

Poetry & Book Reviews

Literary Section Edited by Serena Madsen

THE BAD-LANDS

I am the master;
I shall make the soil
Yield vast rows
Of yellow corn,
Of wheat,
And barley too.
The fruits of my labor
Shall increase ten-fold.
The earth is mine,
Said man.

SUDDEN STORM

Tap . . . tap . . . the rain beats
down upon the roof;
A sudden restlessness seizes the
brooding air;
The leaves begin to tremble at the
touch of the silvery wand;
They salaam to God, and again
raise their heads
To catch the kiss of the rain.

Louder . . . harder . . . it falls in
churning sheets.
Everything's a-bustle, seeking shelter
here and there.
The drops against the window-pane
sound like sea-kissed pebbles;
The leaves, now falling rapidly,
make a dappled carpet,
And earth is drenched to a swift
soddenness.

Then drop . . . drop . . . in an un-
certain patter;
Slower . . . and fast; heavy . . . then
light the big drops come
Until the last thin sound is gone,
And through a film of cloud the
sun's red smile
Touches with glistening freshness
valley and hill.

—DIANA DEININGER.

THERE'S NOTHING LEFT . . .

I had a gown
Made of the shimmering fragile
stuff
That must have clothed the fairies.
It was faintly pink,
Sprinkled with little glistening
beads,
And lasted scarce a season.
There's nothing left—
Except the beads.

I had a love
Made of the shimmering fragile
stuff
That must have clothed my youth
The color of early roses,
Sprinkled with little glistening tears.
There's nothing left—
Except the tears.

—HARRIET A. McLEOD.

"Porgy," his last novel of negro life which won nation-wide acclaim, Mr. Heyward has created a long bookful of men and women who move through the tale without the pallid smear of typewriter ink about them which makes so many of the modern novelists' characters fall so short of convincingness.

The characters have a touch of the earth, a sure agreement in their action with the inevitable conditions of life, and a vital spirit that makes them live in the mind as actual persons.

But even greater cause for satisfaction comes from the fine swinging manner of the narrative. It is a spacious story. The reader has time to get acquainted with the characters. The tale extends over three generations, and the action is not confined to a limited area. From the sordid decay of Catfish Alley on the Charleston waterfront, where lives the great mass of the city's negro population, the scenes shift to the decks of river boats, to the phosphate mines in the back country, to the elemental, throbbing folk life surcharged with a thousand emotions found in country dances, and to a great finale on the stage of the New Metropolitan opera of New York City.

I think the greatest source of satisfaction to me in "Mamba's Daughters" is the fairness with which Mr. Heyward presents his broad picture of the existing conditions of race interrelationship in Charleston.

He does not flare off at a radical tangent with some proposal for quick solution of what is a great, tragic condition of racial maladjustment. He views the whole scene, recognizes the component parts, the black man's viewpoint and the viewpoint and outlook of the whites, and proceeds to paint a great panorama in which the actual, existing conditions are presented. He points out the hopeful factors which are slowly ameliorating the unfortunate social puzzle presented by this transplanted race of dark-skinned people. He has looked long and understandingly at human nature and his judgments are sound. Reaching into his long, intimate experience with the peoples of whom he writes, he selects the highlights which bring proper emphasis to the social problem, and yet with a rich artistry in every scene that illumines the book with a clear, strong light of sympathetic understanding. It is a fair tale and a brave one.

A FAIRY LEAPT UPON MY KNEE

By Bea Howe
Situation: William, a handsome young moth-collector, proposes to and is accepted by Evelina, who has green eyes, an imaginative nature, and fancies that she has a triple personality. In this elfish mood she calls her third self Evelina Three.

There seems to be some question for 200 pages as to whether William and Evelina really love each other. But one night William, while he is out hunting moths, finds a fairy and take it home. The fairy complicates matters some way, one is very vague as to how, and Evelina gives back William his ring. But William, after deciding that he cannot be happy without Evelina, calls her up one morning some time later and

everything is settled to the satisfaction of the two concerned. One does not know what becomes of the fairy.

This book sounds like a first novel. Whether it is I do not know, but it has a suspiciously flowery and twittery quality that usually marks the productions of young writers. It is a bit incoherently written. Sometimes one has difficulties in following Evelina's rapidly flitting thoughts. Whimsy, to be effective, must be lucid and natural, and done with the greatest delicacy. The author's touch here is a little uncertain.

—R. M.

Society

All the romance in college does not live among the students alone; it develops occasionally among faculty members.

Last Saturday evening at a bridge party, the engagement of Miss Marjorie Wescott, graduate assistant in the English department, and a sister of Glennory Wescott, novelist, was announced to Fletcher Barrows, also a graduate English assistant.

