



## and REVIEWS

### Love And Conflict

By Gibson Winter, 191 pp. New York, Doubleday & Co., Inc. \$3.50.  
Reviewed by Josephine Mason

"Then the Lord God said... 'It is not good that man should be alone. I will make a helper fit for him.'" (Genesis 2:18).

Thus God created the first family who endured many trials, as have most families since the beginning of time.

Problems of the modern family, U. S. style, are analyzed in "Love and Conflict" by Gibson Winter, sociologist and minister of the Protestant Episcopal church. According to Winter our society appears to be filled with lonely souls

searching for love and intimacy but frustrated by the colossus of modern industry, crowded living, and the rat race for material possessions.

FATHER, writes the author, is a shrinking man, dwarfed and de-personalized by the cold efficiency of the machine age. Once father was head of his household, and children listened when he voiced a command. Today, father has abdicated, depleted by the business of making a living.

Most young families live in

cramped homes, which limits both privacy and the number of relationships, because there is little space for visiting aunts, uncles or grandparents. Yet, according to Winter, a variety of relationships helps a child mature, and his inner circle should not be confined to parents or mother.

This overly intimate home, writes Mr. Winter, results from too few personal relationships in work and community. In fact, he says, the word "friend" means little today. We may belong to clubs, committees, lodges and fraternities, be on a first name basis with a hundred people but not have one friend.

Thus Winter sees the concentration of relationships within the home which causes conflict, tension, juve-

nile delinquency and sometimes the divorce court.

OUR SOCIO-ECONOMIC system is the villain, Winter says. It has weakened our capacity for real friendship but sharpened our hunger for the intimacy we seem to desire.

Though Winter states the problems forcefully, his remedies incline to be shadowy. He suggests that young couples learn to accept each other, to consult their pastors or a marriage counselor, put their trust in God rather than material possessions. Father should make a zealous effort to regain his status as head of the family.

In addition the author feels that church sponsored, of parents, ministers and teachers, could go a long way toward combating delinquency if it functioned as a community group without multi-racial or religious barriers, he suggests.

"Love and Conflict" is a sympathetic analysis of family life today, pressured by over-organization and over-activity. The author suggests that parents may not be overly concerned or tangible, it is a thoughtful book dealing intelligently with very real human problems.

Man Off Beat By David Hughes, 153 pp. New York, Reynal & Co., Inc. \$3.50.  
Reviewed by Margaret Moran

"Man Off Beat" is a first novel with much to recommend it. Written by a young Englishman, it is an unusual book, restrained and unassuming in its style. The action takes place in a tiny Welsh hamlet called Wender, to which William Gunnar has been banished as a cure for a nervous breakdown brought on by London advertising life.

As if to emphasize the dullness of the town, the author brings only three more characters into the story: the proprietress of the bus-

ness and social situations. Now, passing so much area that the reader can be spoiled-free basic chess.

Thus, your reviewer recommends this book mainly to those who are bored in their ambition to improve their game.

After working with the book for the last three weeks, your reviewer can only wish, for the sake of the novice, that Korn could find time to write a beginner's text also.

Modern Chess Openings By Walter Korn, 353 pp. New York, Pitman Publishing Co., Inc. \$4.95.  
Reviewed by Frederick G. Bahr

About the game to want to be able to beat someone beside his wife and six-year-old child, your reviewer has read four chess categories, King's pawn, queen's pawn, irregular and Italian, and among the main variations of every opening which, by the consensus of modern masters, shows any sort of promise whatsoever.

ALTHOUGH each line-and-variant is foot-noted, indexed and commented upon to an astonishingly complete degree, it is an impossibility in a publication econo-

Smile-A-Minute He—I was up at the zoo yesterday watching the monkeys, it was very amusing.

She:—It must have been—the monkeys.

### A Glass Rose

By Richard Bankowsky, 308 pp. New York, Random House, \$3.75.  
Reviewed by Robin Bahr

This is an unusually good first novel by a young writer. The story concerns the ill-fated family of Stanislaw Machek—a Polish immigrant who brought his young bride to this country settling in a New Jersey mill town.

The book opens and closes in the course of a seven-day wake which follows Stanislaw's death. The family is gathered at the funeral parlor awaiting the arrival of one of the daughters, Stella.

The powerful sweet smell of the flowers and the steady, monotonous drone of the rosary prayers pay due tribute to the dead man. But, within the privacy of their own minds, each member of the family silently reviews his relationship to Stanislaw, revealing his true reaction to the death.

THUS, the reader meets each character with his soul laid bare. And, by means of these interior monologues, the reader pieces together the tragedy that has shattered a once-happy family. Bit by bit the mystery of where is Stella, and what happened that fateful night she left home, is unraveled.

There was a time when the Macheks were happy. Stanislaw worked hard and became foreman at the factory. His wife produced four daughters—not yet his longed-for son, but there was still time for that. In the meantime, Stanislaw enjoyed his magnificent flower garden where each Sunday the aunts and uncles gathered to sing and drink and reminisce.

He even carried a fresh flower in his lunch pail each day, so much did he love his garden.

HOWEVER, the obsession for a son grew. When Rozalia gave birth to twins, the son died, only the daughter Stella lived. Stanislaw interpreted this to be a fulfillment of his father's curse that he, Stanislaw, would some day be punished for deserting his father.

On top of this, a strike broke out at the factory after which Stanislaw lost his job as foreman. The combination of the two events filled him with such bitterness and disappointment that he turned soon after, to drink, ravished his daughter in the sight of his wife.

The construction of the story is particularly well handled. Each chapter begins with a line from one of the rosary prayers mechanically recited by a member of the family. The ruminations that follow are even more shocking by contrast to the recurring spiritual keynote.

THIS SHIFTING perspective affords the reader an intimacy with each character that would be impossible with only one story teller. Each personality is convincing as revealed through his mental ramblings—from the retarded but loving Eva to the incredibly greedy, lecherous Uncle Pjotr.

The only weakness in the book might be in the justification for Stanislaw's disintegration. It just didn't seem adequate that an unfulfilled longing for a son, and a loss of job could so derange a father that he could violate his daughter.

However, the telling of the story, and the revelation of the character make the book an outstanding first for a new author.

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