



ESTHER GOULD'S BOOK REVIEW AND TRAVEL PAGE



TURNING LEFT

Now we are about to step from our imaginary ship into our Japanese print. Lafcadio Hearn warns us that Japan is a country in which everything is done precisely the opposite way from which we would do it. The Japanese read backward, write backward, in fact Mr. Hearn assures us that anything we would do this way do it the other if we would be Japanese.

From a country of Western individualism we go to one where the individual is literally exterminated by the group. It is the welfare of the family or the clan which decides every problem. Ancestor worship, the basic religion of Japan makes this necessary. The maintenance of the ancestor cult is the most important thing in Japanese life, and for that there must be a continuance of the clan or family. Therefore it is a

man's and a woman's duty to marry and have children. Failure to have children is, of course, grounds for divorce. Marriage, also of course, is not a matter in which the individual has any choice or any reason for choice. It is a means of perpetuating the family and is therefore a family matter. If by chance the husband and wife are found to be growing too

fond of one another, the family often arranges a divorce. Love would be upsetting to the all-important group institution.

It is hard for us in the West to realize the level of standardization to which such rigid laws and rules have reduced the Japanese character. Yet Mr. Hearn assures us that they are not unhappy. Within their rigid limits they find life interesting and beautiful. Clipped wings for so many centuries have made them satisfied with the flight from door-sill to gate post to garden. While we of the West, like Icarus, burn our eyeballs and singe our wings trying to reach the sun.

NEW LIGHT

"A GALLERY OF WOMEN"
By Theodore Dreiser
Horace Liveright

Mr. Dreiser looks at women "instead of the doctor looking at literature! The analogy is suggested by the scientific unemotional almost dry tone which Mr. Dreiser takes in his very interesting two volume work "A Gallery of Women."

It is truly a gallery, a succession of portraits of women whom one man has known. The interest in these women is not emotional, they are in

no sense the colored romances of a Don Juan, they are rather a series of studies made in a scientific spirit by a rather grave student of life.

Dr. Dreiser's insight and dogged pursuit of the human motive, no matter how drab or unworthy, shows the Dreiser of the "American Tragedy." His realization of the unsatisfied craving of humanity for something it cannot find, its pursuit no matter how blindly and blunderingly of that which represents beauty and the mystery of life recalls the more idealistic Dreiser of "The Genius." The first of these one can admire, it is the second which appeals to one.

He says of one of his women: "She knew that I saw her for what she was—the aspirant, the dreamer, one who looked out with wide clear sensitive eyes upon the mystery of life and paused to wonder at and meditate upon now this, now that, and yet to know that life is not to be understood—that for man it remains and must remain an insoluble secret, his one approach, the door of beauty."

The thing that Dreiser lacks is humor. If only humor were a virus that one could take as a shot in the arm—except that those that haven't it wouldn't want it and those that have would take an over-dose—what a good world this would be!

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PRAIRIE AVENUE, HIGHWOOD

John Western Reports High Spots of Year at North Shore Cemetery

(Continued from page 22)

The annual report to the stockholders will show total unencumbered assets of \$1,527,153.19, counting the unsold lots at only one-half of the price for which they are being sold almost daily.

There are now eight active departments in the business, all of them showing balances on the right side of the ledger. This is something unique in the history of the cemetery business. The greenhouse range, the Waukegan Flower shop, the nursery and the private landscape work are four of these departments. The sale of vaults, of granite work, the special care of graves and the development, care and sale of the grounds make the other four.

ADJUDICATION NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the Subscriber Administratrix of the Estate of Anna Pomy, deceased, will attend the Probate Court of Lake County, at a term thereof to be holden at the Court House in Waukegan, in said County, on the first Monday of March next, 1930, when and where all persons having claims against said estate are notified and requested to present the same to said Court for adjudication.

PEARL O. WIEBOLDT.

Waukegan, Ill., December 19, 1929.
VAIL, ROE & FLAMONDON,
Attorneys.

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