CHESTERTON'S VIEWS

Put His Opinion of America

It is impossible to read fifty pages

Chesterton brought to America with

him an informed mind and certain well

theories. He has tested America by

these theories and written his conclu-

sions in his book. That it is brilliant

goes without saying. That his con-

by some and disputed by others. But

none can escape the charm of his man-

Take his discussion of prohibition, for example. It is unsafe for an Amer-

ican to say anything about this subject,

for it is certain to be misunderstood. Yet one may risk it in commenting

theory that they were passed on the demand of the employers in order to make labor more efficient, and thus make the employers richer. He says

the employers are not willing that work-

men should have fun, "for fun only in-

creases the happiness and not the utility of the worker. He insists that the fact "that this idea should be taken

calmly, by itself, as a test or a prob-lem of liberty, is in itself a final testi-

mony of the presence of slavery." and continues. "The very test adopted has

all the servile implication; the test of what we can get out of him, instead

of the test of what he can get out of

life." It is not necessary to agree with this view or to attempt to refute it. It is enough for a notice of the book to call attention to it.

Then, too, Mr. Chesterton reports that the attempts to arrange a debate

on woman suffrage between him and Mr. Bryan failed because Mr. Bryan was unwilling to debate a question which had been settled, as though, says

Mr. Chesterton, "two educated men were forever forbidden to talk sense about a particular topic because a lot

f other people had already voted on

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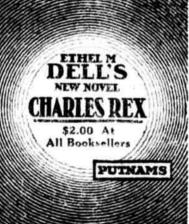
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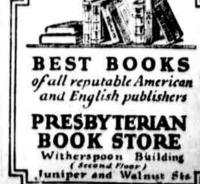
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