

THE FIRST READER... By Harry Hansen Ingersoll Novel Hollow Recital of Commonplace Without Spiritual Depth

"THE GREAT ONES." A novel. By Ralph Ingersoll. New York, Harcourt, Brace, \$3.

"THE LAST BILLIONAIRE." By William C. Richards. New York, Scribner, \$3.75.

BEFORE I BEGAN stalking authors, I used to stalk politicians, of whom the woods were full. Among them was that tall, bearded Republican stalwart, Charles Warren Fairbanks, Senator and Vice President, who nursed a Presidential bid for a long time. One day he was asked about some adverse comment on his candidacy. I don't recall the exact question, but this was his answer:

"It isn't what people say about me that should bother him; it's what comes out of his own mouth that ought to scare him to death."

This observation recurred to me while I was reading Ralph Ingersoll's tongue-in-cheek novel, "The Great Ones," which is likely to be an eight-day sensation in the editorial and advertising circles of New York. Although labeled "the love story of two very important people," it reads like a distorted paraphrase of the news-magazine making of the last 25 years, in which Mr. Ingersoll was immersed up to his chin.

While I was trying to figure out how the author had turned fact into fiction I discovered that the novel does not carry the usual disclaimer that all this is imaginary and that any resemblance to persons living or dead is unintentional.

I do not expect Mr. Ingersoll to blush for his new words, but it seems to me that his novel is one of the meanest jobs in print.

IN MITIGATION it may be said that publishers are fair game for satirists, and since they make everybody's business their own, it is only turnabout when their affairs become everybody's. The publisher in Mr. Ingersoll's novel is a man of intense concentration and industry, so occupied making his magazines pay that his life, though full of activity, is basically hollow and unsatisfied. At middle age, inordinately rich and spiritually baffled, he can merely repeat his routine.

He is Sturges Strong, one of two Yale men who determine while in college to start a news magazine, Facts, the Knowing Weekly, as compact as Time and as bright as the New Yorker. When Sturges marries the former fiancée of his partner, the latter sells his interest. Sturges, though wealthy, helps loyally in the hard days of the magazine; after it becomes a \$40,000,000 property, she is tossed aside by him for the dynamic career woman, Letia Long.

BOTH STURGES and Letia respect wealth and want it. They are not miserly, but they know how to use it. Letia is beautiful, tactful, competent and "safe in everything except love." After a brief career in the theater and a love affair with an editor of the New Yorker, she marries into a New York family worth \$600,000,000. Her divorce settlement makes her a millionaire twice over. She then organizes a dress-design house and sells it for \$2,500,000. Figures are part of the scenery in this novel.

In two years Letia becomes "the most widely known painter in America." Six weeks after she finishes a book, tells it to Hollywood and goes there to help Samuel Goldwyn produce it. Sturges had the idea that she could work together on his magazine, now headed by the phenomenally successful Fantasy, a sort of super-Life, but this peters out. Instead Letia turns to politics. As one of her friends said, she should have been a five-star general.

THE GREAT ONES proves that it takes more than bank balances and circulation figures to make a novel. Just as these lives are lived wholly for externals, so this novel is full of movement without meaning. The story is heaped with details, often routine. Mr. Ingersoll seems to have had half a dozen of his "researchers" at his elbow, with the usual results—the glorification of the insignificant and the elaboration of the commonplace. Sturges and Letia remain wooden effigies. They compound their wealth without excitement.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Laugh-Maker

HORIZONTAL	VERTICAL
1.5 Pictured entertainer	1 Boring instrument
2 Type of molding	2 Indonesian tribal group
3 Hospital resident	3 French article
4 Diminutive of physician	4 Lemuel
5 Golf teacher	5 Liquid
6 Boy's name	6 Measure
7 United States	7 Proposition
8 Legation (ab.)	8 Indian
9 Irish sea god	9 Low haunt
10 Wild plum	10 Western
11 Route (ab.)	11 Reserve (ab.)
12 Wear away	12 Habituates
13 Greek gravestone	13 Cuddle
14 Flower	14 Entreaty
15 Fails to win	15 Liquid
16 Parent	16 Dregs
17 Note in Guido's scale	17 Station
18 Populace	18 Exposure
19 He performs on the	19 Triduces
20 Angry	20 Complete (ab.)
21 Dear truck	21 Expires
22 Bitter vetch	22 Mistakes
23 Amounts (ab.)	23 Subjugate
24 Negative word	23 Bestow
25 Perched	24 That thing
26 Awaken	
27 Sloths	
28 Penitence	
29 Loose egg	
30 Field	
31 Egg	



RELIC—"Forgotten Things," a wood engraving by the contemporary American printmaker Grace Albee, is included in the exhibition of 100 Best Prints from the Library of Congress collection lent to Herron Art Museum for display through March 7. Miss Albee's technique follows the engraving methods of such old masters as Albrecht Duerer and Hans Holbein.

Miss Ward's New Novel of Campus Life Fails to Equal Excellence of 'The Snake Pit'

"THE PROFESSOR'S UMBRELLA." A novel. By Mary Jane Ward. New York, Random House, \$3.

