

Mr. Lewis and Mr. Harris and Their Prizes

Chapel Hill Weekly.

Sinclair Lewis declined the Pulitzer prize awarded to his novel "Arrowsmith," saying that through such prizes compulsion was put upon writers to become "safe, polite, and sterile."

Julian Harris's newspaper, the Columbus, Georgia, Enquirer-Sun, received the Pulitzer gold medal "for the most disinterested and meritorious public service rendered by an American newspaper in 1925." In an editorial in last Sunday's issue Mr. Harris reviews briefly the policy which won his paper the honor, and continues:

"So much, then, for the policy of the Enquirer-Sun, and the path it has blazed to a recognition which it hopes will prove an inspiration to hundreds of small city newspapers—and weeklies also—which are making brave and lonesome fights. It is in the name of such newspapers and their gallant editors that the Enquirer-Sun accepts gladly and with gratitude the bestowal of the Pulitzer medal. And the Enquirer-Sun accepts also the still greater responsibilities to which it is challenged by this

splendid award." Which of the two, Mr. Lewis's response or Mr. Harris's, reflects the greater degree of sanity, the better sense of proportion, the better spirit? We have no hesitation in saying that to us the course of the Georgia editor is far more admirable.

We wish that it were possible to get from Mr. Lewis an answer to this question: If you accepted the prize, do you think such acceptance would have a deteriorating effect upon the quality of your future writing? And if he answered No, as we believe he would have to if he told the truth, our next question would be: Well, then if you do not think that accepting such a prize would have a bad effect upon your own writing, what right have you to suppose that it would have a bad effect upon that of other authors?

Julian Harris is not one whit more of a conformist than is Sinclair Lewis. And his non-conformity, in conducting such a paper as the Enquirer-Sun in Georgia, requires far more courage than is required of Sinclair Lewis in satirizing the meanness and narrowness of Gopher Prairie and Zenith. Mr. Lewis sits in a comfortable study and writes books, and for his insight and skill he deserves

and receives credit. But his writing calls for no courage at all—he has nothing to fear and nothing to lose. Mr. Harris, on the other hand, carries on constantly a fight against the most powerful influences, and against the most powerful traditions and prejudices, of the region in which he dwells. Mr. Lewis's books, no matter how faithful a picture of American life they may present, have to do with imaginary persons who have no power to harm him. Mr. Harris does not hesitate to attack the dearest idols of his next-door neighbors and of the business men upon whose patronage

The main point made by Mr.

Lewis—namely, that prizes tend to place a premium upon conformity—is controverted by the Pulitzer awards recently announced. If there ever was a non-conformist novel, it is "Arrowsmith"; and if there ever was a non-conformist newspaper, it is the Columbus Enquirer-Sun. If writers are to be influenced one way or the other, it would appear to us that these two latest decisions of the committee, instead of making them "safe and polite," would encourage them in non-conformity.

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A GOOD WOMAN GONE

Pittsboro has lost an excellent woman and her home a devoted wife and mother in the death of Mrs. B. A. Berry, a brief announcement of which appeared in last week's Record. Mrs. Perry had been a sufferer for several months. She had undergone an operation or two without permanent relief. A few weeks ago she was taken to Durham in the home of Mr. Perry's brother, in order to secure the benefit of the advice of the city physicians. But death came apace and she departed life Wednesday night, May 12.

The body was brought home and taken Friday to Center Grove Christian church for burial. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. Mr. Carden and Rev. R. E. Gordon, pastor of Pittsboro Baptist church.

Mrs. Perry before marriage was Miss Agnes Lee Gough, a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Gough of the Goldston section. She was a good Christian woman.

In early life she became a member of Antioch Christian church. Later her membership was moved to Center Grove.

Mrs. Perry leaves besides husband and five children, three sisters, Mesdames Joe Goldston, D. E. McIver, and Charles Kissell, the last named living in Norfolk, and one brother, Mr. Arthur, living somewhere in the state of Washington.

Mr. Perry and children greatly appreciate the help and kindness of their friends and neighbors during the illness and after the death of Mrs. Perry, and desire to express thanks for the same.

Richard P. Hobson, of Spanish-American war fame, has been in the state making prohibition speeches. The burden of the prohibition fight now is successful enforcement. The hero of the Merrimac is pleading with the citizens to cooperate fully in enforcing the anti-liquor laws.

The Southern Baptist convention will meet next year in Louisville.

STANDARD OIL COMPANY ANNOUNCES



A New Motor Fuel

BEGINNING today an entirely new motor fuel is on sale at "Standard" Service Stations and Dealers. It is called ESSO.

We distinguish it by a name of its own because it is more powerful than gasoline. However, ESSO is not intended to displace "Standard" Gasoline. "Standard" Gasoline is so reliable and satisfactory a product it is the ideal fuel for normal motor conditions. ESSO is manufactured to meet special conditions such as the following:

1. For Motors that Knock
2. For Motors with Carbon Accumulation
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4. For Motors that Have Lost Efficiency Through Long Service
5. For Motors Operating Under Excessive Loads
6. For any Car from which the Owner Demands Super-Service

The only way to determine whether you need ESSO is to test it in your own car. Use the gasoline in your tank down to the last gallon or so. Then fill up with ESSO. Test your car in traffic and note the pick-up. Test it on the hills—preferably on some hill where you already know how the car has performed with gasoline. This will give you a direct comparison. Then after a few days decide whether you want to buy ESSO regularly or stick to "Standard" Gasoline.

Many will find that "Standard" Gasoline meets their needs perfectly. It is a matter for each individual to decide, according to the condition of his car and the service he demands of it.

ESSO is red in color to distinguish it from Gasoline. Costs 5c a gallon above gasoline—but worth it. Look for the ESSO pump.

STANDARD OIL COMPANY (New Jersey)

Children Cry for

Fletcher's CASTORIA



MOTHER:— Fletcher's Castoria is especially prepared to relieve Infants in arms and Children all ages of Constipation, Flatulency, Wind Colic and Diarrhea; allaying Feverishness arising therefrom, and, by regulating the Stomach and Bowels, aids the assimilation of Food; giving natural sleep.

To avoid imitations, always look for the signature of *Charles H. Fletcher*. Absolutely Harmless—No Opiates. Physicians everywhere recommend it.

Make Plans Now

It is time for farmers to be making their plans for financing fertilizer purchases and other 1926 crop costs. They should get on a cash basis as far as possible, even if they have to borrow.

Interest is cheaper than paying time prices, especially in the purchase of fertilizer. This bank is the Farmer's Bank and we shall be glad to co-operate to the full extent of our ability.

Deposit Your Spare Cash With Us. We Pay 4 Per Cent on Time Deposits

The FARMERS BANK

PITTSBORO, N. C.

W. F. BLAND, Pres : A. M. RIDDLE, V. Pres.
W. W. LANGLEY, Cashier.
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We Desire to Serve

This Bank is here not only to make money for the stockholders but to serve the people of Chatham county. It is our desire to help every legitimate enterprise in the county so far as it is possible for us to do so. Every farmer, particularly, should feel that we are his friends, and ready to assist him in anyway in accord with safe banking.

CONSULT US

We feel that the people of the county must economize, must spend wisely, and work hard, in face of the effects of the past two difficult years. Two heads are better than one. Consult your banker before making investments. We shall be glad to give you the benefit of whatever knowledge and experience we have. Therefore do not hesitate to consult us at any time.

Beware of buying on time. Better cut expenditures now than suffer consequences of another bad crop season, if one should come, upon those overloaded with time accounts.

BANK OF PITTSBORO