NOW AND THEN

CLAY HILLS

It is easy to mould the yielding clay.
And many shapes grow into beauty
Under the facile hand.
But forms of clay are lightly broken;
They will lie shattered and forgotten
in a dingy corner.

But underneath the slipping clay is rock.
I would rather work in stubborn rock
All the days of my life,
And make one strong thing
And set it in a high clean place,
To recall the granite of my desire.

Jean Starr Untermeyer.

Last week a sketch, of Michael Angelo was written in this column; that he desired to go down to posterity as a sculptor rather than a painter, foretelling that his works in stone would for out last his memory. It is truly so, for some of our finest statues, which seem almost to live and breathe were done by persons unknown. Who carved Venus de Milo; Apollo Belvedere and a numbers of other beautiful statues? Echo answers who? And so the above poet does not wish to be known by the work that is easy to do as modeling in clay, but wishes to work in rock, and make one strong thing.

OLD CHESTERTOWN DAY

Just to think, that Spring is here, and then comes May—May is a very important time in the Chestertown Library world for May 14, is scheduled as "Old Chestertown Day," the day when all the town's olden beauty will be opened to the public. Quite an event in the Literary world for the Women's Library Club is sponsoring it. Only a few weeks ago, the town was visited by the Benztown Bard, one who is well known and loved by all the readers of the Baltimore Sun. Well, he was impressed with the ancient beauty of the town, and wrote enthusiasticly of it in the sun. There is much to be proud of on the Eastern Shore, for it has retained so many of its old names and traditions. Every county on the shore is called by English names except "Wicomico" which has its name from the Indians. A tourist from Kent while visiting the Cathedral of Chester in England, told the verger there, that she was from Chestertown on the banks of the Chester River in the county of Kent that the parish in which she lived was Chester Parish. Of course he, with all the other tourists was duly impressed. Many old homes that were not opened last year will be available on this day, and it promises to be a most interesting occasion.

"AVOID FOREIGN ENTANGLEMENTS"

There is nothing more quoted than these words of the Father of our Country, just now, Many say that such a thing is impossible now, as all parts of the world are so easily reached, but it would be a good thing for our country to follow the example of little Holland. There she is right in the midst of the other nations, who are breathing out war. She is a law into herself even daring to snub Hitler. Holland is the richest country in the world, perhaps, for she owns the wonderfully rich island of the East Indies. Her council does not allow any meddling with her policy. Some time ago when the Princess Juliana overheard some one laughing at her sturdy legs, she said, "It is well for the columns of state to be good and strong." The Kaiser has an asylum in her midst, and she is undesturbed by wars and rumors of war.

The islands Borneo, Celebes, Java, and Sumatra, are called Queen Williminas Emeralds for they bring in such rich returns of Coffee, Spices and fruits of all kind. These islands are so well governed that Holland is not worried by rebellions nor dissensions.

Dollar Solicitors—The New Jersey Children's Home Society has devised a practically sure-fire method of obtaining funds for placing neglected children in foster homes. They send out a dollar bill with their solicitations. "Keep it if you want to," they suggest. "But remember that this dollar, and any dollars you care to return with it, go to help neglected children." And do the dollars return? Rather. To date 94 per cent of them have come back, bringing 33 per cent more. And that 33 per cent; does that bring returns to the donors? Well, the same law of recompense applies—the law of give: get.

While thousands of Americans will visit Washington for the annual cherry festival along hte Potomac, spring in France will be heightened by the blooming of the horse chestnut trees in Paris. There are more than 12,000 of these trees, according to Arthur Dobson, manager of the American Express Travel Service. Paris as a matter of fact is famous for its trees. It has nearly 85,000 of them along the edges of the pavement of its boulevards and avenues, and the city spends a goodly sum each year to keep them in fine condition.

Travelers to North Carolina this spring and summer are going to find it a pleasure to motor over this State's highways. Sharp cuts have been flattened and planted with grass and vines to prevent erosion, ragged and rough areas of barren soil along the right-of-way have been smoothed and planted to grass, and logs, stones, tin cans, stumps, and unsightly advertising signs have been removed from the roadsides.

HOSTESS: In a Tudor house just off Washington's Connecticut Avenue live Attorney General Cummings and his wife. Mrs. Cummings, a small woman with closely cropped hair, has declined to abide by the rules for capital hostesses. She has no social secretary, dislikes large dinners, invites her guests by personal notes that have a self-portrait sketched next to her signature. "All those do's and don'ts about Washington entertaining are a lot of hooey," Mrs. Cummings remarked last week. "Many a newscomer is made to feel that if she doesn't glue a butler behind every chair and serve humming birds' tails on toast people won't come to her parties."

As the wife of a Cabinet member, Mrs. Cummings must often act as an official hostess, but she is also her husband's adviser. She criticizes his speeches, reviews for him books that he would like to read were time available. The two have a common interest in the theatre, and Mrs. Cummings is a devotee of Wagner. Her principal purpose, she has said, even in a capital where demands on time are heavy and constant, is "making Homer Cummings happy."

REVIEW OF SOME OF THE BEST SELLERS

A careful check-up on the Best Sellers based upon the sales throughout the country is as follows:

Fiction

1. Action At Aquilla, Hervey Allen.
2. The Citadel, A. J. Cronin.
3. Joseph In Egypt, Thomas Mann.
4. Light Of Other Days, Elizabeth Corbett.
5. The Rains Came, Louis Bromfield
6. The Devil To Pay, Ellery Queen.
7. This Proud Heart, Pearl S. Buck.
8. Hearken Unto The Voice, Franz Werfel.
9. Ballade in G-Minor, Ethel Boileau.
10. Celia, E. H. Young.
11. Northwest Passage, Kenneth Roberts.
12. The Dark Rose, Maurice Walsh.
13. Dawn in Lyonesse, Mary E. Chase.
14. The Nutmeg Tree, Margery Sharp.
15. Marigold, Grace L. Hill.

