

## Serious Books vs. Fiction

By E. S. Martin.



THE habit of reading the more substantial books seems to have taken hold of a much larger proportion of the people of the British Isles than of us Americans. And even that is not all. We seem not to be gaining the habit, for the proportion of light reading in the current mass of new literature seems to be increasing.

Why that is, and whether it is a temporary condition or something more serious, is matter for discussion. I suspect it is one of the habitual complaints of literate mankind that the readers of the generation just passed read better books than those of the generations in being. It is no fault of the publishers, for there are plenty of publishers who are eager to print the best books they can hope to sell. They won't print many books that no one will buy, because such a practice as that, if it became habitual, would be incompatible with continuance in the publishing business. But they have an interest, which is more than a mere pecuniary interest, in what they publish, and would much rather find their necessary profit in a book that they can be proud of than in one which can never do credit to their name, however much it may help their pocket.

To be sure, the more substantial books are in competition with all the great books that ever were printed. If readers neglected the good new books in order to read the good old ones, we might regret it as something detrimental to the book publishing business and the interests of living authors, but we would not find in it a sign of decaying culture or degenerating taste. But it is not the competition of the old books that limits attention to new ones, for whoever has learned to read the one is by so much the likelier to read the other. Who has the habit of good reading and the appetite for it will read what suits his appetite if he can get it. The trouble is that the appetite is not often formed.

If you are to make a silk purse, you must have the silk. You cannot make a reader of good books out of any human material that comes along. You must catch a mind proper for the job. Not all good minds are adapted to much reading. You find very able people who read few books, mostly trash, and people of less ability who read more, and much better ones. You find also interesting differences in the facility with which different people take in the sense of printed words. Some people from childhood read very much faster and with less effort than others. Their eyes seem to connect quicker with their brains, and their perception of words and rows of words is almost instantaneous. Other people never entirely get past the need of pronouncing, mentally, each word.—Harper's Magazine.

## The 400 is Now : : : : "The 1100"

By F. Townsend Martin.



HAVE been interested in society ever since I was eighteen years old. New York society has gone through its formative stage. Its society now resembles that of London, the oldest and most absorbing society in the world.

People say, casually, "The great halls of the past have been discontinued because the city is too large." That is not the point. Society is too large—not the city. Society grows with the city. I should say there are 1,100 persons in society. I daresay this figure is staggering, revolutionary, but I believe this number is accurate. Yet I know some women who would say that 100 covers completely the number of persons they would care to know.

New York society is beset by a new idea, which is as unsatisfactory as it is perilous. It develops a narrowness of thought and the most extreme boredom. Society is set-riden. There are the Meadowbrook set, the Tuxedo set, the Southampton set, the Winchester set, the Lenox set, the Alken set, the set that meets in Palm Beach, in Aiken, and in Paris.

Mrs. William Astor's retirement as the leader of society marked a new epoch. There has been chaos since her influence and her annual entertainment have been discontinued. There is no social leader in New York today. Perhaps there will never be another, because the requisite qualifications are rare. Each little set has its leader, who rules arbitrarily and is looked up to, even idolized. But it is manifestly difficult to think of a woman who can unite the little sets. Leadership, like monarchy, carries with it endless work and endless responsibility. All of the important women in society would naturally like to succeed to the popularity and prestige of Mrs. Astor, yet there are limitations to each, which cannot be denied.

## There's a Good Time Coming

By United States Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts.



THE Republic of the United States is in no danger of ruin in a business or in any other way. The resources of the country are greater than they ever were before. The energy of the people, if it is not paralyzed by too much substitution of government for individual effort, if it is left to march along the old roads which it followed from the days of small things to the present days of greatness—the road of independence, the road of individual enterprise, of determination to succeed in the battle of life—will assert itself.

Let those old American habits continue to dominate in the United States and tread the doctrines of socialism under foot. The wealth of the world is here in our soil, in our mines, in our factories. This decline of values is but a passing ripple on the surface of the great sea of American life and action, and all we need to do is first to try to prevent a recurrence of that alarm which so paralyzed business last autumn, then to aid in the restoration of public confidence, and lastly to perfect a banking system worth of our time and country. I believe that the Aldrich currency bill will tend strongly in this direction and serve our initial and immediate purpose. I believe it will bring back in a large measure the confidence which has been impaired, and help to get the great car of American business moving once more upon the pathway of triumphal progress which it has followed for more than a century.

## When Wealth Getting Becomes a Crime

By John A. Johnson,  
Governor of Minnesota.



PERSONALLY I would rather be able to write a book that would live a hundred years than be able to amass wealth that would enable those who inherit it to live for generations in luxury, and yet the amassing of wealth may be of vast industrial service to the country and to those who seek honest work and wages.

