

BOOK REVIEWS

By SALLY KNOX

THE YOUNG IDEA, by Frank Swinnerton; Doubleday, Doran, and Co. "The Young Idea" by Frank Swinnerton is not exactly a new book. The ink from the author's pen on the manuscript could hardly be called dry, since it was first published in England in 1910. But it is new at least to America and was published for the first time in this country by Doubleday Doran and Co., this winter.

One wonders why its publication in America was delayed so long, since it is a thoroughly charming book, containing excellent character analysis. The heroine, Hilda Verren, is a young clerk in a London office, who strives earnestly and honestly for beauty and contentment; but looks for a long time before she finds them through her engagement to Eric Galbraith. Her romance is a quiet sort of affair. There is no violence and no passion in her relations with her fiancé. But, there is affection, and tenderness, and respect, and a sort of good humored camaraderie.

Swinnerton's characters are very appealing; and although they run to types, they are original types with Swinnerton. The style, too, is simple and unassuming, like his heroes and heroines. It is not lacking in humor; and his presentation of Cockney characters, who are intensely serious, but unconsciously form a delightful relief from the other-

wise aesthetic atmosphere. "I was telling me mother . . . Todberry went on. 'But you and ye sister, Erum . . . Erum . . . What I mean to say . . . He did not know how to say that his niece—being worked upon by his evident disquiet—' call upon Gladys if the girl wished, or if she was agreeable. 'You know, I feel so stooped, talking to you . . . You're such a lady.'"

"Don't be absurd," said Gladys. She was getting rather sleepy, and had not the faintest idea of what he meant. She would be rejoiced when they came in sight of Culvern Terrace.

"Well, you know . . . I've had no education and I feel sort of, no class talkin' to you," he continued. "Then that you're . . . you know, you're not the sort of girl to tell a fellow he's a fool . . . but I've tried hard to be a . . . to go straight."

"I do wish you wouldn't," cried Gladys, in sudden pity. She heard the quiver in his voice, and the long trailing rattle of the faded lime trees set in the garden down the road. Above the clouds she looked swiftly across a sickly moon; while along the wet pavement, uneven and broken, the light of the dim lamps seemed suddenly to grow into an indistinct haze. She hated herself, for being so cowardly, and was sorry for him, and angry with him upon the same impulse. It seemed such a wanton, unnecessary misunderstanding; and her own part in it

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This is the second of a series of courtesy of Mrs. George T. Henn, maritime data supplied for villagers interested in the London Naval Conference and world peace in general, through the

crisis in the South seas in a yacht. They set her down in England and from that moment drop out of her life and the book.

His characters live and strive in a humdrum environment, of which they are only partially conscious. If they were entirely so, there would be no book, for they would lose hope and love of life. But they do see a little bit of the serenity of their existence, and they strive to rise above it. And the very fact of their striving puts them above it, and makes them the lovable people that they are.

KINGDOM LOST, by Patricia Wentworth, J. B. Lippincott, Co.—A more complete piece of nonsense, than Kingdom Lost, by Patricia Wentworth, probably has never been written. The situation, which promises novelty at first, becomes absurd. The characters are either unconvincing or uninteresting, and the denouement is the usual happy ending. The story concerns a girl named Valentine Riven, brought up from infancy on a desert island by an old Oxford professor. When she is 20 years old, she is rescued by a pair of Englishmen who are

the period of engagement is short but it is long enough for a growing distaste of Eustace to carry her to the verge of hysteria and ill-health. On the eve of her wedding day, as it were, she remembers a letter given her by the professor before he died, which she had promised she would not open until things had become so bad that they could not be any worse. Deciding that that moment had arrived, she opens the missive and is informed that she is not Valentine Riven.

Glad She's Poor
She rejoices because she is now penniless and will not have to marry Eustace. Eustace and his mother, however, have different feelings—they would not have the word say that Eustace broke his engagement because she lost her money. Plans for the wedding proceed. Valentine, on the morning of her marriage, runs away, much to the embarrassment of the family, the wedding must be cancelled. That evening, she comes to the house of Eustace's cousin, who has always loved her, but kept himself in the background. By comparison with Eustace, he is quite charming and quite human. The two of them are married quietly, and expect to live happily ever after.

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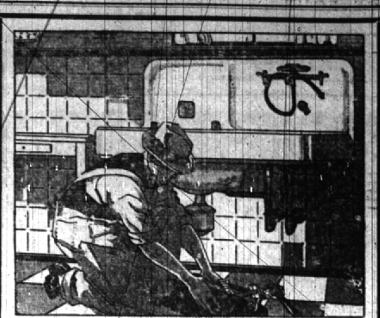
MRS. WILKINSON WILL LECTURE ON SONGS AT THE THURSDAY MUSICALS

The March meeting of the Thursday Musicals will be held at the Baldwin Public Library, Mar. 13 at 10 a. m. Mrs. Bertha Eckhardt of the Cranbrook School will give a talk on folk songs and art songs. She will discuss the origin and meaning of folk songs, legends, frontier ballads, mountain songs, and songs of the family circle and fire side. Art songs, their characteristics and composers also will be discussed.

To illustrate this talk, Mrs. Marie White Clark will sing two groups of art and folk songs. Her program includes two folk songs of Little Russia arranged by Zimbalist; two twentieth century French songs by Weckerlin, "Il Neige" by Bamberg, "Flame by Horace Johnson, "Rondel of the Spring" by Bibb, and "Little Song" by Voorhees.

Mrs. Leslie Lamborn will sing "Mad Scene and Aria" from Hamlet by Thomas, Mrs. Gail Fairchild Bangs will be the accompanist. Current events will be discussed by Mrs. Clayton Kennedy. The hostesses will be Mrs. Milton Coulson, Mrs. John Wheat, Mrs. James Oliver and Mrs. H. G. Wood. Mrs. Bangs will act as chairman of the day.

ENTERTAIN ROTARY ANNS
The Rotary Anns, at their next luncheon meeting on Monday, Mar. 10, will be entertained by members of the Thursday Musicals at the Baldwin Public Library. Mrs. Ralph Hetrick will give a group of songs, accompanied by Mrs. Edgar Bailey. Mrs. F. W. Boynton will play two piano numbers and Mrs. George Dweley will



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