Juveniles

1. The Story of Ferdinand, Munro Leaf.
2. Snow White and The Seven Dwarfs, Walt Disney.
3. Ezekial, Elvira Gardner.
4. Manners Can Be Fun, Munro Leaf.

Non-Fiction

1. The Importance of Living, Lin Yutang.
2. How To Win Friends, Dale Carnegie.
3. R. F. D. Charles A. Smart.
4. Madame Curie, Eve Curie.
5. Dry Guillotine, Rene Belbenoit.

The reversals of position are often tremendous. Last month "The Prodigal Parents" led all sales; this month it is not even among the top fifteen. Its place has been taken by "Action At Aquilla." The reviewers were received this book well if a little condescendingly. But they were condescending about "Citadel" too which evidently helped it if anything. "Joseph In Egypt" has been received with outbursts of enthusiasm having been hailed as the best novel of the age. The surprise book on the list is "Celia". It is the first book by E. H. Young to make the Best Seller list. It has not even been subject to any high pressure selling methods but made its way up with a slight mention in the advertising sections.

The newest fad is Five-Suit Bridge and already there are two books on the subject. Winston has one by Ely Culbertson. It is a little paper book about fifty pages. It refers to the fifth suit as "Royals". Simon and Schuster will publish "Five Suit Contract" on April 8th. It is by Burnstine, Jacoby maier, and Schenken. It covers the the subject in more detail. The "Eagle Suit" of this book is, of course the Royals Suit.

Cellulose in Plant Life

Cellulose forms the greater part of the framework of all plant life.

SAYS FATHERS ARE BEST MOTHERS

Controversey Over Who Raises Baby

Fathers make the best mothers, and the only reason the human race has survived the mothering of women is that babies are practically indestructible, J. P. McVoy says ini the current issue of WOMAN'S DAY.

Mothers who spend twenty-four hours a day bringing up children and waiting on their husbands will likely find their blood pressure rising over some of Mr. McEvoy's statements on the subject of parenthood, but Rose Wilder Lane's reply in a companion article evens things up with good measure.

"Now," writes Mr. McEvoy, "what do I mean when I say fathers make the best mothers? I mean just that. Of course I grant that a certain biological cooperation is necessary at the beginning, but after that we fathers could very well dispense with you mothers. There isn't anything that you can do that we can't do or get done better. That doesn't sound just right but you'll get used to it.

"At the beginning mothers know nothing about babies. They learn at the baby's expense. If the first baby survives they use what they have learned on the next one. By this process of trial and error mothers manage to raise families. If the family is large enough, it raises itself. And how have we survived this terrifying process? Only because babies are indestructible. Not only can you bounce a baby on your knee but you can practically bounce him on the floor. If babies weren't so hardy, none of us would be alive today. The fact that we are alive is a tribute to our staying qualities as babies rather than to the fumbling, amateur ministrations of our doting mothers.

"I can remember 'way back when mothers nursed babies. Today, fathers fix their formulas. Right at the beginning we have eliminated mothers. And why do fathers have to fix formulas? Because mothers can't add."

After those bold faced remarks from a mere man, mothers should find the pleasure of revenge in the gusto of Mrs. Lane's reply.

"Mr. McEvoy's article," writes Rose Wilder Lane, "is proof of beginning success. Let men call themselves mothers if they like; the word is unimportant. It makes no difference what word they use; the cheering fact is that we have at last taught them a fact we always knew, that they love their children.

"Multitudes of men are discovering that babies have fathers, that fathers have duties and emotions, and that they—bewildered, appalled and frightened—are fathers. If, in their confusion, they say that they are mothers, never mind. That is a minor detail which we can straighten out in their minds later on.

"Let you husband take care of his baby; you can depend upon it that he will yell for hlep before he does the baby any serious harm.

"Thank heaven that your husband wants to learn. Provide for him the formula, the milk, the lime-water, the sterlized bottles and the sterilized caps, the dressing-tray, the clothes, the pins, the new dispossable dapers—and, of course, the baby—and let him do the changing and the feeding.

"This will train him to be somewhat less of a shirk when the growing boy becomes really a problem. A father who has borne some little responsibility for his baby's health and comfort and cleanliness will be less likely to tell the boy, 'Ask your mother,' or 'Whatever your mother says,' and bury his ostrich head in the newspaper. Who knows, he may even take some interest in the public schools; possibly some day men will outnumber women in the Parent-Teachers' Association, and a father may speak to the algebra teacher about Willie's grades.

"There is hope, there is even ground for expectation, that a time will come when men will need less mothering from their wives. They are growing up." . . .

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NOTICE

OLD KENT

BY

GEORGE A. HANSON

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TRANSCRIPT

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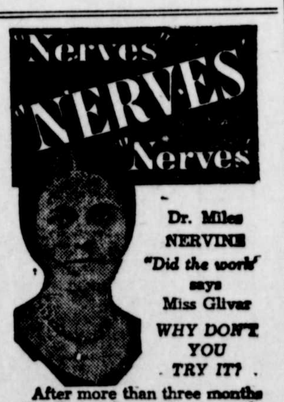
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We consider this part of our work as important as any other. Our highest aim is to have our patrons look upon us as trusted friends, ready and anxious to render sympathetic assistance to those who remain behind.

B. R. FELLOWS,
Funeral Director.
Still Pond, Md.
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Phone 3