But WEALTH GETTING BECOMES A CRIME when the man obtains it by the sale of all his finer instincts, by the sacrifice of his character, by the violation of the nation's laws and by trespass upon the rights of others to the pursuit of liberty and happiness. It is this spirit and not the thing which determines the nobility of a career and the degree of success.

THE HIGHEST VICTORIES MAY BE WHAT THE WORLD CALLS

## THREE BANZAIS!



—Cartoon by Triggs, in the New York Press.

## GOLCONDA FOUND IN THE CANAL ZONE.

Commissioner Collins, of Washington, D. C., Says Life is Pleasant and Living Economical at Colon—Indians Trade in Gold Nuggets—Gambling Not Popular—All American Games Pursued as Outdoor Sports.

New York City.—After spending fourteen months on an investigation along the canal zone regarding the allegations that have been brought against certain officials in the employ of the Canal Commission, J. H. Collins returned from Colon, en route for Washington, D. C., to make his report. He declined to discuss it before submitting it to the authorities.

Mr. Collins said last month was a record one for the amount of money sent to the United States by men employed along the canal. He found them all in good spirits and fond of baseball, bowling, tennis, rowing, and all kinds of healthy outdoor sports. Gambling is not popular nor drinking to any extent, Mr. Collins found, and this had been so marked during the last year that many of the saloons and gambling houses previously in Colon and Panama have closed up and gone to pastures new.

"The health of the employes as a whole was good, he said, and the labor conditions at the present time satisfactory. Excellent food at cost price is sent down by the Canal Commission twice a week for the employes and their families.

"Just before leaving Panama," said Mr. Collins, "I met Baron von Toller. He was sent out by the Smithsonian Institution to study the conditions of the San Blas Indians, who live in the interior of the Republic of Panama, about seventy miles up the coast on the Pacific side. He told some of the most

thrilling adventures I have ever heard. His companions, two American boys, were killed by the Indians last January.

"The Baron described the San Blas country as being very rich and the natives warlike. He was certain there is plenty of gold back in the mountains, as the Indians traded for merchandise in gold nuggets, which had evidently been washed down some mountain stream. He said that the difficulties to be encountered in the San Blas country were very great, as there were no roads at all, the only means of travel being by canoes and navigating tortuous waterways, where an exploring party could be easily ambushed. In addition to the Indians there was the malignant black-water fever to be contended with.

"The Baron is making monthly expeditions into the San Blas country on behalf of the Panama Government to teach the natives how to get rid of the swarms of locusts that destroy their crops. He stays in as long as his provisions last. He is accompanied by his brother, a Heidelberg student. The Baron said it would be perilous for any white man to attempt to reach the mountains in search of the gold, as the natives have never allowed any strangers to penetrate into the interior. He was only there on suzerainty, and had to be always on the alert. Their country is rich in coal and all kinds of minerals."

## JAPAN'S CORDIAL WELCOME.

The Reception of the American Fleet Was Elaborate and Perfectly Carried Out.

Tokio, Japan.—The reception accorded the American Atlantic fleet by the Government and people of Japan is conceded by the American naval officers to be the heartiest and most perfectly carried out of the many receptions received by the fleet since it sailed from Hampton Roads. Rear Admiral Sperry said that he was utterly unable to say how it had been accomplished, but that the welcome given the fleet and its officers and men here had been so carefully planned and carried out to the most minute details that lasting impression has been stamped upon the mind of every American who has witnessed it.

It is impossible to doubt the sincerity of the Japanese. The American officers and sailors are already beginning to understand the fact that the evident desire on the part of the Japanese for the friendship of America is not founded upon opportunism, but finds its source in a sincere wish to show that such friendship, at least on the part of the Japanese, has existed always, and that this visit of the

fleet has merely afforded the Japanese an opportunity for that expression.

Admiral Sperry was received at the imperial palace. On the next day the admirals and captains of the fleet were the guests of the Emperor at the palace. Admiral Sperry conveyed to the Emperor a message from President Roosevelt. This message breathes a spirit of friendliness and sympathy and expresses keen expressions of the traditional friendship between the two nations and an earnest wish for the strengthening and continuance of the friendly relations of the past.

Three thousand sailors from the American fleet were granted shore liberty daily, and it is remarkable that notwithstanding their long confinement aboard ship not a single difficulty has been reported, bearing out the statement of Admiral Sperry, made in one of his speeches here, that the American sailor of to-day is the result of that development and education which Japan is seeking in every department of her national life.

## 40-FOOT FOSSIL FOUND.

Complete Tyrannosaurus Rex Now For American Natural History Museum.

New York City.—Dr. Henry Fairfield Osborn, president of the American Museum of Natural History, received word from Great Falls, Minn., that a research party from the museum, headed by Bartram Brown, had discovered part of the skeleton of the Tyrannosaurus rex, a prehistoric animal, in the Bad Lands several miles south of Glasgow, Minn.

