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RUSSIA AND AMERICA REVEALED IN BOYHOOD OF GARLAND AND GORKY

The American Novelist Has Written an Inspiring Story of the Development of the Middle West-A Lyric of Freedom

WE WERE talking about Russia and other Americans without a thorough the ferment into which the revolu- grounding in the principles of economics tion has thrown that unfortunate coun-

tion," said Owen, "It will be twenty-five years, at least, before there is any general agreement among the people on what is the best program for the future. The art of self-government cannot be learned overnight."

"I don't agree with you," said Doctor McFabre, "Freedom is an inspiration that will work wonders. I should be surprised by no political miracle in Russia. Democracy will care the ills of the country in

"As it has cared them all here?" I asked.

"Now, don't be surcustic. We are not half so bad as we are painted," said the clergy man

"No. I suppose not." I went on, "But Russia is troubled with more serious ailments than political file. If you want to and America read Maxim Gorky's story of his boyhood as he tells it in the secend volume of his autobiography, and then read what Hamlin Garland has to say about his boyhood in 'A Son of the Middle Border. If you read between the lines in these two books you will discover the weight which autocracy piles upon the mind and heart and imagination of the people and the freedom which American democracy allows to all the human strikingly evident. The present book faculties. The two men. Gorky and contains a fall series of recipes of dishes Garland, were easier in their youth to made of corn, some sufficiently light and broaden their knowledge. They read delicate for an invalid, others of a sub- everything they could find. But Gacky was oppressed by the surdidness of his sur roundings, by the vice of the people, their pessimism and their cruelty, tiarland found the world a most delightful place in which to live. The people about him were cheecful and hopeful. They were building new Commonwealths in the undeveloped West. The future was bright. They did not realize all their dreams, it is true, but they had the dreams, which is the important thing. The Russian did not even dream. He saw no outlet and bafed under the bondage,"

"There is hope for the Russians new." Doctor McFabre insisted.

"Of course there is." I admitted. "But er naimal that was been in captivity and has fixed in a cage att his life can never mere about in the forest with the assured and confident manner of the animal born the open. His offspring may acquire the manner of freedom, but not be, must walt for another generation of Rus sians to grow up before we can look for satisfactory regeneration of Bussia."

HAMLIN GARLAND

political economist," said Doctor Mr

"He isn't, but he thinks he is," said I

He is primarily a man of letters, the

prophet and interpreter of the develop-

"That is what I should rend it for,"

Our conversation was again interrupted

"Don't, Cabot," a young woman was

"How long have you been in there?"

"Long enought" said Ames, with the air

Dorothy was smiling blossfully while

her face was like the sunkissed side of a

"We were talking of Garland," said L. "Garlands are in order," said Ames, "Congratulate me." And he put his arm

around Dorothy with an air of possess

"I envy you," said Doctor McFabre, "You aren't good enough for her," said

"O, Dick, you ought to be ashamed."

SON OF THE MIDDLE BURDER, By Hamtin Garland, Wife illustrations by Alice Barner Stephens, New York: The Macmillan Com-pany, \$1.50.

President Butler on the War

Nicholas Murray Butler, president of Co-

lumbia University, is in absolute accord-

with President Wilson when he says that

this "is a war for a new international

world, and a war for a new intranational

world." This thought permeates all of the

seventeen speeches and interviews which

make up the volume. "A World in Ferment." Throughout Doctor Butler appeals not only

to that "Americanism" which was the sub-

ject of so much debate during the last presi-

dential campaign, but even more to "Inter-

nationalism," the only safeguard to hu-

A WORLD IN PERMENT. Interpretations of

the war for a new world. By Nicholas Mur-

New York: Charles Scribner's

manity and civilization in the future.

GEORGE W. DOUGLAS.

the girl and kissed her tenderly.

by voices from another room.

saying, "you will crush my hair."

Cabot Ames stood in the doorway,

preceded it."

of a conqueror.

Owen sulfenly.

Dorothy retorted.

"I agree with you," said Owen. The voice of a child came to us from another room. Nine-year-old Gertrude was playing with her dolls and sluging a little song of her own with which she frequently amuses herself. We listened.

Clega have thrones And Queens have throne But none has thrones like mine

Kings have thrones of marble and gold busens have thrones of marble and pearl.

Inve a throne of mother love,

have a throne of father love.

Kings have thrones and queens have thrones. But none has thrones like nine

of America. It is happiness and content, spiration. The chief interest in his book. with no dread of a sinister power to op- however, lies in the story of life in the press you. Garland in the first part of West thirty or forty years ago." his book had a similar feeling and the neople about him were as confident as said Oven.

