

Esther Gould's Book Corner

"STRAWS AND PRAYER-BOOKS"

By James Branch Cabell
Robert M. McBride & Co.

What are we to make of Mr. Cabell's epilogue to the great Biography of which we cannot bear to think as being ended? He has for so long been laughing at us, has he at last decided to talk to us seriously as man to man, or he is laughing harder than ever? Like Mr. Shaw in the epilogue, of "St. Joan," is he saying "Now children, you are so stupid that of course you have missed the point to all this so I shall proceed to tell it to you"? Or is he merely blowing more bright hued bubbles for us to watch, and perchance to burst? Alas, only Mr. Cabell can answer this.

So, be that as it may, Mr. Cabell has written a most depressing and delightful book. He announces on page 3, that romance is all that makes life bearable. It is thanks to the maze of romance, written and unwritten, that surrounds us that "Nobody really needs to notice how most of us, in unimportant fact, approach death through gray and monotonous corridors." There is no hope in reality since man's knowledge and theories of life "are comparable, let us say, to the knowledge which a fly in a dining car possesses as to the management of railways."

But the creative romanticist alone can really escape the workaday world which is so abhorrent. And so mindful only of his own pleasure, Mr. Cabell has created for himself a world in which he can be happy. And in that world he has made no concessions to the useless world of facts. "Man is, they say, the only animal that has reason, and so he must have also, if he is to stay sane, diversion to prevent his using it." And so he plays as do infants with straws and old men with prayer-books, but the literary artist plays with "Common sense and piety—and death."

Of course you have not believed a word of all this, but do remember one thing and that is, Mr. Cabell has learned the secret of beautiful writing and of diversion.

PROFESSOR, HOW COULD YOU!

By Harry Leon Wilson
Cosmopolitan Book Corporation

Harry Leon Wilson is making us laugh again. And we cannot think of anyone writing today who knows better how to do it. Not an uproarious roar but a low delighted chuckle at the adventures and misfortunes of Professor Coppelstone of Fairwater.

The professor is one of those men for whom the adjective "hen-pecked" was invented. One day a friend remarks, "You are only a toy balloon tugging at your string. How gaily you'd start if the string broke, but how little a way you'd get toward a distant country! You wouldn't last long without the string old chap—your fun's all in the tugging." But, that very day, partly due to the professor's absentmindedness, partly to his design the string breaks.

The professor enters a neighbor's house, left empty for a few weeks and camps there abashed at his own daring, yet enjoying his delightful freedom. After a few days he accidentally sets the house on fire and is forced to make a

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hasty exit, disguising himself through the town as an advertising "sandwich man."

And the fun is only started. Piloted by "Sooner Jackson" whose middle name he informs the Professor is "calamity" our hero reincarnated as "Addison Simms" begins adventures in which he learns among many things to "live his own life." One thing he cannot learn, however, is to use the slang which is to be part of his disguise. He thinks that "Sap" is a word for "gentleman," and we hear him saying to the departing Jackson "I'll be a perfect sap while you are gone." We know that he speaks truly.

"BOOKS AND GIFTS THAT LIVE FOREVER"

The following books are enthusiastically recommended by Esther Gould's Book Corner.

For the Children
4-6 years.
Story of Little Black Sambo, Bannerman.
Bojaji Tree, Rickert.
The Cock, the Mouse and the Little Red Hen, Lefevre.
The Little Mother Goose.

6-9 years.
Posy Ring, Wiggins and Smith.
Round the Year in Pudding Lane, Adlington.

9-12 years.
The Friends of Diggedy Dan, Norwood.
The Story of Mrs. Tubbs, Lofting.

Kari the Elephant, Murkerji.
Hari the Jungle Lad, Mukerji.
Men of Iron, Pyle.
Katrinka, Haskell.

12-14 years.
Spirit of the Leader, Heyliger.
Boy's Life of Edison, Meadowcroft.
Boy's Life of Mark Twain, Paine.

For the Tired Business Man:
Professor How Could You, Harry Leon Wilson.

The Enchanted Hill, Peter B. Kyne.
Rugged Water, Joseph C. Lincoln.
Love and Learn, H. C. Witwer.

For the Slightly Serious:
A Passage to India, E. M. Forster.
A Gallery, Phillip Guedalla.
My Dear Cornelia, Stuart P. Sherman.
Voyaging, Rockwell Kent.
Mark Twain's Autobiography.

For Everybody:
So Big, Edna Ferber.
The Little French Girl, Anne Douglas Sedgewick.
The Widow's House, Kathleen Coyle.
Arnold Waterlow, May Sinclair.

All Good Books

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SEEN IN THE CITY

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For further information concerning any of these shops communicate with
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SEEN IN THE CITY

Up near the North Pole four span of reindeer are undergoing some pretty stiff treatment these days. Rub-runs around and around the Pole, like so many Jack Dempseys getting ready for a bout. But do they mind it? Not they, for they know what's ahead. That's a pretty big stretch—all the way down here in a night, with a heavy pack in the sleigh, behind. And ah, that pack! How many thoughts hover around about it these days! What does it contain, I wonder, for you and me?

