

ACTOR ENDS HIS LIFE BY 17-STORY PLUNGE

C. H. Weston Sought Job as Strike-Breaker, but Was Rejected by Cohan

New York, Aug. 16.—Charles H. Weston, actor, stage manager and moving picture director, who sank from a position of wealth and fame to poverty in the last five years, ended his life yesterday afternoon by leaping from a window on the seventeenth floor of the Aeolian Building. His widow in Newark has been notified.

It developed from letters in the man's pocket and from further investigation that he had applied to George H. Cohan last Monday for a job as a "strike-breaker" in the actors' strike, and had received a reply the following day that no place was open for him. There was an unmailed letter to Mr. Cohan in his pocket.

The most remarkable document found on the dead man, however, was a letter addressed "to any one interested," which contained a justification for his suicide and a description of his feelings on the point of leaping.

The letter said: "Last night I saw my wife and darling in the last time of her life on earth. It is a strange feeling to know that it is the last time. Something in your soul seems to cry, 'How wonderful that last kiss is!' What a coward I feel! Still, I know I am not a coward. It is far better to die at once than a lingering death in an insane hospital, as I know I am crazy.

They will be far better off without me. I cannot find employment. I am unable to keep them. I am dragging them down. I cannot help and let it be known that I am the cause of their downfall. All this comes to my mind as I am waiting to jump. People are passing far below. I do not want to fall on any one. I am crying like a child. My heart and head ache. Yet I am not nervous. I started to jump a few seconds ago, but a vision of my dear, dead mother came before me just as plain as day.

Billions of thoughts pass through my brain. What will I see in five minutes? Will I go to another world? Will my soul rest in peace? Five minutes from now will I know what I am dying for? I have no fear of hell. I cannot suffer any more than I have. My body is in hell. If I am to go to hell, only my soul can be there, but I cannot save my soul.

I feel just like a man waiting to meet his boss when there is something wrong. Goodbye, all. May God bless you. If any paper uses this, please send a few dollars to my wife and son.

ASTOR TRANSFERS TO SONS

\$50,000,000 Worth of New York Realty Placed in Trust

New York, Aug. 16.—(By A. P.)—The New York real estate holdings of Viscount William Waldorf Astor, valued at more than \$50,000,000, were formally transferred to the Farmers' Loan Trust Company today, to be held in trust for his two sons, Waldorf Astor and Captain John Jacob Astor.

No statement as to the purpose of the transfer was made by Viscount Astor's attorneys, but it was understood to have been in line with the policy he inaugurated in 1911, when he turned over about \$7,000,000 in real estate to the same company, to be held in trust for his sons. At that time it was stated that the move was for the purpose of escaping the heavy inheritance tax which would have been levied had he retained the property and disposed of it after his death by will.

The property transferred included the Hotel Astor, valued at \$4,650,000; the Astor Theatre, valued at \$1,002,000; the Astor Apartments in Broadway and large holdings in Madison and Eighth avenues.

OFFERS CANTATA PRIZE

Matinee Musical Club Spurs Composers to Compete

The Matinee Musical Club has announced a prize of \$100 for a cantata, subject to be selected by the composer, suitable for a women's chorus with incidental solo parts. The cantata must not exceed forty nor less than twenty minutes in length, and manuscripts are to be submitted with piano score.

The cantata awarded, the prize will be given a public presentation on April 27, 1920, in the ballroom of the Bellevue-Stratford by the Matinee Musical Club chorus and assisting artists. This prize also assures the purchasing from publisher of at least seventy-five copies of the work. The compositions are to be submitted anonymously but to bear some distinguishing mark, a copy of which, with the composer's name and address, is to be inclosed in a separate sealed envelope.

BARON INVERCLYDE DIES

Cunard Steamship Company Director Was 55 Years Old

Glasgow, Aug. 16.—(By A. P.)—Baron Inverclyde, prominent in the British shipping industry and a director of the Cunard Steamship Company, is dead.

James Cleland Burns, third Baron Inverclyde, was born in 1864 and succeeded to the title in 1905 on the death of his brother, the second Baron Inverclyde, who was chairman of the Cunard Steamship Company. Baron Inverclyde was the principal director of the shipping firm of G. & J. Burns, chairman of the Burns Steamship Company and a director in several banks and industrial concerns. His heir is John Alan Burns, a lieutenant in the Scots Guards, who was twenty-one years old last December.

