

GEORGE ADE

The Sultan of Sulu. HARPER.
The County Chairman. FRENCH.
The College Widow. FRENCH.

This absolute master of raecy American idiom has not written so actively in the past few years, and his greatest reputation rests on his fables in slang rather than on his plays. However, "The College Widow" will always remain one of the best plays in the vernacular of our period. Mr. Ade is one of the Indiana group of authors, having been born at Kentland in that state. He was graduated from Purdue University. His life work has been journalism, and he is a member of the National Institute of Arts and Letters.

"Mr. Ade became known as the author of 'Fables in Slang', and Mr. Ade is still known as the author of 'Fables in Slang', although it must be said that as the creator of the comic opera 'The Sultan of Sulu', 'The College Widow', and other productions almost equally meritorious, his fame as a dramatist is closely allied to his fame as a fablist. Yet here the observation may be made, let me hope without offense, that if Æsop had not written his fables, it is probable that George Ade's reputation as an

American humorist would have been none the less; but his reputation as a dramatist might easily have been less if Gilbert and Sullivan's operas had not been written."—Thomas L. Masson, BOOKMAN, October, 1921.

REFERENCES:

Sketch. F. Hatton. THEATRE, May, 1911.
George Ade. Thomas L. Masson. BOOKMAN, October, 1921.

MARY ROBERTS RINEHART

A master of plot and characterization, Mary Roberts Rinehart has written several plays and collaborated in many others. The unfailing sense of dramatic incident which is apparent in all her novels in many cases has been successfully transferred to her plays. Mrs. Rinehart's literary career began after she had been married and had had a family of three sons. She was born in

Pittsburg and educated to be a trained nurse. Her first great success was the mystery story "The Circular Staircase". She has developed the technique of the mystery story—a technique which is thoroughly of American origin—to a point of extreme cleverness.

"'The Bat' is full of hokum, tricks and much unnecessary lying. It has much too much material in it, and could end very easily at almost any point half an hour before it does. It probably wouldn't stand analysis, and certainly wouldn't stand a serious criticism. But it certainly is a grand show!"—Robert Benchley, LIFE, September 19, 1920.

REFERENCES:

Interview. Delight Evans. PHOTOPLAY, January, 1920.
Her Creed. AMERICAN MAGAZINE, October, 1917.
Sketch. Montrose J. Moses. GOOD HOUSEKEEPING, April, 1917.
Interview. J. J. Rodgers. GREEN BOOK, April, 1916.