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# BOOK REVIEWS

## SANDBURG AT HIS GREATEST

By RAYMOND GIRARDIN  
*Good Morning America.* Carl Sandburg. Harcourt, Brace & Company.

Carl Sandburg has done it. He has written, I believe, the outstanding American poem. It is *Good Morning America*, the title poem in his first book of poetry since 1922.

It has been a long time to wait, but here you have it. . . . The poem that tells more of America, in its every phase, than any other written—even by Sandburg.

Here is the song of skyscrapers and moors of soft blue and white; of prairie fields and summer roses; of man, the maker of speed, who writes "In God We Trust" on the leather knickered pioneers headed in saddle for Boston, for Richmond; of the leather lunged train callers shouting the departure of the trans-Atlantic airplanes.

Here is the song of the land with never a false note.

Sandburg has given many indications before that he would write such a poem; in fact he has written some of it previously. But what if he has? What if he repeats here everything he ever said? It all fits into the story, into the song.

It is the birth and the life of a land ever reaching to break records. A beautiful, majestic tragic existence of order and chaos, peace and unrest, conviction and uncertainty.

It strikes me that a slightly changed Sandburg writes the remainder of the poems in the book. He is a rather aged and serene Sandburg, from what he was in his earlier books of poetry. The cities and their brutality are passed over in favor of the color of the moon and the shades of a spring fancy. There is nothing aside from the title poem, that has the vigor, the more mundane intensity of say, Chicago, or the rebellion of the Mayor of Gary.

Rather is he gone the Sandburg who wrote the *Four* and the poems under *Playthings of the Wind*.

But his work is of a better quality. I know of no finer combination of words that have been made in America than may be found in these verses. They are the most delicate of colorings, the most harmonious of sounds.

The book is almost a complete Sandburg. It contains about all he has given literature. It is Sandburg at his philosophic and artistic best which is so rare a perfection that one need go little farther.

Odd McIntyre tells a new stenographer story. A stenographer in a large New York office was missing and a search failed to find her. The bright office boy inquired: "Has anyone thought of looking on the boss's knee?"

Al Meyer of Madison, Wis., was arrested for carrying a cat to a height of 1,500 feet in an airplane and dropping it to see if it would alight on its feet and live. It didn't.

### LEGAL NOTICES

ORDER MODIFYING AN ORDER ISSUED ON THE SIXTH DAY OF JULY, 1927, BY AUTHORITY OF ACT 239, P. A. 1927, MAKING A CLOSED SEASON ON MUSKRATS IN THE STATE UNTIL MARCH 1st, 1928.

STATE OF MICHIGAN, COUNTY OF INGHAM.—  
An order, was issued by the Conservation Commission on the sixth day of July, 1927, making it unlawful to trap, hunt, take, or kill, or attempt to trap, hunt, take, or kill any muskrats until the first day of March, 1928.

WHEREFORE, the Conservation Commission, by authority of Act 239, P. A. 1927, hereby orders that from November 15th, 1928, to December 15th, 1928, both inclusive, it shall be lawful to trap muskrats and further that it shall be unlawful to take, hunt, or kill muskrats and after December 15th, 1928, to November 15th, 1929, inclusive, under penalties provided by Section 2 of Act 239 of the Public Acts of 1927.

Signed, sealed and ordered published this thirty-first day of July, 1928.  
GEORGE E. HOGARTH,  
Director, Department of Conservation.

Conservation Commission by:  
WILLIAM E. LOUITT,  
Active Chairman,  
RAY E. COTTON,  
Secretary.

ORDER ISSUED BY AUTHORITY OF ACT 239 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1927, MAKING A CLOSED SEASON ON PARTRIDGE (RUFFED GROUND) AND PRairie CHICKEN (SPINNAED GROUSE) IN THE STATE FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR FROM OCTOBER 25, 1928.

WHEREFORE, the Conservation Commission, having made a thorough investigation of conditions and after to partridge (ruffed ground) and prairie chicken (spinnated grouse) in the State, recommends a closed season.

