Esther Gould's Book Corner

JUST PARAGRAPHS

Ten internationally famous men joined to sponsor the letters of Sacco and Vanzetti, the shoemaker and fish-peddler whose execution aroused the world. The book recently published by the Vikings Press, is regarded by their sympathizers as monument to their integrity and fine-

bindedness. The extraordinary and fascinating "Life of Isadora Duncan," still among the best sellers in this country, is listed among the six best sellers in Buenos Aires this winter. Perhaps the romantic southerners are remembering Isadora's remarkable and triumphant, thought sometimes penniless, progress through their country not so many years ago.

IN BLACK AND WHITE "AS THEY SEEMED TO ME"

By Ugo Ojetti E. P. Dutton & Co.

Ugo Ojetti, one of the foremost editors and art critics in Italy, has written in this little book, "As They Seemed to Me," a number of sketches of people and happenings which are like excellent etchings, precise, in black and white rather than in colors, delicate, masterly. Only a few pages given to each, he writes of Duse and the night when in the middle of a performance she received the news of her mother's death, of D'Annunzio and the trip he made in wartime with the author to see the shattered cathedral of Rheims. With his delicacy, his sense of the dramatic ,he makes unforgettable pictures of Anatole France, Rodin, Pirandello and many more.

D'Annunzio has written a characteristically beautiful styled and egotistical introduction for his friend, and Rebecca West, reviewing the book, made this comprehensive judgment of her feeling for it: "A series of character sketches by the suave genius which epitomize non-English cultured Europe during the last thirty years, with justness, feeling, integrity and judgment that is past description and past praise."

WAR IS WAR

"THE CASE OF SERGEANT GRISCHA"

> By Arnold Zweig The Viking Press

"The Case of Sergeant Grischa," by Arnold Zweig, is a book of extraordinary fullness and vitality. It is not within reason that some of its critics, among them Lion Feuchtwanger, have hailed it as "the first great novel of the war." It does bring something new to war novels, abreadth, an impersonality, a nonhysterical and therefore more bitter contempt for the things of war, which we have reason to hope for from novels written ten years after the silencing of the guns.

The author, one of the younger German writers, whose first fulllength novel is this, has caught what seems to be the authentic spirit of the common soldier of Russia and Germany, the simple, home-loving, peasant type, who went to war because they were told to, who cursed their officers, loved their food, their tobacco, and their too-scanty love affairs, longed for home and for the whole "bloody turmoil" to be over.

Grisha is a great clumsy inarticulate Russian, who at the beginning of the story escapes from a German prison camp. Joining forces with some outlaws in the forest, among them a woman Babka who, though in her twenties, the terrors of war have given the white hair and face of an old woman, he lives with them for some time, then goes on, taking,

NEW HARPER BOOKS

MONEY OF HER

by Margaret Culkin

Should a husband live on his wife's money? Here is an engrossing novel of martial difficul-

LEONARDO, THE FLOREN-TINE by Rachel Annand Taylor

"Don't let anything keep you from enjoying this, remarkable fine book a long delight to read and

the exalted feeling of having been in intimate personal contact with one of the few master minds of our race. Dorothy Canfield. Illustrated.

FOUR DUCKS ON A POND

Having escaped the farm with all renness. Tad falls in love and is drawn, unwilling, back to the sail TOWERS ALONG THE GRASS

by Ellen Du Poise Taylor

This is a strange and subtle piece of writing, an imaginative and manyfancy of those who appreciate deft.

HARPER & BROTHERS Publisher

as a safeguard, the papers of a dead man, Bjuscheff. This man was a deserter and not an escaped prisoner. He is caught and as Bjuscheff, to his horror, he is found guilty of espionage and condemned to be shot. Throwing off then the disguise which his straightforward soul had hated from the first, he establishes his identity as Grisha. But, says the

German high command, for the sake of discipline we'll shoot you anyway. A General becomes interested in his case and so do many others, not least among them Babka, come in from the forest, though her weapons are poisoned herbs rather than the, to her, fruitless arguing of other people. Grischa, grown indifferent at last, becomes thus a battleground on which is waged this great mora struggle, a struggle which sets off admirably, and with comtrast, the brutal inconsistencies of war.

Hate's battle cry in all ages: "Darn you; be as I am."

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS ROAD TO CHILDHOOD

Presbyterian Pastor in New York Interprets Story of the Gospels

The December number of the National Republic is given additional Yuletide flavor owing to the fact that it contains a Christmas sermon, under the title "The Feast of Candles," written by Dr. Joseph Richard Sizoo, pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian church in Washington. This church by the way was the Washington church at which Abraham Lincoln worshipped during the time he was President. It is also the Washington church home of Vice President Dawes. In his sermon, Dr. Sizoo says in part

"Christmas illumines the road to childhood. It is significant with eternal destinies that when God sought to reveal Himself to humanity He came in the form of a little child. He

could rebuild the world and set up age, or Damascus, city of great comthe kingdom only when He came to merce, or Jerusalem, city of beautiful earth by way of a cradle. Every ritual? 'Why?' do you ask? Just to since that time it has been so, for prove to the world once and forever only through childhood will the world the falsity and unsecurity of material ever be reborn. It was this truth values; to bear witness to all the ages which Jesus came to emphasize. He that the greatness and power of life went up and down Paiestine saying, are not in wealth, inheritance or 'Suffer little children to come unto trade, but in the spiritual realities of me, for of such is the Kingdom of life. What impressed me most in Heaven.' You hear him say, "Unless Bethlehem and again in the boyhood it is, 'And a little child shall lead

spiritual values. How strange was lumines the way to spiritual values His coming into the world. As you which alone count. In a day when read the story you cannot but be im- emperors and conquerors wrote their pressed with the fact that those who names in mortuary chapels of marble shared that scene must have been and basalt, Jesus was born in a dark, together unexpected. They never sary to build life upon a new order to make life all over. We tinsel that than canvas and paint, and the iridesstable and crowd it with beautiful magery, but there was no tinsel when Jesus was born. He lay in His manger amid bleating sheep, while cattle tramped upon the hay and dung and clay of the floor of their shelter. 'How can power, issuing from a place like that, suffice to make the world over?' they must have said to one another.

"There are still people who ask why did He pass by Rome, the city of splendor, or Cairo, city of unbelievable wealth, or Memphis, city of great | while fresh.

ye come as little children, ye can have home of Nazareth when I was there no part with me.' A light shines last summer, was the utter disregard upon the road to childhood. How true of Jesus for the physical standards and His bewildering indifference to the values of men. That cradle yon-"Christmas illumines the way to der in the manger of Bethlehem ilvisibly disappointed. It was so al- dank manger of an oriental caravandreamed it could come that way. A Life is sanctified because of its spiritmanger in a sheep stable was the ual values. A book is more than ink last place men looked for the power and pulp; a painting of Corot is more cence of a jewel is more than chem-

Afternoon Tea Cake

Half cup butter, 1 cup sugar, creamed well; add beaten yolks of 2 eggs, then slowly add % cup milk, 2 cups prepared cake flour sifted with 2 level teaspoons baking powder, and fold in stiffly beaten whites of two eggs. Bake in small loaf pan and serve

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ORCHESTRA and SURPRISE FEATURES

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