

BOOK REVIEWS

PREJUDICES MAR PLAYS

By RAYMOND GIRARDIN
In the Valley and other Carolina Plays. By Paul Green. Samuel French.

drawn by an understanding artist, of the emotions of simple people. I should say the most "important" play in the volume is "In the Valley." Here are two men, each being human, call the beast. The other's love is of what we consider a finer quality. They are arrested for fighting and made to work on a road gang. Sterling, the more civilized of the two, falls exhausted, is beaten by white guards, turns on them and is shot to death. All of a fine life is ended by a swing with a run. If you care for effects, I suggest you read this play—even if you skip the "others" in the volume—although what I say about propaganda is more apparent here than anywhere else.

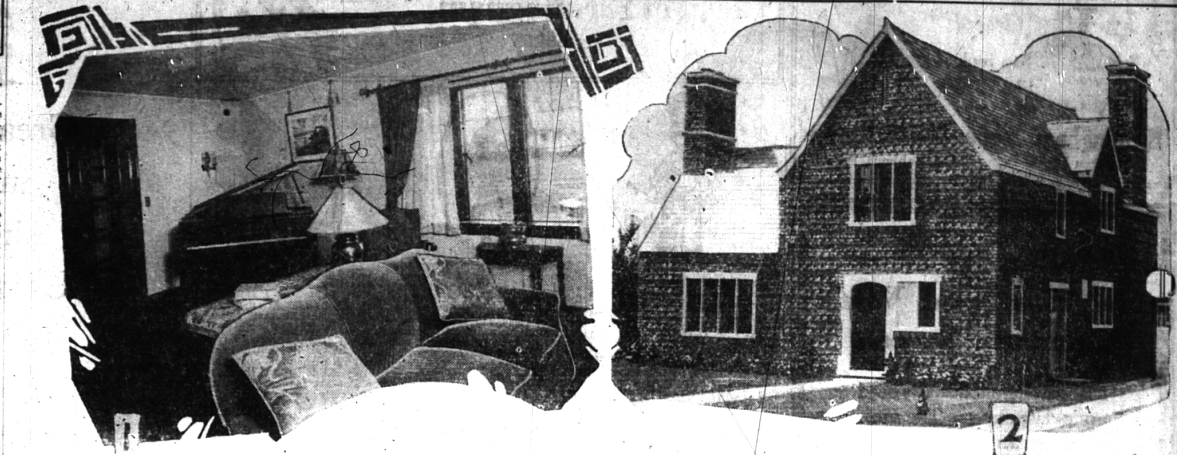
LAUDER TAKES AUTHOR'S ROLE

By DOROTHY E. WILLIAMS
Roamin' in the Gloamin', by Sir Harry Lauder. J. B. Lippincott Company.

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"BIRMINGHAM," NEW MODEL HOME, OPENED



(1) The living room in the Birmingham combines beauty with comfort. "Birmingham" is the name given to one of the four prize winners in the Detroit Free Press competition which was opened to the public Sept. 30. It is located in Pembroke manor, a suburban development of the John Ward Howland, Inc., builders, at Coolidge Highway and East Maple road. The prize design was furnished by David D. Demmy, of Harrisburg, Pa., who was awarded a \$500 prize in an Architectural competition conducted last year by the Free Press.

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PORTRAIT OF A BRAVE MAN

By MARGERY FULLEYLOVE
The Life of Sir Martin Frobieher, by William McFee (Harper Bros.).
Ducats . . . Dons . . . Gallions . . .
West Passage! What magic and romance such words suggest! Fragments of history, scraps of old letters, incomprehensible sea-charts—all have been cunningly pieced together to form a picture of English life in the days of Queen Bess, with, as a central figure, that supreme English sailor, Sir Martin Frobieher, the founder of Britain's supremacy on the High Seas. What an inspiring biographer! To raise from the dust of centuries this harsh and swaggering Yorkshireman, ruddy from his gallop of posse bears, which, with two pounds of beefe and one of breade comprised the daily ration of a seaman. Martin Frobieher, Frobieher, of Furbisher, was born in 1538 of sturdy yeoman stock. His education was crude, for since Henry VIII had sacked the monasteries schooling hardly existed, save the privileged. At 15 he was glad, like many another boy, to forsake the drudgery that rural life must then have been. Orphaned and penniless, he shipped on a merchant vessel, and so began an adventurous career in which honor jostled with disgrace. It was 60 years since Columbus had discovered America, and many seas were still uncharted. The Mediterranean was opening to Brazil, and the world was lively between such ports as Venice, Constantinople and Genoa. In 1520, Martin Frobieher, a young man round South America, and simple logic argued for a northern route to China. The difficulty had been with the dependence of shipping upon trade winds. In 1539, however, Fletcher of Rye, Henry VIII's shipbuilder, invented the fore and aft rig, making it possible to tack against the wind. This was a step forward of the utmost importance. In England, at this time, the economic conditions were wretched. Unemployment was general, owing to farms being closed down in favor of sheep raising for wool. The more enterprising sought the coast, where they enlisted in a merchant service which was little more than a free-for-all system of piracy. The purchasing power of money was low, on account of the influx of gold from South America. Spain sprawled insolently across three continents, gorged with gold and rotting with it. England's increasing uneasiness was deepened by Mary's intention of marrying Philip. Enemies were all around. Scotland was allied with France, Cornwall and Wales spoke foreign tongues, Ireland was a land of savages. But trading at sea went on among all these quarrelling folk and, human nature being the same as it is today, eyes were closed devoutly to what could not be stopped and ill-gotten goods were readily sold. For ten years little is known of Frobieher, except that in his wanderings as a mariner, master and freebooter, he was no exception to his fellows in the indulgence of these unethical practices. He had once heard, too, much enkindling talk of the elusive