"Wasn't Garland a Populist, and isn't it for this reason than for any other, se a believer in the single tax?" Owen Literary history appeals to very few, and

"O, yes," said I. "When he was gradu- of any particular author. Some one has ated from a little scademy in Iowa he called the book the epic of the Middle ran across 'Progress and Poverty,' and West. It would be more accurate to call accepted it at once as the gospel of economic freedom and the remedy for all for there is a lyric quality in its style social ills. He was like thousands of

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Many discriminating judges will agree with Alexander Harvey that William Dean Howells is the greatest literary artist writgrounding in the principles of economics ing in English at the present time. Many who accept the first panacea that is thers will dispute such an assertion. This brought to their attention. When I told is because tastes differ and because there my friend Ormshee the other day that is no absolute standard by which the this sort of thing is the curse of America. measure of a man can be taken by his he said. But it is democracy.' I had to ! contemporaries. Mr. Harvey has written a admit it and agree that so long as we a book devoted wholly to measuring Howremained a democracy we must struggle [with the complications that are produced ells. Wholly! No. That is a little too. by the demands of the ill-informed and en-sweeping a statement. It is partly devoted dure as best we may the blunders they to exhibiting the eleverness and wit of force upon us. Garland accepted Populism with the same avidity that he are I cepted the single tax. He would not have accepted either if it had not been for the fact that it does not bear the imprint of insistence of their advocates that they the publishers of the novels of Howells may had found a solution for all the ills of so- be regarded as a requiremental, though not clety. The humanitarian appeal was too conclusive, evidence that Howells himself strong for a young man whose mind was does not approve of it. Yet the book is not well enough trained to discern the worm reading. Mr Harvey evidently ad-fallacy in it all." attempted to write in the paradoxical and "But I did not know that Garland was sometimes cynical manner of the distinguished frishman. He falls, however, to Shaw is the marter of an excellent Enginely Show is the figure of an execution reasons style. Harvey's style is meven chergly and at times turgld. He has written many enegrants in the course of his argument in an attempt to impose the philosophy of Mr. Howelfs in convenient capsules. Here are ome of them.

To love and have one's love returned—that is life. The rest is not worth while, even to Napoleon. The qualities in each that appeal most to women are node qualities. Jesus won the love of more women than Don Juan

f they were good, and they will become good—for the sake of your approval.

A woman * * has more respect for a man who can work than she has

for a run who can make love. She can teach a man to make love. She cannot teach a man how to work The assertion that only good wamen are worth while is a platitude, and now

Cleves remarks about comes are not

These quotations fairly represent the mality of Mr. Harvey. The book ought to be read by those who care for iteracy collision. Not the least interesting part of it is the index, which instead of being a mere catalogue of entries, is a running of xample, there are five references to theory Ellot, Under one is the comment. "She is very food, especially in 'Adam figure,' but she can't hold a cand'e to thought." ("ader another Mr. Harvey writes "She went to live with George Henry Level. If it had not all happened so long ego it would be searmint, wouldn't it.

inns for the one who skips the dull possenge and skims over the value repetitions. WILLIAM DEAN PROWERLS. A study of the achievement of a 111 feet write. He also, ander Marco. New York, B. W. Housell, \$1.50.

Way We Get War News

William G. Shepherd, the United Press ment of the Middle West. He saw and experienced the hardships of life there. He sympathized with the sad lot of the War Correspondent," and in it be described it with ruthless realism. He tells around a large of the pioners and he has described it with ruthless realism. He tells scribed it with ruthless realism. He tells scribed it with ruthless realism. He tells how he had intended to become a professor of literature and how he struggled along until he discovered that he could write fiction. The story of his intellectual development, as he tells it, will be as interesting to the construction of the co teresting to the student of American lit-erature as his story of life in Wisconsin, Iowa and Dakota will be to the social his-torian, for in it can be found the sources from which he has drawn his literary in-Shepherd, however, wrote his disparch American shang, using all the expressi-tiant he could think of meaning haste a demoralization. The expert unfamili with such idioms, passed the dispatch at to in America road it and knew what has appened. He tells of what a correspond at really sees under present war conditions "I think more people will be drawn to which is fittle, indeed, of wint is going a the discusses the psychology of retreats at the system of catching space. Time all time he had to prove that he was not a sp fewer still are interested in the struggles of any particular author. Some one has called the book the epis of the Middle West. It would be more accurate to call it the lyric of that part of the country, for there is a tyric quality in its style that sings through the pages along with the birds that filled the sky while the boy tells how this has affected two or three men who came under his observation. A was following the plow on his father's farm. It is likely that the book will be young Austrian officer in a restaurant who much more popular than any of the wanted to try a Russian gun that had been captured aimed it at the proprietor as in-differently as though his mark were a tree. novels bearing Garland's name that have An English writer of fine sensibilities con fessed, after a year or two in the trenches, that he could write no more. Something had happened to him to turn him into a beast. The children in the war zone play soldier, but they play to wound and hurt, having become brutalized by what they have seen. It is worse than death for a Owen demanded as his sicier Dorothy and

> that what Mr. Shepherd saw of this rort of thing is exceptional, yet that it should exist at all is one of the horrors of war. ONFESSIONS OF A WAR CORRESPONDENT By William G. Shephard, correspondent the United Press. Ulustrated New York Harper & Bros. 41

man to get into his head the idea that I

has a right to kill," says Mr. Shephers Fortunately for our civilization, there

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Jim sat beauting at Kedgle and Kedgle bearied back at him while she mirroured award everythings to her little marquess. Jim assumed to margine that her had left her in such a promptin shell as Mr. Peter P. Pumpkinsater left his wife in and kept her so very well. But Kedzie was not that kind of a kept or keepable woman.

Thin is the manner of the book, the man-er of Town Teples rather than of the Al-intic Monthly, the manner of the evanesin literature rather than of the permit it might be said in extenuation that the manner of the society which Me Highest describes. That, however, is de-batable and need not be argued. For the carbon however, who is looking solely for ions arrang out of men falling in love with he vives of other men and within its far

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After being blinded Captain Nobles was for three months a prisoner of war, during which time the first chapters of this book wer. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York