BY HENRY BUTLER
ADVANCE PUBLICITY on Mary Jane Ward's new novel, "The Professor's Umbrella," stirred up my interest.

The author of "The Snake Pit" this time was writing about a Midwestern university campus. What's more, she was going to deal with anti-Semitism among other themes.

It all sounded as if "The Professor's Umbrella" was going to be a powerful novel about campus life, just as "The Snake Pit" was a powerful novel about a psychiatric hospital.

I'm sorry to say I found "The Professor's Umbrella" disappointing. Despite the virtues of Miss Ward's writing—compression, imagination, humor and occasional startling clarity of insight, her new novel is more like a sequence of short stories than a novel. It doesn't build up to climaxes in the way such a novel should.

THE STORY concerns Gregory Kline, an English instructor in Tamarack University, who is devoted to teaching as a career.

Gregory's part-Jewish ancestry is a hindrance to his being promoted. When Gregory rebuffs a love-smitten coed who has set her cap for him, she circulates a rumor assailing his morals. The president of the university fires him without granting him the usual hearing by the faculty council.

Gregory turns down an \$8000 offer to become chief editor of a publishing house. Instead, he accepts a miserably paid position in a small private college. He's aided in his decision by Harriet Hough, attractive young botany instructor, who applauds Gregory's determination to stay in teaching despite poor rewards. The inference is that Harriet and Gregory will marry and share the frugal living but intellectual stimulation of academic life.

'Best of Art' Will Sharpen Your Aesthetic Appreciation

"BEST OF ART." By Emily Genauer. New York, Doubleday, \$7.50.

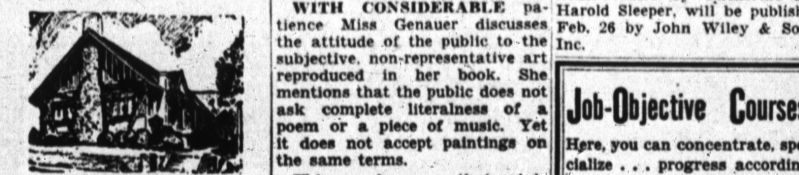
IF I WERE a painter, hoping somebody would appreciate and understand what I was trying to put on canvas, I could ask for no better ambassador to the public than Emily Genauer.

Even as a bookman, who prefers expression in words to expression in crayon or brushwork, I can read Emily's comment on what a painter is driving at and put my prejudices aside for the time. And my prejudices against what many American painters are doing now are very strong.

Perhaps Emily Genauer has written her book, "Best of Art," for people like me. She has chosen 52 paintings out of 50,000 to show "the outstanding paintings of the year in America." Then she has explained the painter's intention and performance; his attitude toward social questions, now so important; his convictions about art, and his accomplishments, within the limitations he has set for himself.

Miss Genauer says the woes of the world have invaded the painter's atelier, confused his mind and affected his temperament. "The art of many of them reflects

A Religious Center With a Civic Circumference



11 A. M. Sunday
Dr. E. Burdette Backus
Presents the Fourth of a Series of Addresses on
GREAT BOOKS
"Out of My Life"
and "My Thought"
By Albert Schweitzer
9:15 A. M.—WFBM
"The Emergence of Man"
ALL SOULS
UNITARIAN CHURCH
1453 N. Alabama St.

KEY TECHNIQUE— Book Offers Piano Pupils Vital Hints

"KEYS TO THE KEYBOARD: A BOOK FOR PIANISTS." By Andor Foldes. New York, Dutton, \$2.

ANDOR FOLDES, well-known concert pianist, has written a valuable handbook for piano students in "Keys to the Keyboard," which Dutton will publish Monday.

Indeed, not merely piano students may benefit from Mr. Foldes' clearly expressed and fundamental advice. Teachers and certainly a good many parents of hopeful young pianists would do well to read and ponder Mr. Foldes' opening chapter on "Getting the Right Start."

It's a mistake to start children too young, Mr. Foldes believes. It's a still greater mistake to push them too hard too early in life.

"I HEARTILY agree with the words of the great Hungarian composer, Zoltan Kodaly, who, in an interview some years ago, stated bluntly that nothing a musical child produces before the age of 15 really counts. What matters is a person's work between the ages of 18 and 75," Mr. Foldes writes.

He deplores the pressure on gifted youngsters to make public appearances at too early an age. "If they are to appear in public, even for a student's recital, the significance of such a concert should be minimized by the parents and teacher."

MR. FOLDES stresses the importance of starting with simple compositions the child can master and postponing the learning of difficult works until the student has acquired sufficient technique and maturity.

Other chapters in the first section of his book deal with the arrangement of practice hours for the best results, matters of reading, listening, technique, memorizing and, finally, "Getting Ready to Play in Public."

A chapter of questions and answers is followed by a brief list of not-too-difficult contemporary music suitable for teaching purposes. Mr. Foldes has small respect for the sentimental "morceau de salon" kind of thing too often heard on young student recital programs.

Deutsch Prepares 'Kinsey Report'

A symposium of comment on the "Kinsey Report" is being prepared by Albert Deutsch, science editor of the New York newspaper PM, for early publication by Prentice-Hall.

