

## and REVIEWS

### Tenderloin

By Samuel Hopkins Adams. 372pp. New York. Random House.

Reviewed by  
ROBIN BAHR

This is a story of New York back in the wild and wicked days of the 1890's. Then corruption under the protective eye of Tammany Hall, and society, under the thumb of Mrs. Steevens Parke, flourished lavishly, comfortably, and side by side in the Tenderloin—that choice area of the city at its wildest and most wicked.

Samuel Hopkins Adams was a reporter for the New York Sun at the turn of the century. His beat was the Tenderloin, and he obviously knew it and loved it well.

In this story he has brought back all the gaiety, the flavor, and the scandal of this colorful era in New York's history.

It is a stylized story. The characters, the dialogue, and the action are often sentimentalized and unreal. But it isn't intended to be very serious fiction. It is fun reading, and for those who never knew "the good old days"—a de-

lightful, if somewhat romanticized, bit of Americana.

THE STORY revolves around the vice crusade led by Dr. Brockholst Farr, the Rt. Rev. of the Presbyterian church, to clean up the city and most particularly, the Tenderloin. Citing facts on corruption within his beloved city (based on personal observation), Dr. Farr launches his campaign with a hell-raising sermon, disturbing but good the peace and tranquility of the Tenderloin.

Tommy Howatt is a cocky young hustler who, by hook and by crook, works his way up from candy vendor to reporter for the scandal-scrouring Police Gazette. Playing his cards right, Tommy enjoys all the pleasures and profits of one of the "ins" with the law. But beside his sporting life and murderous English, Tommy has a heart of gold and a glorious tenor voice.

Through his hero Dan Adriance, a smooth, sophisticated top-notch reporter for the New York Star

—he meets and falls in love with lovely young society girl Laurie Crosbie. He also becomes a close friend of Dr. Farr over the checker board.

TOMMY, who knows everything

about everyone becomes personally embroiled in the vice crusade after discovering the secret of Laurie's mysterious past and Dan Adriance's amor d'heart.

The plot thickens—the heroine appears doomed. But, just in time, the hero comes through! Good old-fashioned melodrama at its very best!

The book is now being adapted for a Broadway musical. It should make a wonderful show, if it retains even a bit of the flavor of the book.

### The Seesaw Log

By William Gibson. 273 pp. New York. Alfred A. Knopf. \$3.95

Reviewed by  
FRED MALLENDER II

As those who follow the New York theatre know, William Gibson's "Two for the Seesaw" was one of those happy surprise successes of a season ago. Starring Henry Fonda and Anne Bancroft, it garnered praise from all people connected with it.

Generally, a theatrical success is made into a motion picture, published, produced by local theatre groups and then forgotten, except in the playbills. Gibson has seen fit, however, to add to this published edition of his play a long preface concerning labor pains of a Broadway production.

As "Two for the Seesaw" was Gibson's maiden effort at writing for the Broadway stage, "The Seesaw Log" is of particular interest to those who want to write a play. However, anyone interested in the theatre will find it a fascinating recounting of the trials and tribulations from inception of an idea to the Broadway opening night.

THE PICTURE Gibson draws is not that usually shown by Holly-

wood. He had to learn that comedy was necessary. He never was happy with Henry Fonda in the lead part, and felt that his rewriting for Fonda warped the play. On the other hand, he has insisted that Miss Bancroft, a relative unknown, be allowed to co-star, a decision which proves eminently correct.

There is very little glamor in being a participant in a play production. From an author's viewpoint it is mainly late hours of rewriting, dingy hotel rooms and struggles to maintain creative integrity. The men who produce and direct must be super-diplomats or their creative participants would surely do away with one another.

"The Seesaw Log" chronicles all the events, both triumphs and fall outs. Well written, it is wonderful reading.

### A Room in Moscow

By Sally Belfrage. 186 pp. New York. Reynal & Company, Inc. \$3.50.

Reviewed by  
JULIE CANDLER

A vivacious young personality, intelligence and a sense of humor fairly ooze from the lines of "A Room in Moscow". Judging by the picture on the book's jacket, author Sally Belfrage has another engaging quality—she is an attractive, wholesome blond.

"A Room in Moscow" is not so much the story of Sally Belfrage's five-month stay in the Russian capital as the story of the Russian people.

The author devotes most of her short volume to describing the friends she met in Moscow, how and where they lived, ate, talked and thought. It makes good reading. The American-born daughter of

British parents, Sally Belfrage was living in London with her parents when she left for the Moscow Youth Festival. From there she joined the youth delegation that toured China. Back in Moscow, curiosity about the Russians led her to try for the impossible and get it—a job and a place to live there.

Sally Belfrage learned to love many of the qualities of the Russian people, to dislike many others. If more people could understand the Russians, she believes (a little realistically) we could all live in a better world.

### LEGAL NOTICE

Clarence Blomman, Atty. 207 Wabash Bldg., Birmingham

STATE OF MICHIGAN—The Probate Court for the County of Oakland, in the Matter of the Estate of MARTHA KIMBALL, Deceased.

At a session of said court, held at the Probate Court in the City of Pontiac, in said County, on the 25th day of March, A. D. 1959.

Present: Honorable Arthur E. Moore, Judge of Probate.

Order appointing time for hearing claims. Notice is hereby given and it is hereby ordered that the time and place for hearing on claims against the above estate shall be the 6th day of July 1959, at nine o'clock in the forenoon at the Probate Court in the Court House at the City of Pontiac, Michigan.

All creditors or claimants against the above estate are further notified and ordered to prove their claims at said hearing and prior to said hearing to file written claim therewith, with this Court and with the fiduciary of this estate, under oath, containing sufficient detail reasonably to inform the fiduciary of the nature and amount of their claim.

It is further ordered that notice be given to all interested parties as above by the records in this cause by delivering a copy of this order to each of them personally, or by mailing such copy to each of them by registered mail, with return receipt demanded addressed to their respective last known addresses as shown by the files and records in this cause.

And it is further ordered that public notice thereof be given by publication of a copy of this order once each week for three successive weeks previous to said day of hearing in the Birmingham Eccentric, a newspaper printed and circulated in said county.

ARTHUR E. MOORE,  
Judge of Probate.

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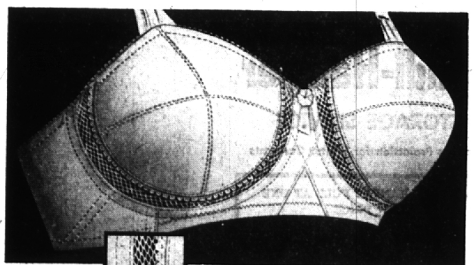
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