

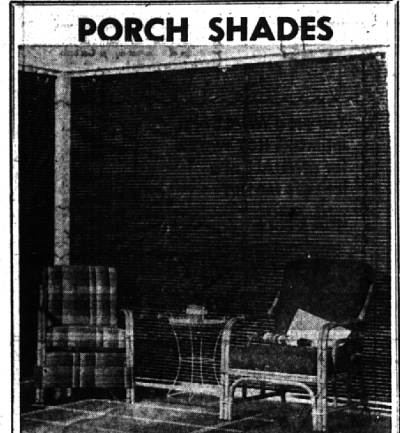
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BOOKS and REVIEWS

The Roots Of Heaven
By Romain Gary. 372 pp. New York. Simon & Schuster. \$4.50.
Reviewed by ANN JACOBS

Romain Gary has written a tale of men, elephants and liberty with the giant backdrop of Africa bestowing and retaining its own mystery and timelessness. "The Roots of Heaven" are all the living roots planted in this earth and in the soul of man by God; and Morel, the hero of this book (or one of them), has appointed himself champion of these threatened roots. During his prolonged stay in Nazi prison camps in World War II when the vision of great clumsy elephants running wild and free through Africa has him from despair, the Frenchman, Morel, decided that this freedom was something that must never be sacrificed to man's drive for progress.

THE BOOK tells of Morel's rise from impotent petitioner to legendary hero whose ideals draw thousands of sympathizers to his cause. Of course, something more than elephants is at stake here—what Morel's critics try to pass off

LEGAL NOTICES
CITY OF BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN
NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS
COLE AVENUE PAVEMENT
The City Commission of the City of Birmingham will meet Monday, May 26, 1958, at 9:00 p.m. in the Commission Room of the Municipal Building to consider any objections to the construction of certain improvements described herein; and to the creation of a special assessment district to defray the cost of construction of an improvement to be hereafter known as:

COLE AVENUE PAVEMENT
consisting of construction of a 24 ft. 9" x 7" reinforced concrete pavement with integral curb in Cole Avenue east of Eton Road extending easterly from the existing concrete pavement which point is approximately 610 ft. each of the existing concrete pavement to a distance of approximately 669 ft. to the westerly line of A. P. 228-B Sub-division.
The Commission proposes to create a special assessment district to defray the cost of this construction and said special assessment district shall consist of the following described property:
Assessor's Plat No. 24-B
Lots 3 - 5, inclusive
There are no detailed plans or estimates of cost on this project available, and individual assessments will not be computed until after such estimates have been prepared. They will be computed by the Assessor after May 28, 1958, if the necessity for this improvement is established by the Commission, and there will be another public hearing scheduled for the purpose of reviewing the assessments.

IRENE E. HANLEY
City Clerk 10
MAY 15, 1958

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN
NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS
COLE AVENUE SEWER
The City Commission of the City of Birmingham will meet Monday, May 26, 1958, at 9:00 p.m. in the Commission Room of the Municipal Building to consider any objections to the construction of certain improvements described herein; and to the creation of a special assessment district to defray the cost of construction of an improvement to be hereafter known as:

COLE AVENUE SEWER
consisting of construction and installation of a 12" combined sewer in Cole Avenue east of Eton Road, extending easterly approximately 300 feet from end of the existing 18" inch sewer which presently terminates at approximately the westerly line of Lot 27, Assessor's Plat No. 24-B.
The Commission proposes to create a special assessment district to defray the cost of this construction and said special assessment district shall consist of the following described property:
Assessor's Plat No. 24-B
Lots 3 - 5, inclusive
There are no detailed plans or estimates of cost on this project available, and individual assessments will not be computed until after such estimates have been prepared. They will be computed by the Assessor after May 28, 1958, if the necessity for this improvement is established by the Commission, and there will be another public hearing scheduled for the purpose of reviewing the assessments.

IRENE E. HANLEY
City Clerk 10, 11
MAY 15, 1958

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one of India's congressmen. Nodding a low caste sweeper to remove the dust from his train cushion. Mr. Lal said, "Americans are rich but they are very naive. India is not interested in material things but in spiritual truths." Mr. Lal, we find, is the wealthy manufacturer of a "rare sovereign specific for all human ills. Buy Lal's famous remedy (patented)."

The Travels of Jaimie McPheeters
By Robert Lewis Taylor. 635 pp. New York. Doubleday. \$4.50.
Reviewed by FRED BAHR

In preparation for this book, Robert Taylor thoroughly researched life in the United States during the mid-nineteenth century. Combining this scholarship with an exceptionally fine sense of humor and a flair for the dramatic, he has produced a very fine historical novel. Sardinus McPheeters MD. of Louisville, Ky., is blessed with intelligence, humor and love of his fellow men. He is also the most impractical human being that ever lived, he leaves Louisville, one jump ahead of his creditors, for the California gold fields—the latest estimation of the whereabout of the rainbow's pot. Sardinus and his precocious and sensible son, Jaimie, join a wagon train in St. Louis, traverse the prairies and mountains, and end up on the coast. The story ranges from the gruesome to the height of the ridiculous. Indians capture the assistant wagon train leader who, in cold blood, has gunned down a squaw and her child. In reprisal, the killer is staked out within view of the wagon train and skinned alive.

THIS BOOK is an expert report bringing everything into perspective and shedding a good deal of needed light on India's puzzling behavior in foreign affairs. Like the young Nehru is a mixture of idealism, naivete, and inconsistency. At the end of the book the author quotes Nehru—"We are small men living in a big country?"

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THE OVER-RIDING impression is one of incredible confusion in a country about as capable of meeting these problems as an infant thrown into a 100-yard dash before it has learned to crawl. Many have written before of India's poverty, child marriage, caste system, disease, frightening birth and death rates. They are no less shocking here; but what is new and just as disturbing is the description of India's inconsistent political attitudes, particularly to:

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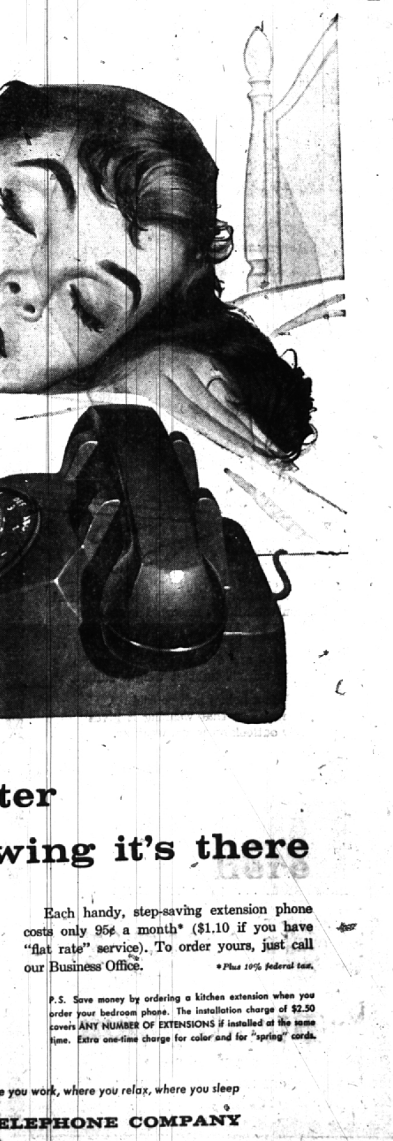
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