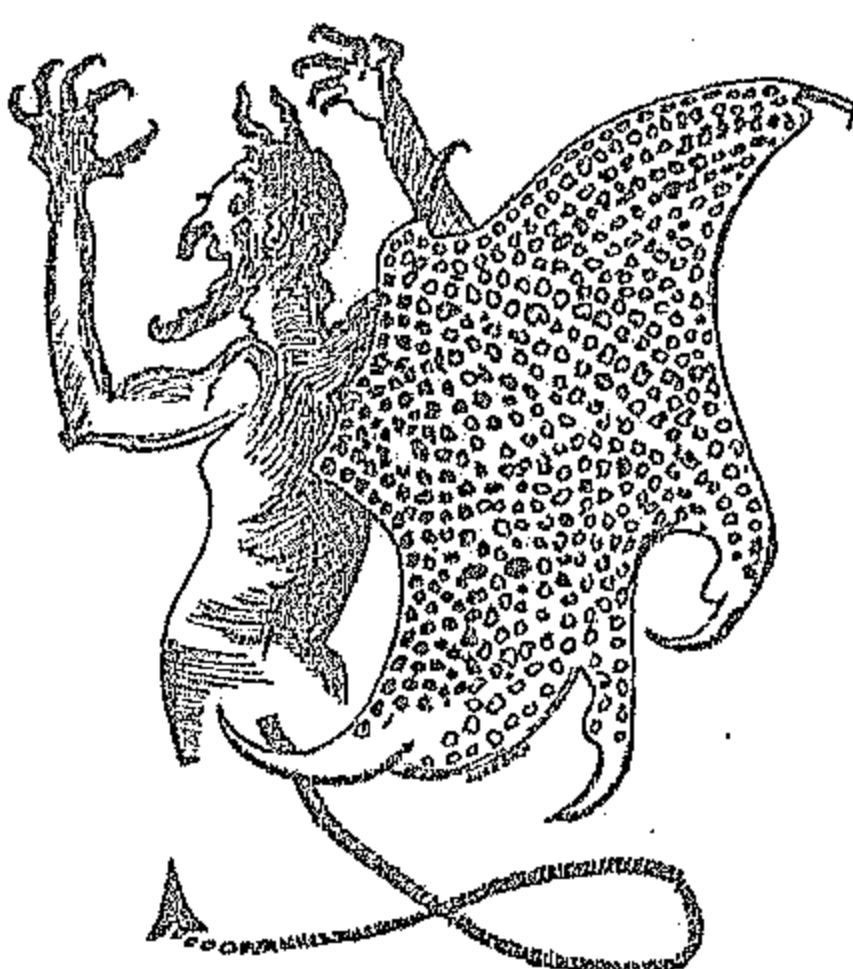


REVIEWS



THE WAY TO ECBEN

By James Branch Cabell

Robt. M. McBride & Co., Oct. 1929

James Branch Cabell is one of the few contemporary writers that is actually distinctive; he has no ties with any one group of stylists, but has his own original virtues. In all of his long list of past works, one cannot find a book that might be listed as of a common nature; the man produces nothing but these fantastic, allegorical, perplexing tales.

Cabell never sets out to write a humdrum tale of life, but rather to create in the exotic world of his origination such characters that will in the course of their appearance before us, tell their story, act out their life, and then leave us to piece out the riddle. Whether or not one understands the second meaning behind the book, and this holds true for any of his works, the delightful adventures, the careful prose and the occasional poetry must please. To those who have read "Jürgen" or "The Silver Stallion" this book needs no further introduction.

To retell the "comedieta of a gentlemen" would spoil the reading, and to give my views of the allegory would cause only dissatisfaction among the readers; let me limit this to a discussion of the book merely as a piece of writing.

Cabell shows two of his outstanding traits most predominantly in this book; the first being his euphonic names, and the second his stray epigrams. Among the names we find such as Rorn, Ulf, Alfgar, Pen Loegyr, Kog, and Uwardowa; surely these unusual sounding terms must appeal, and if you are well read, remind you of Lord Dunsany.

As a sample of the terse and witty remarks made at random thru the tale, I quote, "Loyalty is a fine jewel; yet many that wear it die beggars." In this day it could be appropriately carved in some public buildings, for it has many followers.

Another attractive feature of this book is the host of illustrations by Frank C. Pape. Pen and ink seems to perform wonders under Mr. Pape's guidance; a crude copy of one of his fantastic creations is hereby reproduced. Even if the book is not read, a mere perusal will attract anyone with a hankering for eccentric sketches.

In a colophon, Cabell gives his views upon writing and especially as applicable to a man past fifty. From this, one gathers that this is to be the last work of Cabell, and so must sadly take leave of Don Manuel and Poictesme, where so many delightful hours in the past have been spent.