HISTORIC CANNON FOR MONS

Canadian Guns That Fired Last Shots in War Presented to Town

MIDSUMMER FICTION BY AMERICAN AND BRITISH WRITERS

THE BRAVE BOYS WHO WENT TO WAR

Booth Tarkington Has Tried to Describe Them All in "Ramsey Milholland"

Booth Tarkington attempted a big thing in his latest novel, no less a thing than to interpret the soul of the average American boy who went to France to fight. He has succeeded after a fashion, but his failure where he has fallen short is due to his method rather than to his inability to comprehend.

On its surface the book is the biography of a boy from his grammar-school days to his junior year in college, when he enlists in the regular army to be among the first to fight the Germans. Mr. Tarkington has deliberately drawn a realistic picture of the life of the boy, a youth inarticulate and not gifted intellectually, but with the solid foundation of every one knows resides in the youth of the present generation.

He passes through the ordinary experiences of school days, has a sentimental attachment for a girl and is deeply wounded when she turns him down, and all the time has a sneaking admiration for another girl, of whom he cannot say mean things enough when he talks to her. His college life has the faintest of thousands of others. The truthfulness of the description will be recognized by every one familiar with college boys. Ramsey is made as near like a type of his kind as possible. There is no suggestion until he enlists that he had given any serious thought to the war or what it meant.

He had said little about it to any one, but the author, in the first chapter, laid the foundation for that which was to come by making the boy's grandfather, a Civil War veteran, tell him when he was still wearing cotton clothes about the faith which the Union soldiers had in the righteousness of their cause. The old man's words echoed in the boy's mind and influenced his conduct.

The explanation of the whole book lies in the last few sentences, which read: "This ordinary life of Ramsey's was but the outward glinting of a high and splendid spirit, as high and splendid as earth can show. And yet it was only the life of an everyday American boy. The streets of the town are full, now, of boys like Ramsey. At first they were just boys in uniform; then one saw that they were boys no more. They were soldiers."

By putting behind all this till the end Mr. Tarkington has given a faithful picture of American youth, but he had written a greater book if he had used the realistic method, and had made the reader conscious of what was going on in Ramsey's mind through all the years.

RAMSEY MILHOLLAND. By Booth Tarkington. New York: Doubleday, Page & Co., 112 pp., \$1.50.

School Edition of Classic

George William Curtis' "True and False" is a delightful little American classic. It "reads well," even in these days of more sophisticated essays and sketches. A new school edition of it has been prepared in the series of "Macmillan Classics," by Vincent B. Brecht, head of the English department of the Northeast High School of this city. Professor Brecht supplies the usual apparatus for study—a biographical sketch and notes that are stimulating and informing, but not too exhaustive; and in addition furnishes the most interesting selections from the most noted critics on Curtis's life and works. His commencement oration to the graduates of the class of 1877 of Union College, a piece of important prose, is reprinted under the title "The Public Duty of Educated Men."

TRUE AND FALSE. By George William Curtis. New York: Macmillan Company.

Dream Lore

Persons curious about the literature of dreams will be able to find satisfaction in Katherine Taylor Craig's "The Fabric of Dreams," which is a study of the dream theories from ancient times to the present, together with an exposition of the methods of dream interpretation. There is a chapter on dreams that have come true which will fortify the faith of those who have confidence in that revelation of future events which is supposed to come in sleep. The author does not attempt to offer any original theories. She has rather compiled what has been thought by others, and it is as a compendium of dream lore that this volume has value.

Weird Tales by Bierce

Whoever is seeking a volume of tales which will keep him awake at night should get hold of "Ten Such Things" by Ambrose Bierce. It is a collection of twenty-four grouped under the general heading of the title of the volume, four ghost stories, four about soldiers and ten tales of haunted houses. They all have that peculiar quality which gave fame to Poe and which have led critics to classify Bierce as one of the great writers of English fiction.

Riches in the Soil

In "Hidden Treasure" John Thomas Simpson tells an interesting story of modern farming in the form of easy-to-read fiction. The contrast between the old drudgery of the farm and the efficient, pleasant methods of up-to-date farming with proper facilities and machinery is shown in a story that holds the interest and is both informing and inspirational.

