

BOOKS THAT MAY HAVE ESCAPED YOU

1. *"A Gift Book for My Mother"* by Harrison Rhodes (Harper). One of the tenderest and most real of all tributes to mothers.

2. *"Jennifer Lorn"* by Elinor Wylie (Doran). A brilliant piece of writing, for the discriminating reader.

3. *"Gallipoli"* by John Masefield (Macmillan). One of the few great prose books about the late war.

4. *"Not Wanted"* by Jesse Lynch Williams (Scribner). A fine reprinted short story suitable for reading aloud, about father and son.

5. *"My Garden of Memory"* by Kate Douglas Wiggin (Houghton Mifflin). The autobiographical narrative of one of the most loved and lamented personalities in recent American letters.

A Great Editor

THE late editor of the New York "World" was at once one of the most striking and most modest men I have ever met. He was a great influence in American life over a period when American life was storm tossed. He maintained a balance that was unusual in a temperament so frankly liberal. His political enthusiasms and regrets were often contrary to those held by his staunchest admirers, yet the conduct of that brilliant editorial page could not but win the respect of conservatives and radicals as well as those liberal minded like himself. John L. Heaton, also of the editorial staff of the "World" and a close friend of Mr. Cobb's, has made a collection of his editorials under the title, "Cobb of 'The World'" (Dutton). It is difficult to give an idea of their scope, variety, and succinctness

by telling of them. Cobb is at his best when taking a firm stand on a political controversy. His editorials on the League of Nations are marvelous examples of restrained but righteous anger in writing. An admirer of Wilson and Smith, a bitter opponent of Roosevelt, he was staunchly a Democrat; yet his last article, dictated on August 4, 1923, was as follows:

There is no more difficult undertaking in politics than that of a Vice-President suddenly promoted by the death of a President. Vice-Presidents are always out of the sphere of administrative action. Washington little heeds them as makers of policy, and not at all as announcers of national decisions. Even though Mr. Harding made Mr. Coolidge a member of the Cabinet, in a well-meant endeavor to further intercourse and understanding with Congress, the experiment bore no visible fruits of success. In his public addresses since he went to Washington, Mr. Coolidge has refrained from any allusion to controverted matters, in dealing with which he could take no part.

Now he comes to the most conspicuous executive office known to political life, facing a disorganized party and a Nation in disquietude. Theodore Roosevelt, succeeding to William McKinley as President, fell heir to an almost perfect party machine, which never failed in his time to function. Today Republican leadership is bankrupt, rent by faction, oppressed by mutterings of revolt. The Best Mind theory is a myth. The party needs, the country will welcome, a strong hand.

The circumstances present a great opportunity. President Coolidge has a blank sheet upon which to write history. Vice-Presidents are never nominated with the idea of their elevation to the higher post, and the country really knows little about its new Executive except that his firmness in handling the Boston police strike, as Governor of Massachusetts, left a favorable impression of his force of character. He will have the sympathy and the support of the American people, without regard to party ties. Such political obstruction as he may meet will come less from Democracy than from Republican faction, but for the moment even faction is a feeble thing. The

big factor in his situation is the patriotic devotion of a united people wishing him god-speed in his great trust.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.