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Moralizing a la Mode?

"THE WHITE MONKEY" By John Galsworthy Charles Scribner's Sons

As one waits for the Spring's "big books," and looks back on those of house, Masefield a delicious one about Galsworthy's name on the cover or because it is a good book, or both? Perhaps because one is a guarantee of the other.

Mr. Galsworthy in "The White Monkey" is continuing the saga of the Forsyte family which was begun in "The Man of Property," continued in "In Chancery" and "To Let," and finally consolidated in "The Forsyte Saga" of recent renown. Mr. Galsworthy in his earlier works was suspected, by some accused, of being a satirist. Now in answer, he is proclaiming himself a moralist.

But today's generation evidently does not mind being preached to, even quite obviously as Galsworthy is wont to do it. Is this an indication that they, too, are tired of the insoluble unrest which has taken hold of them and are looking for an answer.

Mr. Galsworthy does three outstanding things. He sets up a symbol of the modern day, the picture in the Chinese mode of a "white monkey," who, holding in his paws a squeezed fruit, the rinds of which he has scattered on the floor, turns his head away, and with eyes which are the epitome, as Michael says, of the human tragedy, asks, what for?

Mr. Galsworthy then goes on to say very sanely that this modern world is only a small part of the wholethe foam on the crest of the wave.

Again as Michael says, "We emancipated people have got into the habit of thinking we're the world-well, we aren't; we're an excrescence, small and noisy. We talk as if all the old values and prejudices had gone, but they've no more gone, really, you know, than the rows of villas and little gray houses."

And then as the third outstanding thing Mr. Galsworthy goes on to show that underneath the modern intellectual questionings and unrest there are the same qualities, the same fundamentals which have saved humanity before and will save it again. As "old Mont" the Forsyte of the passing generation feels it, "'Grit and body in those old English boys, in spite of their funny ways!' And there stirred in Soames a sort of atavistic willpower."

A Collection of Ghosts

"23 STORIES BY TWENTY AND THREE AUTHORS" D. Appleton & Co.

Who would be thrilled by the supernatural or ghostly, let him read "23 Stories by Twenty and Three Authirs" which D. Appleton and Company has recently compiled. The stories have, many of them appeared before in collections of the authors' works, otherwise there could hardly be quite such a brilliant array.

Edith Wharton starts us off with a story which is hardly up to Edith Wharton's mark. In it long-dead dogs not only appear at "Kerfol" once each year in statuesque attitudes, but they actually murder the man who has killed them. Now the good oldfashioned ghost who relies on chain clankings and hollow moanings was somehow more credible. And more shivery too. However, having put on the rainhat of "supernatural" the author can walk unhurt through any

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dampening criticism on the ground of credibility. For supernatural means in Webster's dictionary "outside the laws of Nature."

Outside the laws of Nature, also is Elinor Mordaunt's "Hodge" a prehistoric ape-man who is dug up by two children-alive! And he makes no end of trouble before he finally is persuaded to die.

Yeats contributes a story "The Crucifixion of the Outcast" with a decidedly more morbid touch than is in most of his work.

Thomas Burke has a story of Limethe Fall, one wonders why they have Davey Jones and the Devil. De la achieved the numbers of one hundred Mare and W. Somerset Maugham and or one hundred and fifty thousand as others add their names to the illushas for instance, "The White Mon- trious list. The collection is an inkey." Is it, in this case, because of teresting means of studying and comparing the three and twenty authors.

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Prophecy

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is: a central advisory staff, a central scientific organization devoted to development and research, a central department to promote progress in operating technique, a central source of supply of standardized material, local operating companies familiar with local needs, and a national network of lines interconnecting these companies.

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