

*Mr. Galsworthy's Gentle Ironies*

**A** **GAIN** the Forsytes! This time, in "The White Monkey" (Scribner) Galsworthy writes with tolerance, wisdom, and a genial fun-poking at the foibles of the younger generation. There is no violent propaganda here for the peculiarities of either youth or old age. There is excellent characterization. Excellent preachment, too, in its way. It is an old symbolism which Mr. Galsworthy has chosen: two animals to represent human characteristics, and as old fashioned a thing as a baby to represent saving grace. "The White Monkey" is a picture; the other animal is a lap dog; and the baby needs no explanation. These three, and three classes of persons, move through

what, although I may have caused it to sound complicated, is really a most human and moving story of love, despair, disillusion, and quiet triumph. It is a broader canvas than that used by either Mr. Hergesheimer or Mr. Walpole. These are the characters of the nineteenth century novel with a decidedly new twist. Michael Mont is a perfect picture of modern youth — tolerant, cynical, with a strong underlying current of sentiment, almost of sentimentality — so like his elders, yet so unlike. In showing this discrepancy, Galsworthy has excelled all other attempts to portray the postwar young man. He is not so different in England from what he is in America!