path to Cathay, and burned with fierce ambition. But explorations are costly, and there was no Geographical Society or wealthy newspaper to finance such an undertaking. Moreover, Frobieher was too unlettered to go to court, where lay his only hope. He stuck to his unruly way of life, until at length his habit of robbing Spanish treasure ships caused such "friction" with Spain that he was summoned to London to give an account of himself. Queen Elizabeth was a remarkably astute woman, with a discernment of men who could be of use to her. She saw in Frobieher one of such, so with a hasty pardon she packed him off to Ireland, that grave of reputations, to assist Raleigh, Gilbert and Sidney in their attempts to control the wild inhabitants. However, primitive methods of terrorism, in which massacres alternated with wheel-sturdily yeoman stock. His education was crude, for since Henry VIII had sacked the monasteries schooling hardly existed, save the privileged. At 15 he was glad, like many another boy, to forsake the drudgery that rural life must then have been. Orphaned and penniless, he shipped on a merchant vessel, and so began an adventurous career in which honor jostled with disgrace. It was 60 years since Columbus had discovered America, and many seas were still uncharted. The Mediterranean was opening to Brazil, and the world was lively between such ports as Venice, Constantinople and Genoa. In 1520, Martin Frobieher, a young man round South America, and simple logic argued for a northern route to China. The difficulty had been with the dependence of shipping upon trade winds. In 1539, however, Fletcher of Rye, Henry VIII's shipbuilder, invented the fore and aft rig, making it possible to tack against the wind. This was a step forward of the utmost importance. In England, at this time, the economic conditions were wretched. Unemployment was general, owing to farms being closed down in favor of sheep raising for wool. The more enterprising sought the coast, where they enlisted in a merchant service which was little more than a free-for-all system of piracy. The purchasing power of money was low, on account of the influx of gold from South America. Spain sprawled insolently across three continents, gorged with gold and rotting with it. England's increasing uneasiness was deepened by Mary's intention of marrying Philip. Enemies were all around. Scotland was allied with France, Cornwall and Wales spoke foreign tongues, Ireland was a land of savages. But trading at sea went on among all these quarrelling folk and, human nature being the same as it is today, eyes were closed devoutly to what could not be stopped and ill-gotten goods were readily sold. For ten years little is known of Frobieher, except that in his wanderings as a mariner, master and freebooter, he was no exception to his fellows in the indulgence of these unethical practices. He had once heard, too, much enkindling talk of the elusive

BOOK NOTES
Gothie: the history of a man, by Emil Ludwig. Putnam, 1928. As the title implies this is more the story of Gothie, the man than Gothie, the poet. Guyford of Wear by Jeffery Farnol. Little, 1928. The early seventeenth century furnish the background for this picturesque tale of love and adventure.

LIBRARY OBTAINS BOOKS FOR STUDY

Autumn days and longer evenings bring the desire and opportunity for reading. Many people are no longer willing to read purely for relaxation and amusement, the spirit of adult education is in the air. But what to read that is worthwhile? Not textbooks and lessons but something that will be a pleasure and yet leave one a little wiser or a little better informed. The Baldwin Library is answering this question by having on in Everyday Life, by Wilfred Grenfell, The Europe of Our Day with a Purpose, Each book is written by an expert in his profession as an introduction to his subject. He then lists from six to eight books which he considers most useful and gives enough of a summary to acquaint the reader with the author and his aim in writing the book. There is a range of nearly 50 subjects and the Baldwin Library has put 10 on the shelves to learn laundries in England and the desires of its patrons in their place collars free when they are worn out. The customer starts with Pictures, by Henry Turner Bailey; a dozen collars and when one is Physical Science, by Edwin E. Slosson; Psychology and Its Use, merely writes "replace" on it as by Everett Dean Martin; Religion a few new one is substituted.

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