# NOW AND THEN

### THE NEIGHBOR'S REPLY

**By Gerald Eberman**

Your neighbor, sir, whose roses you admire,
Is glad indeed to know that they inspire
Within your breast a feeling quite as fine
As felt by him who owns and tends that vine.
That those fair flowers should give my neighbors joy,
But swells my own, and draws therefrom alloy
Which would lessen its full worth, did I not know
That other's pleasure in the flowers I grow.
Friend, from my neighbors and this vine I've learned
That sharing pleasure means a profit turned.
And he who shares the joy in what he's grown
Spreads joy abroad and doubles all his own.

One great pleasure in having a garden is sharing it with others. There is always a happy look on the face of the owner as she shows her friends her iris, her tulips her lilies and roses, perhaps before the visitor leaves bearing a great bunch of flowers in his hand he has heard the pedigree of the different plants and of the way to raise them. And so our neighbors garden gives pleasure to many, who have not the ground nor the time to have one themselves.

### GUIDO RENI

There is a fine old Palace in Rome, Hospigliosi by name, which has a host of visitors constantly. They come not to see the Palace, but a great picture which is painted on the ceiling called "Aurora", and was painted by a great Italian artist, Guido Reni, who lived in the 16th century.

Because the ceiling is so high, those who wish to study it have a great mirror arranged which reflects the picture, perfectly making it much easier than gazing so long up at the ceiling, as they wonder that an artist could have painted at that height.

The writer has a copy of this picture. The subject, of course is mythological. Aurora, the goddess of the Dawn rides upon the clouds which she disperses with her golden light. The morning star a cupid like figure bearing a flaming torch follows, and then comes Apollo driving his fiery horses. The hours, beautiful women accompany his car, dancing with joy that the day has come again. The artist has used the brightest colors showing the light and joy of the new day while the happy swinging hours make music as they come.

This is one of the twelve great pictures of the world.

### PLAYING MARBLES

Marbles go with spring just as corn beef goes with cabbage. Every where boys are seen playing marbles where there is a good solid piece of ground to be found.

In Battle Ground Academy, Franklin, Tenn., the principal, Mr. George I. Briggs has used this to advanced good scholarship. He plays with his pupils, promising them a schooless day if they win.

For the past ten years this battle has gone on. Not once has a class won the coveted victor's prize: a schoolless day. That, in spring, is a prize worth shooting for. The pupils have done plenty of shooting but none of it as straight as Teacher's. This year the battle raged for two hours and twenty-six minutes when sides were called off—teacher had all the "miggsies."

No one knows how far back in history this game goes. It will flourish as long as there is youth and the turn of the seasons. One is inclined to feel that all must be well in a school where the head plays marbles with his students—but, of course, maintaining the dignity of adulthood by always winning.

### NAVAL SECRETS

This Country has been surprised to find how many foreigners are in possession of her naval secrets.

The letter from Anson W. Prescott in a recent issue of The New York Times discussing the lack of secrecy regarding army and navy "secrets," reminds me of an interview I had several years ago with the late Rear Admiral Robley D. (Fighting Bob) Evans. He told me that on one occasion when he was entertaining the officers of a visiting Japanese fleet he said to one of them: "Your face looks very familiar to me."

The Japanese officer bowed, smiled and replied: "I used to be your cabin boy." William Shaw.

### FURNITURE AND CLOTHES TO MATCH

The American Furniture Mart in Chicago has introduced a new system to reduce sales resistance. The idea is that clothes and furniture should match. So they are offering upholstering with dress fabrics to match—brocades, and novelty weaves, even draperies of striped taffetas to match milady's gowns. Just a moment, please. We must call up our tailor about that new office coat we are planning—cut from an old Persian rug.

### KINDNESS TO ANIMALS

Kindness to animals is a universal urge. In Milwaukee a few weeks ago, an owner sold a new house, but before signing the agreement, he noticed that the robins were building a nest under the eaves, of the house. Fearing that they might be disturbed, he added to the terms of the sale that the birds are not to be molested.

Just a little time ago some ladies were hurrying home to keep an engagement, when on looking behind they saw a tiny puppy following them.

Fearing that he might be run over, they stopped and tried to find the owner, knocknig at the different homes to see if he belonged to the different occupants. Quite a while after the owner was not located and they were still at the place, trying to find him.

### HE WOULDN'T HAVE ANY

A reporter was trying to interview Viscount Northcliffe.

"No, my friend," said the proprietor of more than 50 newspapers and magazines in England, "I'm too much in the business, you know, to stand for newspaper interviews. I'm like the little boy at the Sunday school treat who, when the squire's wife came round to him with strawberry jam, promptly said, 'No, thank you. I works at the place where they make it.'"

Mr. Henry Ford is very much in the public eye, especially since he was asked to lunch with the President. What happened at that luncheon perhaps will never be known though Ford was questioned by scores of newspaper men.

When Mr. Ford wearies of the exacting cares of the machine age he loves to go to his little village near Sudbury, Mass., and sit by the old grist mill which will never grind, with the waters that have passed," or wander to the school where one day the lamb followed Mary or to the house where his mother lived.

All these things he has collected and many more to keep the remembrance of the life of those who lived long ago.

# REVIEW OF SOME OF THE BEST SELLERS

The Pulitzer Prize Winners
Fiction
John P. Marquand for "The Late George Apley"
Drama
Thornton Wilder for "Our Town."
Poetry
Marya Zaturenska for "Cold Morning Sky"
Biography
Odell Shepard for "Pedlar's Progress"
Marquis James for "Andrew Jackson"
History
Paul H. Buck for "The Road to Reunion".