ALUMNI NEWS

George Libanoff, C. E., '29, is connected with the Bureau of Valuation of the Department of Commerce at Washington, D. C.

Fred Natella, C. E., '28, informs us that he is now working for the government in the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey department. Fred has charge of a sixty-foot launch and six men. His official title, he tells us is Deck Officer of the Coast and Geodetic Survey department. In the course of his duties, he recently visited Yale, Harvard, and West Point. His work covers a wide field, and, on a moment's notice he might be sent anywhere in the United States or any of its possessions.

And then there's the Scotchman who took the girl with scalp trouble to a masquerade ball and used her dandruff for confetti.

Former Professor Writes to Civils

A letter recently received from Professor James R. Griffith, formerly Assistant Professor of Hydraulic and Sanitary Engineering at Armour, tells of his new work as head of the Department of Civil Engineering, Oregon State College, Corvallis, Oregon. He also enclosed a copy of an article by him published in a fall number of "The Highway Magazine."

After reading in the Armour Tech News of the rumpus in "Civil Alley," he says "So the war-fare in Civil Alley is over. Am just wondering what James Rose will do about his pipe. The smokers will be hard hit, especially in cold weather."

"I miss, in a good way, all the confusion and racket of the civil drafting room. As I look out of my window at the coast range two miles away and think of the wild animal life present there, I cannot help but compare it to the view I used to have from my window at Armour. I still remember the lone tree waving in the breeze."

"Give my very best regards to all the boys in the Senior Civil class. Were I there I suppose I would have to worry them through 'Highways,' much to their disgust as well as mine. My successor has my entire sympathy. Don't make it too hard for him."

He also states that he has a good looking stenographer, a good sized office to himself, a drafting room, and a private recitation room, used only by his own students.

Oswald, '16, Writes on Short-Wave Telephony

A. A. Oswald, E. E., '16, radio research engineer with the Western Electric Company, at 163 West Street, New York City, is the author of an article on "The Story of Short-Wave Transoceanic Telephony" published in a reprint from the "Bell Laboratories Record" by the Western Electric Company. Mr. Oswald is one of the engineers in charge of the development of short-wave radio transmitters and receivers.

According to Mr. Oswald's article this development work has been in progress for the last five years. Stations have been built at Houlton, Maine; Netcong, New Jersey; Lawrenceville, New Jersey; Rocky Point, Long Island; Cupar, Scotland; and Rugby and Baldock, England. The efficiency with which this work has progressed is a monument to engineering cooperation.

As a result of this work commercial communication service was opened on June 1, 1929 by a call from Cleveland, Ohio, to London, England.

Professor Krehbiel Selected as Judge

Mr. Albert H. Krehbiel, Associate Professor of Freehand Drawing and Water Color, was chosen to be one of the three judges of the drawings at the Annual Exhibition of the St. Louis Artist Guild held last Saturday.

A prominent physician of Japan states that after examining the eyelashes of 7,000 school children that the lashes of unhealthy children are longer and prettier but the healthy child has short ones.

A bachelor is a guy who never had an automobile when he was young.

Library Announces Several Additions

The Library has recently received three engineering publications recommended by the "Engineering News-Record," a McGraw-Hill periodical. They should be of particular interest to civil engineers and architects.

Of these, the first is written by Professor F. B. Seely of the University of Illinois, assisted by Professor R. V. James of the University of Oklahoma. The title is "Plaster-Model Method of Determining Stresses Applied to Curved Beams." The second is "Suspended Matter in the Colorado River 1925-1928," by C. S. Howard. Third is "The Universe Around Us," by Sir James Jeans.

Among the other publications listed by the "Engineering News-Record" are two which are also recommended by the Deans' Office as booklets which students would do well to get.

"The Structural Design of the Pantheon in Rome" by Dr. Gilberto Bagnani, published by the Atlas Portland Cement Company, 25 Broadway, N. Y. C., is a beautifully illustrated pamphlet which should be interesting to everyone.

The second booklet is recommended to civils particularly as it is on "The Superiority of the Steel Bridge." It is published by the American Institute of Steel Construction, 200 Madison Ave., New York City.

These two booklets may be obtained by writing to their publishers.

Plays Given in Armour Mission

Two plays were presented in the Assembly Hall Friday night by the Ladies' Aid Society of the Armour Mission. The plays were "Not a Man in a House" and "A Borrowed Luncheon," a short comical sketch. All the parts were taken by members of the society.

The society also gave its annual bazaar Friday. This has been given every year for the past twenty years and for the last nineteen has been directed by Mrs. George L. Scherger, the president.

The proceeds of this bazaar are used to give the children of the mission a summer vacation at Camp Gray, Saugatuck, Mich.