Leading authorities in religion, education and the social sciences will examine the findings of "Sex Behavior in the Human Male," the first volume of the comprehensive work planned by Dr. Alfred C. Kinsey and his associates of Indiana University.

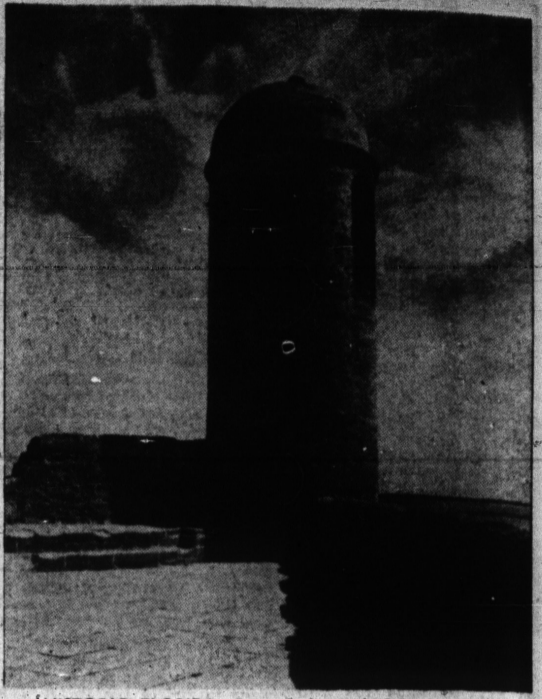
The forthcoming anthology of opinion, tentatively entitled "Sex and the American Male," will be the first of a series of volumes examining each book of the Kinsey Report as it appears.

'East of Fifth' Book Due March 8

"East of Fifth," a new kind of illustrated narrative by Alan Dunn, cartoonist and frequent contributor to the New Yorker, will be published March 8 by Simon & Schuster.

Mr. Dunn, whose book of drawings "The Last Laugh," a satirical treatment of architectural fads and fancies, was published last year by the Architectural Record, this time uses text and dialog to supplement his pictures. "East of Fifth" is an account of 24 hours in the life of a typical 14-story New York apartment house in a fairly fashionable section.

WINS PRIZE—Joseph George Hitrec, winner of the \$10,000 Harper Prize Novel Award for his first novel, "Son of the Moon," which Harper will publish March 10. It is a story of modern India.



"HISTORIC FLORIDA"—Part of the 16th Century Castillo de San Marcos in St. Augustine, one of the 138 illustrations in "Florida: A Photographic Journey," by H. W. Hannau. (New York, Hastings House, \$3.50)

Contents Use of Hypnotism To Remedy Shock Is Proved

"HYPNOTISM COMES OF AGE." By Bernard Wolfe and Raymond Rosenthal. Indianapolis, Bobbs-Merrill, \$3.

ONE OF the methods used during the war to remedy shock and combat-fatigue was hypnotism. Men who had been trapped in sinking ships, who had been shelled for days by planes and artillery, or who had crashed in planes themselves, often became victims of neurotic collapse.

To speed up the remedies provided by psychoanalysis, psychiatrists applied hypnotism. The authors are especially interested in the word of Dr. Lawrence Kubie, the Menninger clinic of Topeka, Kas., the work of Dr. Milton H. Erickson of Michigan and of Dr. S. Margolin and place much emphasis on the books "Men Under Stress" by Roy R. Grinker and John P. Spiegel, and "Hypnoanalysis," by Dr. Lewis Wolberg.

ALTHOUGH THE subject is still controversial, the two authors of "Hypnotism Comes of Age," Bernard Wolfe and Raymond Rosenthal, contend that its usefulness has been proved. Both studied the application of hypnotism at the front, where Mr. Wolfe was a correspondent for a scientific journal and Mr. Rosenthal an inmate of hospitals in Italy and North Africa.

They declare that many doctors gave up the hypnotic method after the war, but argue that "all kinds of psychological difficulties are susceptible of successful treatment by hypnotism."

"WHAT IS perhaps the unique feature of hypnotic treatment," they write, "is the swiftness with which significant facts are unearthed, and the relative rapidity with which cures often take place. Neurosis and psychosis, psychosomatic disturbances, hysteria and amnesia, all may be cured by the new technique."

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THE OBJECT of analysis of a neurotic case is to release the suppressed memory, bring it to the surface of consciousness, and thus remove the anxiety that deranges the normal life of the patient. Psychoanalysis, according to the Freudian technique, is the matter of slow questioning by the doctor. In using hypnotism the doctor applies a drug that soothes the patient and "reinforces his ego." That is, he will fight down the memory that plagues him.

THE AUTHORS explain hypnotism in great detail, telling what happens during hypnosis, what the patient is susceptible to and what the after-effects are. The writing is unsensational and the authors frequently cite their authorities.

They warn that "a neurosis which is the end result of many years of conditioning and habit cannot be uprooted in a few hypnoanalytic sessions." There is no short cut to a complete cure—H. H.

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Pretty as a Picture
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—For Anniversaries...
—For Every Occasion!
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