John P. Marquand was born in Wilmington, Delaware. Graduated from Harvard and served in the Field Artillery during the war. You will remember his Mr. Moto if you are a S. E. P. reader or if you are a movie fan. The Late George Adley was serialized in the Saturday Evening Post.

Thornton Niven Wilder startled the public in 1927 with his third book, "The Bridge of San Luis Rey". "Our Town" is an unconventional play, produced without scenery, much of the action given in monologue. Frank Craven is the star of the play.

"The Road to Reunion" by Paul H. Buck is an impartial study of postbellum attitudes of the North and South.

The Biography toward was a tie, both authors getting $500. Mr. Shepards book has already carried off a prize, having been chosen from among 387 manuscripts in Little, Brown's Centenary Contest. Mr. James prize winning study is a two volume biography of President Jackson. He is a twice Pulitzer Prize Winner, having won in 1930 with "The Raven: A Biography of Sam Houston". Youngest of the recipients Marya Zaturenska has published two books of poems, "Threshold and Hearth" and "Cold Morning Sky". She was born in Moscow in 1901. At Fourteen she worked in an American Factory. Ten years later she married the distinguished American poet and critic, Horace Gregory.

Harper Announces 1938 Novel Contest.

The Harper Prize is awarded every two years. The winner for the year 1936-1937 was "The Seven Who Fled", by Frederick Prokosch. The prize will be $7,500 as follows: $2,000 as an outright prize independent of royalties, payable on the announcement of the winner, and $5,000 as a minimum guarantee of royalties to be paid six months after publication. Any authos who is a citizen of the United States and who did not publish a novel in book form prior to January 1, 1924, is eligible for the prize.

The judges will be Josephine Johnson who wrote "Now in November"; Bernard De Voto, formerly editor of the Saturday Review; and Louis Bromfield, author of "The Rains Came."

AUTO FATALTIES

# LOOKING AROUND

**By Jog Trotter**

"A FINE ORIENTAL RUG MADAM", the foreign looking man with a hook nose glances furtively up and down the street. "Let me bring it inside and show you how nicely it will look with your fine furniture", he manages to brush past you and drops the bulky rug on your living room floor. He then explains how the rug was smuggled into the U. S. from the East. (Quite likely it was made as far East as New Jersey.) The reason that he is sacrificing it, he explains, is because he is going to Canada and is afraid he can't get it past the customs. The price usually starts from seventy five to one hundred and fifty dollars, depending entirely on the apparent means of the prospective customer. If you happen to be a bargaining individual, you can get the rug for as low as twenty-five dollars. But watch your step Madam, whatever you pay for your "Oriental" rug, you're still getting gyped out of good dollars and cents. The whole thing is a racket, these brilliantly colored, exotic rugs are poor domestic imitations of Orientals. The most shoddy material goes into their manufacture. When examined closely it will be noticed that the base is a very low grade of burlap, the tufts are weak and spaced too far apart. Hesitate before buying Madam, think it over carefully, then if you decide to take it—well it's your money you're throwing away.

The "linoleum racket" is similar but the "line" is a bit different. You are told that a company has contracted to lay linoleum in a hospital or public building and that some odd pieces have been left over and are to be "sacrificed." Don't let it fool you, if you buy you are the one who is doing the sacrificing. The linoleum is of the lowest grade and you are asked to pay little less than the premium prices.

Patronize your local merchants. If you aren't satisfied with your purchase, you know where to find your dealer. Their reputation is based on satisfied customers, their "repeat" business is their livelyhood. Don't be a prey to itinerant salesmen, don't expect to get something for nothing.

IN THIS DAY AND AGE 'speed' is the password. Trains are going faster (with apologies to the local aeroplains are gradually lowering the record for the coast to coast trip; soon we will be only a few hours from Europe. Houses are built in a shorter time, automobiles, corkscrews and window blinds have a few hours or minutes cut from their time of manufacture. Naturally we live faster in the age of speed, even our recreation is speeded up. Our spare time finds us dashing hither and yon in our autos at fifty to eighty miles an hour. We cover more miles, see more places and yet we've traveled so fast that only a fleeting, blurred image remains of what we have seen. Five miles in the horse drawn buggy yielded more enjoyment than a hundred mile jaunt today. It is not likely that the ever increasing tempo of the times will result in a nation of idiots, but in the speed up process we do lose something As a nation we are losing the ability to enjoy the simple things.

ONE OF THE MOST ENJOYABLE PHASES of college life to many students is the "biology field trip." The class in biology, after studying text books all winter, goes to the country side in the spring and searches for specimens of flora and fauna. Ferreting out various forms of plant and animal life and identifying them is more like a game than study. Some of you who like to walk and who might crave a little scientific stimulation should get together and form a biology club. All you need is a couple of interested people, an elementary biology text or even a Boy Scout Manual, and you're all set. If you really do get interested you won't be satisfied with the elementary and will wish to go further. The next logical step would be to acquire an inexpensive microscope and dissecting instruments and learn how your specimens function. Recreation of this type has its advantages over others in a number of ways, to mention a few—healthful exercise, good fellowship, inexpensiveness and mental stimulation. Can as much be said for Bingo?


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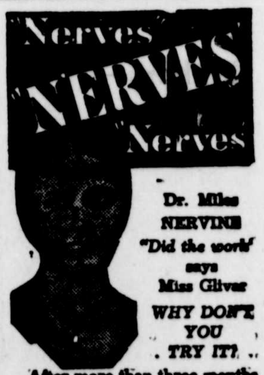
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