Miss Wescott graduated from Ripon college, Wisconsin. Mr. Barrows, after studying at Brown university, completed his work at Harvard, receiving his M.A. degree in February of this year.

Both members of the engaged couple instruct classes in report writing.

The announcement was made in a novel way. A box of chocolates was brought in with flags sticking out from each chocolate; a few words were written on each flag. When all messages were pieced together they said:

"If you asked me the latest scandal, I would say that Miss Marjorie Wescott is engaged to Mr. Fletcher Barrows."

Discussion Groups To Complete Work; Prove Successful

Two of the three discussion groups which have been held for the past five weeks under the auspices of the Y. W. C. A. will be completed this week.

Dr. Osborne's group was unable to meet Tuesday night because of the Y. W. membership banquet, and it will hold the last meeting next week. The subject for discussion in this group has been "The Relations of Men and Women."

There has been very fine attend-

ance all the time for these discussions, according to Miss Dorothy Thomas, secretary of the Y. W. who led one of the discussions. Rev. Clay E. Palmer led the other group.

The new system of having several groups of interested students carry a certain subject straight through the six weeks has proved very successful, says Miss Thomas.

One new discussion group was started this year which has never been held before, an interchurch group composed of one girl from each denomination represented on the campus. This group, which was organized by Eva Davis, is to continue its meetings until the end of spring term.

Each week, one girl gives a talk on the service of her own church, explaining the ritual and the symbolism. These talks are given in alphabetical order, and the meetings are held every Thursday afternoon from 4:45 to 5:45.

This afternoon, Janet Osborne is to give a talk on the Episcopal church.

Hermian Initiates Quartet of Women To Membership Roll

Four physical education members—Betty Beam, Edith Barthel, Margaret Marian Price and Grace Caldwell—were initiated into Hermian, honorary women's physical education organization, last night at 5 o'clock at a meeting that was followed by a banquet at the Anchorage.

Initiation was in charge of Marjorie Landru, president of the organization, and Beth Ager, Dorothy Lensch and Dorothy Goss. Miss Landru presided at the banquet which was attended by about 30 members. A skit by the four new members was a feature of the evening.

PLEDGING ANNOUNCEMENT

Sigma Kappa announces the pledging of Helen Wilderman, Eugene.

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Ridings Leads Varsity In Total Playing Time

Star Has 543 Minutes; Milligan Gathers in 494

Gordon Ridings, member of the all-northwest basketball team selected by Hec Edmundson, coach of



Gord Ridings

the University of Washington team, led the Oregon players in the number of minutes played in the season just completed. Ridings also led the Webfoots last year, but his 543 minutes this year was considerably less than the 680 in 1928.

Scott Milligan, forward, who was second to Ridings last year, was listed second again this year with 494 minutes. Both Milligan and Ridings were handicapped this year by injuries and illness which forced them out of several contests.

Fifteen Oregon basketball players were in action in the 15 games

played. Of these 15, nine were awarded letters. Number of minutes played by Webfoots this year: Gordon Ridings, 543; Scott Milligan, 494; Dave Epps, 365½; Don McCormick, 348; Joe Bally, 265; Ray Edwards, 263½; Mervyn Chastain, 182; Jean Eberhart, 166; Cliff Horner, 133; Roy Hughes, 132½;

Howard Eberhart, 105; Keith Emmons, 14; Harold Ollinger, 5; William Hanley, 5; and Jack Dowsett, 2.

PLEDGING ANNOUNCEMENT
Sigma Phi Epsilon announces the pledging of Ivan Skyman of Central Point, Oregon.

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Store Closed Thursday

Yes, Today, Thursday, Ragan & Bowman, will be CLOSED ALL DAY—To mark down every item of merchandise in the store, to rearrange stocks—Beginning Friday at 9 a. m. and continuing Friday and Saturday and into next week we will hold our SECOND ANNUAL CLEARANCE SALE—This SALE is being held with Easter just ahead because of the conditions beyond our control—we are overstocked with New, Seasonable Merchandise—Such famous lines as "Fashion Park" and "Griffon" Clothes—Aflow and Cluett and E. & W. Shirts, and in fact nothing is reserved—The Sale is on every single item in the store—Every item purchased during the Sale will be a genuine value of the finest merchandise—Your money cheerfully refunded if you are not absolutely satisfied—So come Friday at 9 a. m., bring your friends—Tell your neighbors about this Sale—We want to thank all our friends who came to our last Sale—They remember the values; we invite them to come again, and we want new friends to come too.

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