WHEREFORE, the Conservation Commission, by authority of Act 239 of the Public Acts of 1927, hereby orders that for a period of one year from the twenty-fifth day of October, 1928, it shall be unlawful for any person to hunt, take, or kill, or attempt to hunt, take, or kill, any partridge (ruffed ground) and prairie chicken (spinnated grouse) in the State of Michigan under penalties provided by Section 2 of Act 239 of the Public Acts of 1927.

Signed, sealed, and ordered published this 21st day of July, 1928.  
GEORGE E. HOGARTH,  
Director, Department of Conservation.

Conservation Commission by:  
WILLIAM E. LOUITT,  
Active Chairman,  
RAY E. COTTON,  
Secretary.

## HUXLEY SHOWS BITTER TREND

By DOROTHY E. WILLIAMS  
*Point Counter Point.* Aldous Huxley. The Literary Guild, of America.

Carl Van Doren has described Huxley's most recent book as "an amazing panorama of contemporary life." He presents conditions in a social world and leaves them for the reader to study. His manner is ironical as he sits back and watches the tangled lives of his characters.

The story deals with Walter Bidlake and his affairs with two women. A shy, cultured person moves with stupid simplicity through a group of salon-frequenters. There is the conventional siren offsetting the spiritual mental person who loves Bidlake devotedly. From the two sides of his hero's nature Huxley derives his title, but these warring elements are present throughout the book, lined by action after action.

Huxley views it all from a superior angle. At times he enters the complications in his characters' lives but more often he is

scornful of their sham and artificiality. Often his true effect is lost in verbosity, however. There is a cunning in his manner of creating characters and surrounding them with situations. He intends that the reader shall speculate and unconsciously shall weigh the problems of an existing social order. The treatment of the plot is baffling, the character of Walter alone, remaining simple. Huxley is revolting against the world and has disguised his revolt in a multitude of characters. Often his irony is too obvious. It comes too suddenly into some wercy conversation, clipping it short.

The sentence, "Of such is the Kingdom of God," which closes a paragraph telling of the antics of two adults, who in their search for pleasure become maudlin children, summarizes his ironic attitude. He throws up his hands and turns away from a world where so-called intelligent persons wallow in artificiality, but does not require that we too turn away. He merely suggests it.

### BOOK NOTES

A lantern in her hand by Bess Streeter Aldrich. Appleton, 1928. Pioneer life but the happier side emphasized.

Testimony of eye-witnesses to a crime has again been found unreliable. James Sweeney of New York was convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment for complicity in a double murder and mail robbery, when two witnesses "identified" him as being one of the men superior angle. At times he enters the complications in his characters' lives but more often he is

### WE HEARD IT SAID BY—

Walter Y. Stanley, of Chester, Pa. "Perhaps never in the history of the United States has any generation had so able and fitting a candidate for the office of President as exists in the person of Herbert E. Hoover. It speaks well for the progress of Republican politics that this party has selected a man of Hoover's caliber to be its standard bearer Nov. 6. And, it seems to me, the Democrats have made a very unwise move, from a party standpoint, in choosing Alfred E. Smith to lead them."

# Good Earth

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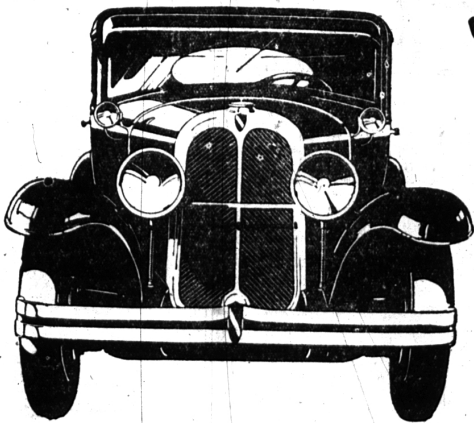
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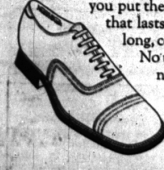
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