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# Esther Gould's Book Corner

JUST PARAGRAPHS

Baden" last Chancellor of Germany is the boldness of print. Two children a book of great interest to the world. holding hands and innocently and The memoirs cover the whole period trustingly touching a match to a mamof the War, giving an almost hour by moth barrel of dynamite while somehour narrative of the last days before one sang nursery rhymes in the backthe Armistice.

recently published "Swag" had an ex- one in their "idyll" at their palace, perience in anti-climax. His doctors they spent their days in simple pleagave him a verdict "ten days to live" sures, nervously trying not to hear the yet on the eleventh he was still around. sounds of the world cracking under His friends, naturally irritated by this their feet. When they became too nerfailure to deliver the goods, suggested vous they called in such men as this a trip to the woods as likely to finish Rasputin whose reputation for being him. Instead of that he became inter- a holy man, representative of God ested in writing and has been doing Himself, rested on his theory, which it ever since. We wonder if he has struck everyone as sound, that in been living on his life insurance.

SO THIS IS RASPUTIN

"Rasputin the Holy Devil"

By Rene Fulop-Miller The Viking Press

René Fulop-Miller, on his own and his publisher's statements has uncovered the "truth about Rasputin." If he has or we might say whether he has or not, he has said a mouthful. His information has been gathered entirely from documents, diaries, etc., so we might accept the statement that it is a true record, yet the amazing part of it is that it so closely follows the sort of rumor which Mr. Fulop-Miller seems to think he has denied. Instead of uncovering the "simple and lovable man" which the author thinks was a large part of Rasputin, it seems to us that his "truth" paints him more blackly than ever as probably the supreme fraud and charlatan; an illiterate petty, vituperative imposter.

The picture of the reign of the last

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The Jealous Gods

By Gertrude Atherton As successor to the Pericles of "The Immortal Marriage" Alcibiades, the maddest spirit of Athens, leaps upon the stage. Arrogant, intolerant, dissipated, yet the people of Athens heaped upon him the highest honors of the state. Mrs. Atherton has told his story in unforgettable terms.

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## THE HOUSE AT POOH CORNER

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E. P. Dutton & Co., Inc. 286-302 Fourth Ave.

Tsar and Tsarina of Russia is one of The "Memoirs of Prince Max of the most pitiful things ever put into ground could not touch for incredibil-Charles Francis Coe, author of the ity that life. Shut away from everyorder to repent one must sin, therefore come on and let's sin together.

In this way Rasputin justified to these simple souls a life of the most complete debauchery that the world has probably ever tolerated. And more How public opinion is molded to the be extremely valuable.

A CHARMING NOVEL

"Rising Wind"

By Virginia Moore

"Rising Wind" by Virginia Moore is a charming book, modern in theme and feeling, but placed against a Civil War background in Virginia. Miss Moore hasn't exploited her background, she hasn't loaded her pages with old Southern gentlemen and devoted negroes she has painted it lightly and centered our interest in three very well drawn characters. They are Mary Patch and her father, between whom there is a unique understanding and love, and later Tom Carver whom Mary fears by loving she is cheating her father.

The story is the conflict of these loves and the outcome. It is poetically and delightfully told with a feeling for nature which is unusual. There is opportunity for a description of a battle in which Mary herself takes an empromptu part and which is partly the means of uniting her with Tom once more. This is a book to be recommended to and enjoyed by anyone liking a sensitively told story.

> The best gift book of the year for boys and girls is

# DRUMS

by James Boyd

With 17 color pages and 46 drawings by N. C. Wyeth

This famous classic of the American Revolution, a favorite with younger readers since its publication, is now added to the Scribner \$2.50 Illustrated Classics in a superb edition profusely illustrated with N. C. Wyeth's best work. Atyour bookstore

\$2.50 **SCRIBNERS**  NOT SO GOOD

"Costumes by Eros"

By Conrad Aiken Charles Scribner's Sons

This book of short stories by Conrad Aiken does not come up to the standard set by his very unusual novel "Blue Voyage." A style which in that work was full of poetry and strength, is, in these stories combined under the title "Costumes by Eros," decidedly weak. Most of the stories, while their plots are original and they should be good, simply do not "come off." The two, "Farewell, Farewell, Farewell" and "Your Obituary Well Written," which the blurb informs us are "infused with an enthralling beauty that puts them with the best that have ever been written of their type" have for us merely the intention, they meant to be enthrallingly beautiful but they aren't. They leave us cold. We hope that Mr. Aiken will prove his skill next time in a novel.

#### "PROPAGANDA"

than tolerating, that world revered benefit of business, politics, art, sciand worshipped its agent. If one won- ence and social movements is deders at the cruelty of the Russian Re- scribed by Edward L. Bernays' new volution let him read this book. For book, "Propaganda," which Horace its illustrations alone the book would Liveright has announced for publication on November 15. Mr. Bernays, who helped create the profession of Public Relations counsel, and acts in that capacity for some of America's largest corporations, foreign governments, and other groups, talks frankly from the inside, in analyzing the uses of propaganda methods in modern life. His deductions are drawn from specific cases, from soap sculpture to Czecho-Slovakia.

### ENGLAND'S BEST SELLER

"This Side Idolatry," by C. E. Bechhofer Roberts, which has caused so much stir among the Dickensians of England and America, is now the bestselling book in England. Mills and Boon, the English publishers, report that the book has created the biggest sensation in their memory. An extraordinary amount of pro and con criticism has been written of the book in America. Editorials, reviews, articles, etc., have either damned the novel heartily or praised it unstintingly.

### "MASKS IN A PAGEANT"

The pageant is the pageant of politics from Harrison to Coolidge, and the masks are the actors most representative of the changing show. Mr. White, however, does something better than merely present unrelated biographies; he gives the show a plot, marches it from prologue to denouement, makes an orderly procession of it. His book is a story with unity in it, the story of a historic rise and fall.-The New York Times.

MESSAGE FROM LORD MORLEY

Lord Morley's reasons for resigning from the British Cabinet in August 1914 are now revealed in his "Memorandum on Resignation," which he left to be published at his nephew's discretion. It was with deep anguish that he came to the decision to resign, but he never swerved from his conviction that his country should have kept out of the war.

ERSKINE'S LATEST

John Erskine has gone to Paris to work on a new novel, which will be all-American. His new book, "Penelope's Man," will be published this November. It is the story of Odysseus.

RECOMMENDED TO BISHOP

Sylvia Townsend Warner, author of "Lolly Willowes," says of Robert Nathan's new novel: "The Bishop's Wife" should be in the hands of very bishop: even archbishops might be (slightly) the better for it."