

FAMILY LIFE REFLECTED IN THE MIND OF A FATHER OF THREE GIRLS

CELEBRATION OF FATHERHOOD THAT GLORIFIES MOTHERHOOD

The Story of a Few Years in the Life of a Typical American Family of Three Motherless Daughters Told by Ernest Poole

FRANCIS WILSON some years ago, when women were beginning to demand a formal celebration of motherhood by setting apart a day in his honor, protested against ignoring the father. He insisted that fatherhood also deserved some honor, and said as much to a company of women. But he is a comedian and the women did not take him seriously.

"But why shouldn't we honor the father?" asked Doctor McFabre, with whom I had been discussing the recent observance of Mother's Day. "In the Decalogue we are enjoined to honor father and mother, and the father comes first."

"The Decalogue, you know, was originally the code of an Oriental people," said I, "and it has often surprised me that the mother among the Orientals do not hold a very high place. Christianity has lifted them from the position of slaves to that of partners. We know now that motherhood fills so large a place in the general scheme of things that we cannot realize that it was not always so. You know that there are men now talking about the motherhood of God."

"All tommyrot!" exclaimed young Ames, who had come in with his uncle. Before either of us had time to make any reply "Senator" Owen and his sister Dorothy were shown in. "What do you think, Owen, of having a national holiday to honor the fathers?" I asked.

"Theoretically it seems desirable," said he, "but practically I do not think much of it. All that there is in fatherhood is included in motherhood, and motherhood includes so much more than I do not think Father's Day would arouse much interest."

"I did not know you had so high an opinion of motherhood, Dick," his sister remarked. She was looking tenderly at him. Ames glanced in her direction and he apparently saw her for the first time, although he had met her at my house on many previous evenings. The mother instinct shining out of her face seemed to appeal to something in him. Was it a desire to be mothered? He pulled himself together as if ashamed of his unconscious tribute to womankind and demanded:

"Why does not some one write a book about fathers? Literature is full of mother stuff." "Some one has done it," said I. "And it is more than a book about fathers. It is a book about a family from the point of view of the father."

"That is certainly a novel point of view," remarked Doctor McFabre. "The book is called 'His Family,' and the hero is a man about sixty years old."



ERNEST POOLE Whose novel, "His Family," is the greatest story published this spring.

IN THE LAND OF DEEPENING SHADOW

Graphic Pictures of the State of Affairs in Germany as the War Tightens About Her

If it had not been said before, the Germans would have made the remark that language was invented to conceal the truth. This is apparently the sole use to which they have put the language for the past three years. It is a graphic picture of the state of affairs in Germany as the war tightens about her.

The Americans have brought out of the empire a variety of bits, but they all agree on one fact of strict control of the kind of information that is to be disseminated. They agree also on the growing dependency of the German people. Thomas Curtin, who spent ten months in the country as a representative of Lord Northcliffe's English publications, has written a book about his experiences, to which he has given the title 'The Land of Deepening Shadow,' for the reason that while he was there he could feel the clouds settling down upon the country, and could watch the growing dependency of the people.

"It must be a moving story," said Dorothy gently, while her eyes sparkled with moisture. "It is, and it is the greatest story that has come from the publishers this spring; great in its grasp of life, great in its masterful handling of pressing social and educational problems, and above all, great in the sincerity of its purpose."

GEORGE W. DOUGLAS. HIS FAMILY. By Ernest Poole, author of 'The Harbor.' New York: The Macmillan Company. \$1.50.

OUR PART IN THE GREAT WAR

Straight talk from an American who has been at the front most of the time since the war began. What he says about Americans who have helped and Americans who have hindered, about the French and what they have endured—all means more to us now than we are in the war.

OPEN BOATS

In terse and vivid prose, Alfred Noyes depicts the fate of victims of the German submarine warfare. The stories are all the more forceful because they are undeniably authentic. They will dispel the illusion that all proper precautions of safety have been taken.

THE RUSSIANS

To be commended to everybody who wants to know what Russia really is, and what the Russian people really are.—N. Y. Tribune. STOKES, Publisher

CROSSING THE LINE FROM YOUTH TO AGE

How a Crisis Transforms a Young Sailor Into an Experienced Captain

A reader who should get his first introduction to Joseph Conrad through 'The Shadow Line' his latest book, would wonder for the first hundred pages on what the great novelist's reputation was based. The narrative does not seem to get anywhere. But as he reads on he would discover little by little that hasty judgments are unsafe.

"The Shadow Line" is the story of the way a young sailor grew in twenty-one days through the stimulus of a great crisis from an unformed youth into the full stature of manhood. The first part of the book, read in the light of the second part, becomes the picture of the blindness of youth, its self-absorption and its inability to perceive anything outside of its own limited range of vision.

How a Soldier Is Made

It will not be long before hundreds of thousands of young men are taking the kind of training which is given in Plattsburg last year and the year before. The Plattsburg Manual, prepared by two army officers, gives the technical information needed by the men who are to go into the army. The friends of these men have a natural curiosity about the manner of life in such a camp. This has been supplied by Allen French in 'At Plattsburg,' an entertaining and instructive narrative told in the form of letters home from men in the camp last year.

Letters and Diary

Alfred Noyes, who failed to qualify for admission to the British army because of defective eyesight, decided to do his bit by describing more persons than will take to the sea. Such work is an important as fighting in the trenches, for it is necessary that the Entente Allies should have a full realization of the kind of an enemy they are confronted with.

Plays by Jacinto Benavente

In this collection of four representative plays, Spain's foremost dramatist is introduced to the American public. Full detailed reports of the whole proceeding will be published when the war is over and historians will consult them. Mr. Noyes's little book will probably be read by more persons than will take to the sea in open boats.

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book on "The Wayside Flowers of Summer," containing a descriptive list of the conspicuous plants that bloom on the roadside of the northern part of the United States during July and August. The descriptions are detailed enough for the amateur and accurate enough to satisfy the trained botanist.

A Mother Anthology

The most wonderful thing in all nature is a mother, more wonderful, indeed, than a child. Kate Douglas Wiggin has reminded us that "most of all the other beautiful things in life come to men and women, by dozens and hundreds, plenty of roses, stars and sunsets, rainbows, brothers and sisters, aunts and cousins, but only one mother in all the wide world."

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