

THE READING LAMP

(Continued from page 16)

vania Dutch characters "Tillie, the Menonite Maid" and "Erstwhile Susan," swaps the fairly skillful and pleasantly ironical pen she used as a story-teller for one of these new-fangled typewriters used by propagandist, and proceeds to beat it to death. The result is not altogether happy.

The thesis of the book is probably sound. Christianity, the author believes, is a good idea, and it is a pity someone does not take it up. The story, which is pretty obviously designed for later use as a play, shows a few weeks in the lives of Robert Watts, a reverend who can compromise his Christian ideals to the advantage of his "capitalistic" vestry, and of Clement Calloway, who can't. Rev. Watts is promoted from Leitersville, Pa., to a church on Fifth Avenue. Rev. Calloway leaves town just ahead of the tar and feather squad of the Patriotic Legion.

The book is well calculated to challenge the reader's notions on religion, and if it does that its lack of artistry is perhaps pardonable.

From Doctor Fosdick

I have just finished reading Professor Pratt's book, "Matter and Spirit." I wish that it could be put into the hands of all ministers and laymen who have been disturbed by the modern psychological endeavor to dispose of the human soul.

Mr. Keable in a New Role
"PERADVENTURE"

By Robert Keable
Publisher: G. P. Putnam's Sons \$2.00
Probably no abstract subject has so many labyrinths in variety as Religion. Mr. Keable has striven with an honesty of purpose and a continuity of sequential reaction, to show an interesting working-out of a religious conception in the mind of one individual. Paul Kestern, a mere youth in the opening pages, it an earnest open air Evangelist, given generously to saving souls under lamp-posts in the outskirts of London. This tradition lies deep in his family and the one life expected of him is that of rescuing sinners for eternal salvation. Later, his life broadening into new channels of thought at the University, Young Kestern scandalizes his father by writing a very successful play of a distinctly uplifting moral fibre. This success greatly estranges him from his family. Later through a passionate love of beauty, the boy becomes strongly drawn to the Catholic Church, but after a great deal of discussion, analysis and other influences best left for the reader to discover, he is at last free from inspired anew with a religion that seeks no creed to express it, but that asks the whole gift of life at its altar. God is allowed to keep his own great mysteries still veiled. Complexities of human love flow in and out among the pages to give a little warmth to what might otherwise be too discursive a book to be called a novel.
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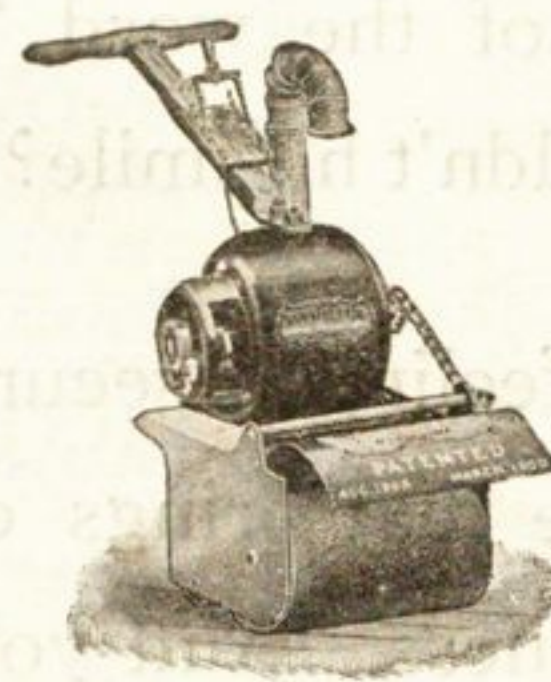
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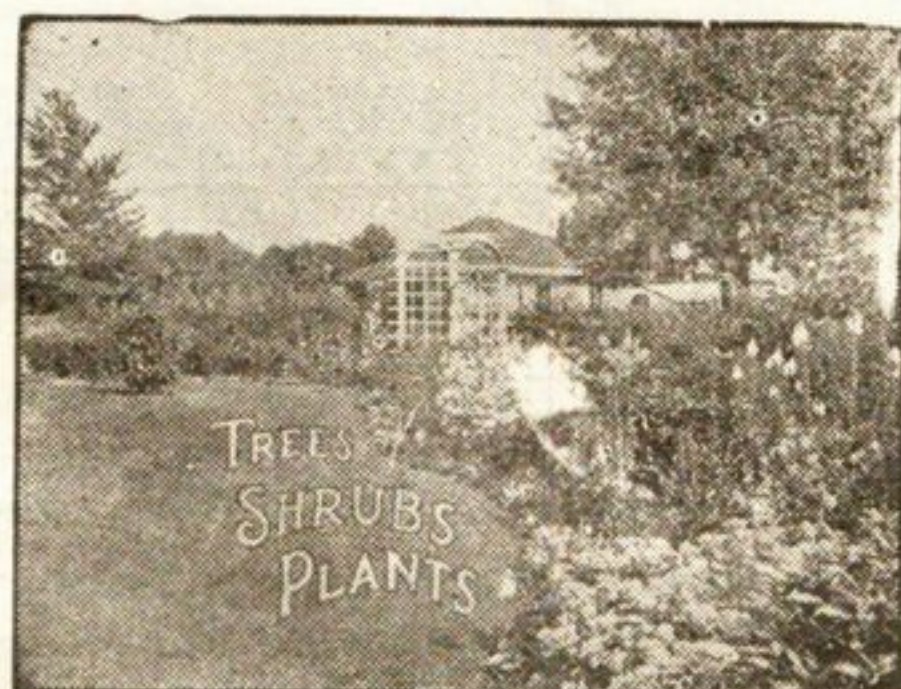
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