The fossil, which is forty feet long and twenty-two feet high, has a perfect skull, an entire set of ribs, back bone and hip girdle and practically supplements the specimen discovered in the same section in 1902.

Ever since the first fossil of the "king of the reptiles," as the Tyrannosaurus rex is called, was found, research parties from the American Museum have been searching through the Bad Lands for a specimen that would complete the missing parts. The first fossil had good hind limbs but incomplete back bones. Dr. Osborn said that he believed the two specimens were about the same size and that the museum will now be enabled to mount the animal complete.

During the five years of search fragments of Tyrannosaurus rex have been found from time to time. Dr. Osborn said zoologists would be highly elated over this second discovery.

## Nebraska University Orders

Girls to Go Bareheaded. Lincoln, Neb.—The State University senate adopted a rule forbidding young women students to wear hats in classrooms. The order was made necessary by feminine headgear which had grown so large that it not only taxed the capacity of the classrooms but interfered with recitations. Another rule adopted prohibits students indulging in shirt-tail parades or kidding class officers to break up social gatherings, on penalty of immediate expulsion.

## Shirt Sleeves For Church, Says

Bishop Hamilton to Ministers. Boston, Mass.—Bishop John W. Hamilton, formerly of California, speaking to Methodist ministers of the immigrant and how he should be assimilated, said: "I return to New England and I find a new New England. I tell you to gather them into the churches. Break down your prejudices, social barriers. They will come in if you want them. Get down to shirt sleeves and make a pair of them the Methodist church's coat of arms."

## PRACTICAL ADVICE ABOUT DIVERSIFIED FARMING

### Bitter Rot.

The apple disease known as bitter rot occurs in very destructive form throughout the Piedmont and eastern sections of North Carolina, though it is possibly less destructive further west. In a recent trip through the middle of the State, the writer saw dozens of orchards ruined by this rot which, but for the presence of the rot, would have yielded largely. In many of the orchards visited, the trees were in fine condition, showing suitability of soil and climate, and they bore an abundance of fruit, but closer examination showed that the ground under the trees was completely covered with rotten apples and that the apples still on the trees had numerous specks of soft, brown rot. In many villages and towns all apples offered for sale in stores were affected with this rot.

This rot has been known in destructive form in the United States since 1867. It is estimated to have done \$1,500,000 of damage in four counties in Illinois in 1900. In the Middle States the losses are estimated to be from one-half to three-fourths of the entire crop. The president of the National Apple Shippers' Association estimated the damage in the United States in 1900 at \$10,000,000.

There are many different types of apple rot; some are hard, some are soft, some wet, some dry, some of one color and some another, etc. The bitter rot of the apple, sometimes called the ripe rot, is a soft, wet, yellow rot, occurring usually as circular spots on the fruit. These spots, of which there may be from one to twenty or more on each apple, enlarge rapidly, run together, and the whole fruit becomes a soft, rotten mass. The disease usually begins while the fruit is still hanging on the tree, and as the disease progresses, many of the apples fall to the ground below.

This rot is caused by a fungus, known as Gloeosporium, the spores of which fall upon the apple, grow, penetrate it, and cause the decay. The spores are produced in immense quantities in small pustules, which appear upon the rotted surface. In many instances the fungus passes the winter in cankered spots on the twigs and bark.

There are two forms of treatment, both of which should be followed.

First, inasmuch as the fungus is known to winter in the canker on the branches, it is very important, when the leaves are off the trees, to carefully inspect the orchard, hunt out these cankers, cut them out and burn them, and thus remove the most dangerous source of spring infection. Second, the trees should be sprayed with Bordeaux mixture in order to kill all spores which fall upon the fruit or twigs. Sprays should be applied before the buds begin to swell in the spring, just after the blossoms fall, and every ten or fourteen days thereafter until the fruit is almost ripe.

These two treatments combined will, to a very large extent, serve to control this very serious disease.—F. L. Stevens, Biologist, North Carolina Experiment Station.

### Spurs For Poultrymen.

Use milk freely to develop chicks and to make hens lay, but use care to keep the vessels clean. Milk left in the vessels, day after day, even if in only small quantities, begins to rot and cause bowel trouble.

The open front poultry house is always good in the South; and during the hot weather it is almost a necessity. Do not force the chickens to steam their strength away by sitting on roosts summer nights in houses that have insufficient ventilation.

Removing and burning the old hay or straw in the nests a number of times during the summer is one of the best means to keep down vermin. Before the new material is put in, give whatever treatment is preferred for combating vermin; but do the work thoroughly.

After the drink vessels have been scalded and well washed, put them out awhile where the bright sun will shine into them well. Sunshine is an excellent germ killer. Vessels containing disease germs are responsible for many deaths, the cause of which is undreamed of.