HIDDEN TREASURE. By John Thomas Simpson. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company.

Woodberry on Hawthorne

Will D. Howe, who is editing a series of books on famous authors, selected George Edward Woodberry to write on Hawthorne. Mr. Woodberry has produced a volume which will serve admirably as an introduction to the study of the distinguished New England novelist. Few men are better qualified than he to understand and interpret the spirit of the man. He discusses the old New England, the Colonial tradition and Hawthorne's artistic method and devotes a chapter to "The Scarlet Letter."

HAWTHORNE, HOW TO KNOW HIM. By George Edward Woodberry. Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Company, \$1.50.

A SERIOUS NOVEL, BUT ENTERTAINING

"Mummery" Strips Grease-paint From Stage and Hide From Pseudo-Art

Because Gilbert Cannan's novel "Mummery" is serious it is by no means unentertaining. In fact it is distinctly entertaining for a novel with a purpose. Just what the purpose is is difficult to understand except it be a deliberate flaying, animated by the sarcastic spirit of Archilochus or the satiric intent of the mordant dean of St. Patrick's, although developed with the liberality of psychologic and modernism of attitude that Mr. Cannan knows as well how to employ of pretentiousness and pretense in art.

Only two of the seven arts are subject to Mr. Cannan's fine and subtle rones—drama, including both the manager, the playwright and the actor, and painting, the painting of self-advertisement and of splashy ideals and unreal ideas. He scrubs the grease paint off the faces of Theatrics. The playwright, who eventually becomes the hero, at least in so far as he wins the love of the heroine, is a pretty stick for a hero. He writes plays that are not produced, but that does not worry him, for he recognizes the current incompatibility between the drama and the theatre. The heroine, or at least central feminine figure, who is a bit too poised and perfected, is a girl whose first night triumph as Ariel is spoiled by her realizing sense of theatrical commercialism; she feels too late the declension of the actor from a creator and interpreter to a bare-relief figure against a painted back-drop. She has three love affairs, with an artist whom she regards into achievement, and a young dilettante who angels the production in which she is appearing in the form of a dramatic idealism to whom she finally gives her own idealistic heart.

Mr. Cannan presents very vividly the conflict between the high ideals of high art and the machinations and machinery of art as commercialized. But one feels that although his ironic and critical misadventures are interesting and warranted they offer nothing that is genuinely corrective and constructive toward the betterment of matters. But "Mummery" is racy reading, at any rate.

MUMMERY. By Gilbert Cannan. New York: George H. Doran Company, \$1.50.

Job as a Greek Tragedy

Biblical students and students of ancient literature generally will be profoundly interested in Horace Meyer Kalten's exposition of his theory that the book of Job was originally written in the form of a Greek tragedy, after the manner of Euripides. Professor George F. Moore, of Harvard University, who writes an introduction to the book, regards the hypothesis as deserving serious attention. Indeed, it is not new, as it has been set forth several times in the past centuries. Mr. Kalten justifies his theory by an elaborate and scholarly examination of all the evidence bearing upon the subject. After setting forth his theory he writes an essay on the Joban theory of life and concludes his book by a rearrangement of Job to conform to the dramatic form of a Greek tragedy, with prologue, epilogue and choruses. In this form it has been acted twice at the University of Wisconsin and once at Harvard.

THE BOOK OF JOB AS A GREEK TRAGEDY. By Horace Meyer Kalten. Introduction by George F. Moore. New York: Macmillan Company, \$1.25.

Short Stories by Locke

The first volume of short stories by W. J. Locke has just appeared. It contains tales written before the war. To indicate that they have been dug up out of the past Mr. Locke has called the book "Far Away Stories." They will delight his admirers, for they are told with that deftness and skill for which he is famous. "Ladies in Lingerie," which tells of the autumnal love of two spinsters, is most charming comedy, touched with pathos, and "An Old-World Episode," dealing with the love affair of a man whose face was horribly disfigured by an accident, is as beautiful a tale as one will find in this series of stories. Each of the ten stories is perfect in its way.