Gifts from Lebolt

Well perhaps, if we've been all that we should be to those who care for us most, it contains some fair and lovely gift from Lebolt & Company. The House of Pearls, eh? Not necessarily expensive, of course. It may be a set of pen and pencil, gold filled, in a velvet case, at \$9.50 or a dainty little gold pen knife, at \$10. Or it may be a brocaded vanity, at \$5, a hand hammered cigarette case at \$12—or even a sterling napkin band, with raised initial, at \$2. Or if we're a man—no use assuming we're all ladies,—it may be a bill fold with gold corners, at \$6.50, or a silver belt buckle, with belt and initial, for \$3.50 or even—ah, this is lovely—a set of smoked pearl and platinum dress shirt studs and cuff links at \$15. All these may be found at Lebolt's, 101 South State, and much more besides.

Imported Handkerchiefs for Men

For a discreet lady who wishes to make a very nice but reserved and acceptable gift to a man, I have seen nothing better than the imported, hand monogrammed handkerchiefs which are to be found, conveniently located on the ground floor, at The Hub, State and Jackson. These handkerchiefs are monogrammed in colors, very smartly, with two initials, and come three in a box at \$3.50, or individually at \$1.25 each. Some of them have cut work around the initial, there are dozens of styles, and all were personally selected abroad by the Hub's own representatives. Now, can you think of anything nicer than that?

Hand Bags from a Smart Shop

But to come back to gifts for ladies, which is really the important subject after all, isn't it, probably as nice a gift as anyone could select is a handsome hand bag. We all want them, don't we—and, after all, it isn't easy to find the really elegant sort. Yet at the smart Taylor shop, 28 East Randolph St., the newest and most charming sort of bags are always to be found. Just now, in order to make selection easier, two especially good styles are being shown—the capacious under-arm bag and the gate-frame bag, which may be had at prices ranging from \$3.50 to \$30. Ah yes, very handsome they are—really. And by the way, while you are at Taylor's, stop and view their fitted suit cases, at \$25 to \$150.

Fur Coats—Reduced

A sale of furs before Christmas! Impossible! Well, let us say improbable. But Mrs. Henning—the famous Mrs. Henning of Henning's Furs, in the Stewart Building, just across from Fields on State Street, understands as well as you or I that it would be a joy to have a new fur coat for the Christmas season, perhaps even—oh, audacious thought—as a Christmas gift, and if furs have to be reduced later anyhow, for a sale, why—why not have them reduced now and make everybody happy? So at Henning's all the fur coats are offered right now at very much cut prices. Such beautiful furs, too! Dyed ermine, trimmed with long fox; astrakan, trimmed with long fox. But go and see for yourself. You really must go and see!

Canadian Pacific Cruises

The Canadian Pacific steamship cruises to the Gateway Ports of the world for 1925 offer all intending travelers an opportunity to select a cruise for this winter that will fit in with the amount of time they have at their disposal. There will be four cruises, one around the world by the famous "Empress of France," the vessel twice chosen by the Prince of Wales for his trips to America, one to the Mediterranean by the "Empress of Scotland," and two to the West Indies by the "S. S. Montroyal."

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A Russian Milliner

"A hat," cried she. "My kingdom for a hat!" Yes, but what kind of a hat? Why, a becoming hat! A—you understand—spirited hat! Well then, you must go to Sonia, for that is just the kind of hats she makes. Sonia, whose shop on the 8th floor of the Lake View Building, over-looks the lake! Sonia, who is an artist, and a Russian artist at that. Besides, all her winter hats are reduced to about half price, now. The address is 116 S. Michigan Ave.

A Corset as Soft as a Glove
Can you believe that a garment as soft as a glove will shape and mould

the figure; will—more—reduce the figure? Yet it will. It—this corset which is called a Body Glove—is the invention of a graduate nurse and the very weave of the material is such that it sets up a gentle massage whenever you move. Yet you never wore a lighter, more comfortable garment. Go to Florence Lund, at 332 in the Republic Building, and let her fit a Body Glove to you. The address is 209 S. State.

Styles for Stout Women

No! No doubt you don't consider yourself stout. Many of us don't. Yet perhaps you find that the ordinary size 38 or 40 binds in the arms or draws across the hips. Then you why don't you try a frock from Lane Bryant's? At Lane Bryant's they have what one might call combination lasts in dresses—that is, dresses with large hips and small bust or dresses with large bust and small hips. Styles are of the very most elegant, from New York or Paris. And sizes, of course, run up to 56. As you know, the shop forms the corner of Washington St. and Wabash Ave.

Let's Run Away—Across the Sea

Alas, this miserable winter! It's only just begun, and we've had enough. It whips our cheeks and turns our poor little nose purple with cold. Can you believe—can you believe that somewhere the palms are blowing, the waters sparkling and the pink flamingo whistling to his mate.

Let's go? The White Star Line offers a wonderful cruise—six or seven weeks out of New York. Straight away south you go, into sunny waters. First you stop at the islands, just like Christopher Columbus. Then Gibraltar—then Algeria. Then, my goodness, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Palestine, Egypt. And more! And all that in seven weeks! And all the while sunshine, and comfort, and gaiety. Can it be that such things really be! Come, let's run away on a Mediterranean Cruise. For details inquire at 127 S. State St.

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