA"

By Margaret Rivers Larmine
Houghton Mifflin Co.

"Galatea" by Margaret Rivers Larmine is one of those wish fulfillment stories, grown up fairy tales, dear to the heart of so many. It is a nice simple story of how Emmeline Wynter at the instigation of her cousin Jack puts a one pound bet on a horse and sees it come riding back to her seventy thousand pounds. Of whose wish isn't that a fulfillment?

So Emmeline puts herself into the hands of a good modiste—that's always the first step—and comes out a transformed creature. Then gathering up dyspeptic Papa and a nice old gentleman neighbor who has some knowledge of the world, she turns her back on suburban London and sets out for parts unknown. Rather unfairly leaving Cousin Jack behind on the pier.

Emmeline's adventures during the next month come on apace and are much what we might expect under the circumstances. She meets her share of kindness, treachery and pain. Only to find in the end and at great expense what we knew in the beginning that it was really Cousin Jack all the time. So it looks as if with Papa nursing his dyspepsia in Switzerland, all might go well for Emmeline in England.

Mrs. Larmine has some skill in the drawing of characters, which she exercises best in those of the minor roles such as Papa and Emmy's elderly friend. About the main characters there is something saccharine sweet as if she were "Just so anxious that we would like them all." If there is anything that makes us wish for them, an untimely and violent end, it is of course just that!

MAY BE DELAY IN BRACHER RETRIAL

Absence of Judge Fisher May Make Necessary Postponement, Report

States Attorney A. V. Smith, who has decided to bring Roy Bracher, former county treasurer, and four others to trial for shortages in the county treasury in 1926, will be forced to delay this second trial, due to the absence of Circuit Judge Arthur E. Fisher, it is reported.

Judge Fisher is to sail for Havana, Cuba, Sept. 20, for a reunion of his Spanish-American war regiment with which he served as a colonel.

Col. Smith had hoped to bring Bracher, Ira Pearsall, another former treasurer, Harold Martin, formerly cashier of the defunct Security Savings bank, Caleb Busick, Winnetka oil stock promoter, and Clark Nye, Kansas banker and oil promoter, to trial early in October.

Unless Judge Fisher, before whom the case is set, returns in a short time, it will be impossible to bring the case to trial much before December, it is pointed out.

Bracher, it was charged in their first trial a year ago when the jury disagreed, invested \$100,000 in Nyes bank which closed bringing a total loss to Bracher, who was then treasurer.

Pearsall succeeded him and covered up the shortage, according to Col. Smith. Martin and Busick, linked with Nye in an oil promotion, induced Bracher to use the Kansas bank, it was charged.

Friends of Bracher accepting his estate, paid the \$100,000 to the county covering the shortage. The state claims about \$33,000 in interest, however.

The politicians are coming out strong during this campaign for the principles that everyone believes in.

The automobile tourists usually go too fast to see the country, but anyway they can boast that they have been there.

WIDENING WAUKEGAN ROAD NEAR FINISH

Work in Cook County Progressing; Want It Continued to State Line

With the first section of the newly widened 40 foot Waukegan road complete and open for traffic, Supt. Geo. A. Quinlan of the Cook county highway department announced last week that sections further north are to be ready within a week or ten days.

Traffic is now permitted at all times to travel the highway between the Milwaukee avenue connection at Niles and Glenview, and north of that; the pavement is open to traffic during construction work in the daylight hours, Sundays excepted.

Mr. Quinlan predicts that the entire distance to the county line will be open within a fortnight.

Dempster street is now open between Waukegan road and McCormick road, according to the highway department, which will provide 40 foot driving facilities from Devon avenue and McCormick road to Glenview.

Efforts are being made to have the widening of this road continue through Lake county to the Wisconsin state line.

Opening Announcement OF Ravinia Dry Goods Co.

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Ravinia Opera 8:15 Tonight

with

Chicago Symphony Orchestra

(50 Men)

Thurs., 8:15, LOHENGRIN, Rethberg, Johnson, Claussen, Cehanovsky, D'Angelo, Preston, Hasselmans; Fri., SPANISH HOUR and JEWELS OF THE MADONNA, Gall, Mojica, Defrere, D'Angelo, Hasselmans, Easton, Chamlee, Basiola, Papi; Sat., MANON, Gall, Schipa, Maxwell, Swarthout, Mojica, Cehanovsky, Defrere, Rothier, Ananian, Hasselmans; Sun. at 3, CONCERT, of Bohemian music and composers, Soloist: Gordon (all seats free); 8:15, LA BOHEME, Rethberg, Tokatyan, Maxwell, Basiola, Defrere, Lazzari, Ananian, Papi; Mon., Extra performance, SPANISH HOUR and JEWELS OF THE MADONNA, Gall, Mojica, Defrere, D'Angelo, Hasselmans; Easton, Chamlee, Basiola, Papi; Tues., DON PASQUALE, Schipa, Macbeth, Trevisan, Basiola, Papi; Wed., ANDREA CHENIER, Rethberg, Johnson, Danise, Bourskaya, Swarthout, Mojica, Cehanovsky, Defrere, D'Angelo, Ananian, Papi.

BOX OFFICE

BOX OFFICE—Phone Rogers Park 9112 from Chicago (no toll). From suburbs Highland Park 2727. Gate admission, \$1. Reserved seats opera nights, \$1.50, \$1.75, \$2.50, \$3, and 400 free seats.

TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION—C. & N. W. Ry. regular schedule and 7:28 special \$1 round trip (not including admission) or North Shore Line regular schedule and 6:48 special Dorchester Ave. stopping intermediate points and Wabash and Adams 7:15, Wilson Ave. 7:35. \$2 round trip including admission or \$1 and coupon book ticket.

Ravine Lots For Sale

You are invited to look at some beautiful wooded ravine lots at ORCHARD STREET, corner of Waukegan Ave. and on NAIDA TERRACE, just one short block south of Orchard Street. Tracts are about one-fourth, one-third, one-half and three-fourths acres and all are on ravines which will lend themselves to beautiful landscape effects. All lots have large oak trees and a variety of other trees and shrubbery.

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