FARAWAY STORIES. By William J. Locke. New York: John Lane Company, \$1.50.

Serbia

The volume on Serbia in the Home University Library condenses the history of that long-suffering country into less than 250 pages, and does it so well that the reader lays it down with an excellent knowledge of the general outline of the country and its coming of the year 1915, after the great war, precipitated by the Austrian demands upon Serbia, had been in progress for a year. Its author is Miss L. F. Warling. Jovan M. Jovanovitch, the Serbian minister in London, has written an introduction in which he discusses the history of Serbia as well as the war.

SERBIA. By L. F. Warling. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 60 cents.

Clemenceau

Georges Lecomte's appreciation of Clemenceau has recently been published in an English translation in America. It is not an ordered biography of the great Frenchman. The author assumes that the reader is familiar with the facts of Clemenceau's life, and he makes a running commentary on his acts and his theories, all the time with most friendly and enthusiastic praise. It is an example of the kind of political biography with which we are familiar in the United States.

GEORGES CLEMENCEAU. The Tiger of Clemenceau. By Georges Lecomte. Translated by Donald Olive Stuart. New York: D. Appleton & Co., \$1.50.

Totem and Taboo

Freud's discussion of the resemblance between the psychic lives of savages and neurotics has been made available to English readers in an excellent translation by Dr. A. A. Brill, of New York University. It is a learned exposition of an extremely technical phase of human psychology. The person unversed in the subject will find the book uninteresting, but it will be very much worth while for those who have the necessary intellectual preparation.

TOTEM AND TABOO. By Professor Dr. Sigmund Freud. New York: Moffat, Yard & Co., 62.



BOOTH TARKINGTON Author of "Ramsey Milholland"

HONOR VS. HAPPINESS

"A Born Fool" Fictionizes the Conflict

Judged by everyday standards, perhaps Kirkpatrick Clinton was a born fool, as the chronicler of his twenty-odd years dubs him, for he put what he considered the demands of high honor before his own happiness. And clouds are banking purple and heavy on the horizon of his life as the narrative of his youth and young manhood comes abruptly to a close.

Yet, "A Born Fool" though he was, maybe, and that is the title which the book bears, Kirkpatrick Clinton makes a most acceptable hero in this curious tale by John Walter Byrd.

Kirkpatrick is the merest youngster when the reader meets him—a little lad in a comfortable English home, with a mother whom he idealizes, and a father whose stern exactions strike him with awe, and in the end, drive him to definite rebellion. His revolt changes the setting of the youth's life entirely. Kirkpatrick is transplanted from the smiling meadows and gentle winding lanes of his own country to the sordid harshness of a mining region, and there he meets the girl in whose hands his future lies.

Was it disaster or a moderate happiness which was to be the portion of this chivalrous young Englishman in the following years after the narrative was closed?

THIS IS LEFT FOR THE READER TO ANSWER.

A BORN FOOL. By John Walter Byrd. New York: George H. Doran Company, \$1.50.

A Girl in Mexico

The simple girlish spirit which characterizes "When I Was a Girl in Mexico," by Mercedes Godoy, adds very much to its attractiveness. Miss Godoy pictures life in her native city, as she saw it in her childhood, in a charming way, and one gets a vivid impression of the interesting life which thrives in the streets. But her experience goes far beyond Mexico City and she also has much to tell of her visits to Guatemala, Cuba and especially to Washington, her father being a prominent citizen, charge d'affaires at Washington and Mexican representative at the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo. Her father and mother were guests of President McKinley on the day of his assassination. The illustrations from photographs are well chosen and relevant much that is beautiful and interesting in her native land.

WHEN I WAS A GIRL IN MEXICO. By Mercedes Godoy. Illustrated from photographs. Boston: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Company, 75c.

Symbols on Symbolism

The discriminating and scholarly book on the symbolist movement in literature which Arthur Symons wrote ten or a dozen years ago now appears in a new and revised edition, with its content brought up to include the latest symbolic developments. Symbolism in literature, as is well known, is the language of the unconscious, and in conventional forms the underlying soul of whatever exists. Symons begins his examination of the movement with Balzac and carries it on through Merimee, Gautier, Flaubert, Baudelaire, the Goncourts, Mallarme, Verlaine and others to Maeterlinck. His comment on the methods of these men is keen and penetrating and his study of the subject to which he has addressed himself is probably the best in the language. Mr. Symons has included bibliographies and notes, and his own translations of a number of poems by the men discussed.

