

LITERARY NOTES

(By WINNIFRED REEVE)

Calgary will have on Monday distinguished and talented visitors in the persons of Mr. and Mrs. John Garvin (Katharyn Hale) of Toronto, and Miss Anne Elizabeth Wilson, literary adviser for the Hodder & Stoughton Publishing company.

During her stay in Calgary, Katharyn Hale will give one of her unique recitals, for which she is rapidly becoming famous. A fragile little woman, weighing seldom more than ninety pounds, there is something both radiant and spiritual about her personality. "Her spirit and ambition are often too much for her physical strength," wrote her husband in a recent letter.

As a young girl, Katharyn Hale's tastes and aspirations all turned toward music. For five years—in fact until her father's death—she sang professionally. Then, deeply disappointed at being unable to continue her singing lessons abroad, and forced into earning her livelihood, she turned to newspaper work. For nine years she had the book review page of the Toronto Mail and during that period poems and stories from her pen appeared at frequent intervals in various publications.

"When I was married," she writes, in a particularly charming and revealing letter, "my husband insisted on my giving up the grind of the Mail page." Rest, however, for Katharyn Hale, meant work, now of an especially fascinating sort. Her music, which despite the long years of newspaper work, had nevertheless always stayed with her "like a friend or a dear child," now pushed its way to the foremost once again, but to her gift of music she brought the fruit

of her years of literary work. Her programs were unique combinations of folk songs, French Canadian chansons, tribal melodies and original poems and prose from her own pen. And as she traveled from city to

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Mayence, June 21 last, for sabotage in the Ruhr district.

The Separatists intend to attempt the establishment of a Rhineland republic at an early date, says a Mayence dispatch to Le Journal of Paris.

It is reported from Essen that the Franco-Belgian occupational authorities have presented the railway workers with an ultimatum expiring yesterday, demanding that they either agree to resume work, or be expelled from the occupied region. More than 50,000 men are said to be effected by the demand.

Eighteen hundred grain elevators will be constructed in the southeast regions of Russia and over a number of them have been placed with Canadian contractors.

The Angora government has ordered enforcement of the prohibition law in Constantinople, beginning yesterday.

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city, everything that was interesting and fine, that was typical of the especial part of the country where she was sojourning was noted by her with the result that "Canadian Cities of Romance," which has been described as "prose etchings delicate as those of Whistler," came into being.

Equally distinguished in a literary way, John Garvin, something more than the mere husband of Katharyn Hale, is, off the written page "banker and broker of Toronto."

To an expression of surprise at his affiliation with literature though engaged in the prosaic if profitable undertaking of banker, John Garvin wrote: "It is not unusual for eastern business men of some prominence to have a hobby or two on the side. Sir Byron Walker, president of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, is president of the Champlain society that has published twenty or thirty substantial volumes and he is chairman of the Canadian Art commission. Vincent

Massey, president of the Massey-Harris Co., Ltd., is deeply interested in art, literature and education, and so on."

In a whimsical letter from Katharyn Hale, anent her husband's literary proclivities, she writes: "He is a broker and when he plunges into literature on the side, we go broke, but he has done some wonderful things for Canada." And so he has. Canadian literature has been his especial hobby and delight for more than a quarter of a century, and his spare hours are devoted to reading books by Canadian authors, "eliminating, selecting, editing and publishing." "Masterpieces of Canadian Literature," in twenty-five volumes, represents his work as editor and publisher.

Anne Elizabeth Wilson is an example of how far an especially clever girl may go in her chosen profession. For one as physically attractive as Miss Wilson—for her bone-ribbed glasses fall to hide the fact that she is extremely pretty—it is unusual to find a girl far more interested in others than in herself. And yet her career has demonstrated that she is an extraordinary young woman. She had the fortune to be associated since childhood with literary people of eminence. Mr. Alden and William Dean Howells—Mark Twain and others—

these men Miss Wilson knew as a child. At an early stage in her career she entered the employ of the old publishing house of Harper & Bros. From the literary staff of Harpers she pursued an interesting climb, till at the present time she carries on her young shoulders the important position of literary adviser of Hodder & Stoughton. Upon her judgment depends the fate of many a manuscript and upon her advice and criticism stories are rewritten and revised and changed. Besides literary advice and reading and judging of manuscripts, Miss Wilson does an immense amount of publicity work, and I believe, personally superintends the exacting business of syndicating material and placing prospective novels as serials. She is a stout little champion and "rooter" for the books her firm puts out and her spirited defence of the new prize novel by Gordon Grahame Hill, "The Bond Triumphant," is almost enough to engage one on the side of the novel before one has read it. Pity it is so far as Mr. Grahame is concerned, that Miss Wilson was not the editor of MacLeans, which panically withdrew the serial from its pages, after publishing one instalment, following the criticisms leveled at the story because of its supposed reflections upon Catholics.

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