Very fat hens are likely to die of apoplexy in hot weather. Preventative measures are better than cures, which are not often accomplished. To keep them from being too fat, cut down their ration, especially that part of it that tends to make fat; and force them to hunt more for their feed. Over-fatness is not good for any end.

If you belong to the class who keep their house lawns looking like a velvet carpet by the frequent use of a lawn mower, the lawn will look all the better if the clippings are caught in an attachment put on the mower for that purpose; and if the clippings are stored in a dry place to cure, they will be convenient next winter for throwing down for the poultry to work over. Some of the clippings.

### Persistent.

"She tries so hard to be young."  
"Yes, and seems to me that she is bound to succeed."  
"Does it? Why?"  
"She has been at it so long."

### Her Steady.

"I hear you have a show with the new young man."  
"Show! I should think so. It's a continuous vaudeville."

which will be hay at that time, may be eaten; and what is not eaten may be used for burying grain in for the poultry to scratch out. However, the clippings will be rather short and pack down too close for good scratching material unless used with longer stuff.

There are two extremes in caring for poultry. One is not giving enough attention to the work to keep the quarters in a sanitary condition. The other is in doing a lot of unnecessary work, in fooling around in attempt to keep the quarters as clean as a well-regulated kitchen. This is impractical. As long as piles of droppings are not allowed to accumulate and lice and mites are kept under control, the quarters will be sanitary, if kept dry and well aired. When that has been accomplished, all has been done about the quarters that will yield a profit—and profit is what poultry are kept for. Carefulness in feeding and watering is, of course, necessary; but even in that work a lot of time should not be wasted. A lack of a sanitary condition is the more common extreme, but the opposite may be almost as foolish.—Progressive Farmer.

### Rotation of Crops a Good Thing.

One correspondent wishes me to tell why rotation of crops is a good thing. I will give four reasons:

(1) Because no plants thrive long if compelled to feed on their own decay.

(2) Different crops take plant food in different proportions, and the same crop grown continuously uses up what is available in the soil of that which it particularly prefers. At Rothamsted, England, they grew potatoes year after year on the same land until it utterly failed to make potatoes. But when they then put it in barley, it made seventy-five bushels per acre. The potatoes needed the mineral matters, phosphoric acid and potash, and had drawn them down till there was not a sufficient amount of these to make potatoes, but still an abundance for barley.

(3) Constant clean cultivation and exposure to the sun burn up the humus or decayed vegetation in the soil, the home of the soil bacteria that work for the farmer, and the bacteria perish, so that the soil becomes literally a dead soil. Exposure to sunshine is death to the microscopic forms of plants that we call bacteria. Even those forms that are the causes of disease cannot endure the sunshine, and one of the very best means for sterilizing waste matters like sewage is to expose it to sunlight.

(4) We introduce the legume crop in our rotations because they furnish forage for stock and enable us to keep up the humus, making material in the soil, and in their growth get us the nitrogen we need, which we would otherwise have to buy. The vital point in any rotation is the maintenance and increase of the organic decay, the living soil, for, as has been well said, "sand and clay are only the dead skeleton of a soil, humus is its life," and in no way can we keep up this life in the soil but by a rotation of crops that will be restoring what is wasted in the sale crops.

Your rotation would be improved by sowing crimson clover among your corn to prevent winter waste and make a feed crop in the spring that will come off before sowing the peas for hay. Then wheat and clover one year, and then manure the sod and back to corn. In this way your land will always be protected in winter and will gain humus.—W. F. Massey.

### A Land of Milk and Money.

And while you are making the South a land of milk and money you can make all the more cotton on a smaller area of land because of feeding the cows or heaves.

Study that record from the A. and M. College herd. When a man makes \$880 worth of manure in nine months, what a crop of corn he can make with that manure spread broadcast, and what a crop of small grain following it to be followed by peas and then to cotton, with cash in his pocket to dictate prices to the fertilizer men and no fertilizer to buy except acid phosphate and potash for the peas.

What an area of land you would have to cultivate in cotton that makes 150 to 200 pounds of lint per acre, to equal the amount of money that was made from these cows? I believe that you would never get there. But with the cows and the manure it would not be long before you would be talking about 1000 pounds of lint per acre on only one-fifth the land that now makes the 200 pounds, and crops of corn and small grain that would soon be something more than "supplines," but would be putting money in your purse. But the men who imagine that it does not pay to grow anything but cotton will probably keep on with the 150 to 200 pounds per acre and keep poor and keep their land poor.—W. F. Massey.

### Dye Wouldn't Stick.

"No use trying to convince him?"  
"None at all. He is a dyed in the wool party man."  
"Oh, well, if it is no worse than that, we will go after him. I noticed as we passed that he was almost bald."

Wanted work that probably no one of the candidates will "trouble" much about the