THE SYMBOLIST MOVEMENT IN LITERATURE. By Arthur Symons. A new edition. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., \$2.00.

Georgia and the War

Georgia, who was introduced to the public by Annie Fellows Johnston in "Georgia of the Rainbows," makes her bow again in "Georgia's Service Stars." She has grown to the sixteen when the book opens and she is nine when it closes. In the intervening years she learns much of war and of the suffering of those whose friends are fighting. It is a story of youth and romance told in Mrs. Johnston's characteristic manner and is bound to interest her young public.

GEORGIA'S SERVICE STARS. By Annie Fellows Johnston. New York: Britton Publishing Company, \$1.35.

Automobile Liability

John A. Post, for more than twenty years general western attorney for the Fidelity and Casualty Company, of New York, has prepared a little handbook telling automobile owners what to do in case of accident, how to secure evidence and how to settle on the most favorable terms. It is intended as a guide for use in the various emergencies which arise in the operation of a car, and contains much information which ought to be valuable to automobile owners.

AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY. How to Deal with It. By John A. Post. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co.

PRETTY MYSTERY "MEMORY INSURANCE" IS HIGHLY ROMANTIC

"The Winning Clue," by James Hay, Jr., Will Puzzle Sleuth Story Readers

Inexperienced readers of sleuth fiction who can spot the criminal of the average detective tale before the end of the second chapter wherein the police examine the scene of the crime will have a pretty problem for their Sherlockian talents in "The Winning Clue," by James Hay, Jr. The crime is the murder of a woman, and every plausible suspicion points to several persons—her husband, a negro servant, the fiancé of her sister-in-law, etc. The Withers case becomes a cause celebre in the newspapers, and at last the time comes when the unsolved mystery disappears first from the first page and big headlines and finally from the far interior of the sheet and a tiny single line caption.

Two detectives are concerned in the solution—an amateur detective and the other a professional. They persist in their efforts to run down the guilty party. There is a battle of a sort between the two, for although they work more or less together from the very nature of the case, their rival theories are greatly dissimilar. Just what the winning clue was and how one of the sleuths is deeply involved in the unexpected and sensational denouement are phases of Mr. Hay's ingenious plot that would spoil the story for the reader if divulged here. Suffice it to say that the most practiced reader of detective fiction will still have a surprise in store when he reaches page 275, whereon the light begins to illumine the mystery.

THE WINNING CLUE. By James Hay, Jr. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co., \$1.50.

Faquet on Nietzsche

Emile Faquet, of the French Academy, wrote a book on Frederic Nietzsche some years before the American public began to attempt to understand the workings of the German mind. His view of the remarkable man does not differ in that which has been popularly held during the war. He regards Nietzsche as a producer of conditions in Germany and not as the cause of them, and while disagreeing with many of his propositions, he yet has profound respect for the man's intellectual integrity. Faquet's conclusion is that the "God is dead" doctrine is that Nietzsche is a form personal ideas because only persons can have the consistency which we need to support ourselves and because one can lean strongly and firmly upon no one but one's self. The book has been translated into English by George Raffalovich. It is an admirable study of a man worth knowing and thinking about.

ON READING NIETZSCHE. Translated from the French of Emile Faquet by George Raffalovich. New York: Moffat, Yard & Co., \$1.50.

Books Received

GENERAL STANDING. By William H. Robinson. Boston: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Company. \$1.50.

THE BRANDING IRON

The story of a passionate and primitive woman of the wilderness and of the strange destiny that led her from a mountain cabin to the stage of a great New York theatre. A tale of love, hate, wrong, and atonement that Rex Beach calls "One of the strongest and best told stories I have ever read."

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Reported by Dr. Albert D. Watson

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MUMMERY By GILBERT CANNAN, author of THE STUCCO HOUSE, MENDEL, etc. A romance of the theatre, a rich and daring study of life and character in England today.

HERITAGE By V. SACKVILLE WEST. The London Times calls this first novel, hailed as a real literary event in England, "A remarkable book."

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