Rochester Students Classify 'Blind Dates'

The men students of Rochester University, believing that much time is wasted by the socially-minded student on blind dates, have evolved a code for classifying the names of all the girls in the telephone directory.

No student should be condemned to a dull evening with the co-eds classified in the following manner: A, average; B, beautiful; K, kisses; L, liberal; M, mercenary; P, pippin; R, rough; T, tells; V, vivacious; X, expensive; and Y, unknown quantity.

Many more girls would study domestic science if they had not observed that women who can cook generally have to.—Boston Telegram.

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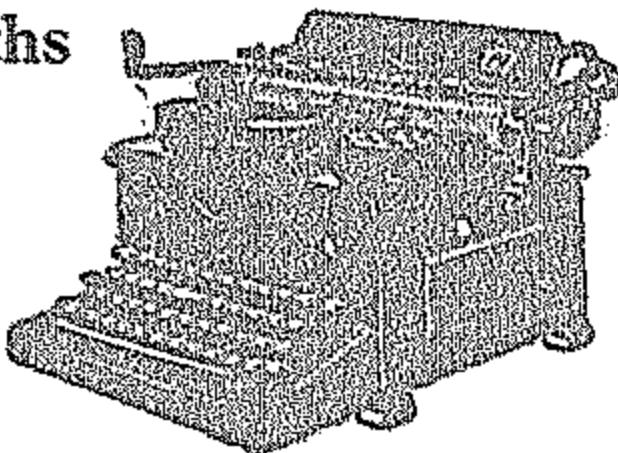
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FRATERNITY NOTES

DELTA TAU DELTA

The Pledges are holding their annual "Pledge Dance" on Friday, December 13, 1929 and will be very appropriately called a "Friday the 13th Dance." Work is being done decorating the house in accordance with the "13th."

James M. McAlear, x'31, visited the Chapter for a few days last week. He is now working in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, having fully recovered from his recent illness.

SIGMA KAPPA DELTA

Sigma Kappa Delta is holding its annual Christmas Party on Saturday, December 21, 1929.

PHI KAPPA SIGMA

Phi Kappa Sigma announce the pledging of Harold A. Reich, '30. An alumni smoker will be held at the Chapter house Friday, December 13, 1929.

THETA XI

An alumni smoker will be given at the Chapter house tomorrow night at 8:00 o'clock.

A dinner and dance will be given at the house next Sunday, December 15. Dinner will be served at one o'clock. Victrola and radio music will be the order of the syn-copation for the afternoon.

Theta Xi held formal initiation for the following men last Saturday afternoon at the Chapter house:

Frank LaGrady, Jr., '32
Russell E. Long, '32
Myron G. Lukey, '31
Orland R. Murphy, '31
John E. Taylor, '32

Eighty-five per cent of the automobiles stolen in the United States last year were recovered. Only fifteen per cent had any luck at all.

All Steel Highways Predicted in Future

Highways made of one single strip of steel welded together and extending from coast to coast were predicted for the future by Bennett Chappel, vice-president of the American Rolling Mill company, addressing the annual convention of the International Acetylene association.

Then there is the one about the Scotchman who was invited to a party and was told each guest was to bring something, so he brought his relatives.

Telescopic power ten times as great as that given by the 100-inch reflecting telescope of the Mt. Wilson Observatory, now the largest in the world, will be at the disposal of astronomers when the 200-inch reflector of the California Institute of Technology is completed. It will penetrate three times as far into space as the 100-inch and bring into view a globular region of space thirty times the volume of that reached by present day telescopes.

"Well, I'll be," said the hole in the ground as water began to seep in at the bottom. And, well, it was.

Inquiring Reporter

Question: Are you going to attend the Alumni-Varsity Basketball game Tuesday night?

S. Morris, Arch., '33. Yes.
E. D. Anderson, C. E., '32. Yes.
H. Pappageorge, Arch., '32. Yes.
J. O'Hara, M. E., '33. Yes.
W. Hornberger, C. E., '32. No.
C. Foster, E. E., '33. Yes.
O. Eskonen, C. E., '32. No.
I. G. Katz, Ch. E., '30. Yes.
F. S. Beale, E. E., '33. No.
J. De Orio, M. E., '32. Yes.
W. L. Filmer, E. E., '30. No.
F. H. Bigelow, E. E., '30. No.
A. M. Ream, Ch. E., '33. No.
R. L. Young, Ch. E., '30. No.
J. W. Baur, Arch., '32. No.
L. Cosme, C. E., '32. Yes.
E. G. Magnuson, F. P. E., '32. No.
J. W. Johnson, F. P. E., '32. Yes.
L. A. Meuller, C. E., '32. No.
F. Coletto, Arch., '30. No.
W. Lussenhep, Ch. E., '31. No.
G. J. Heller, M. E., '30. No.

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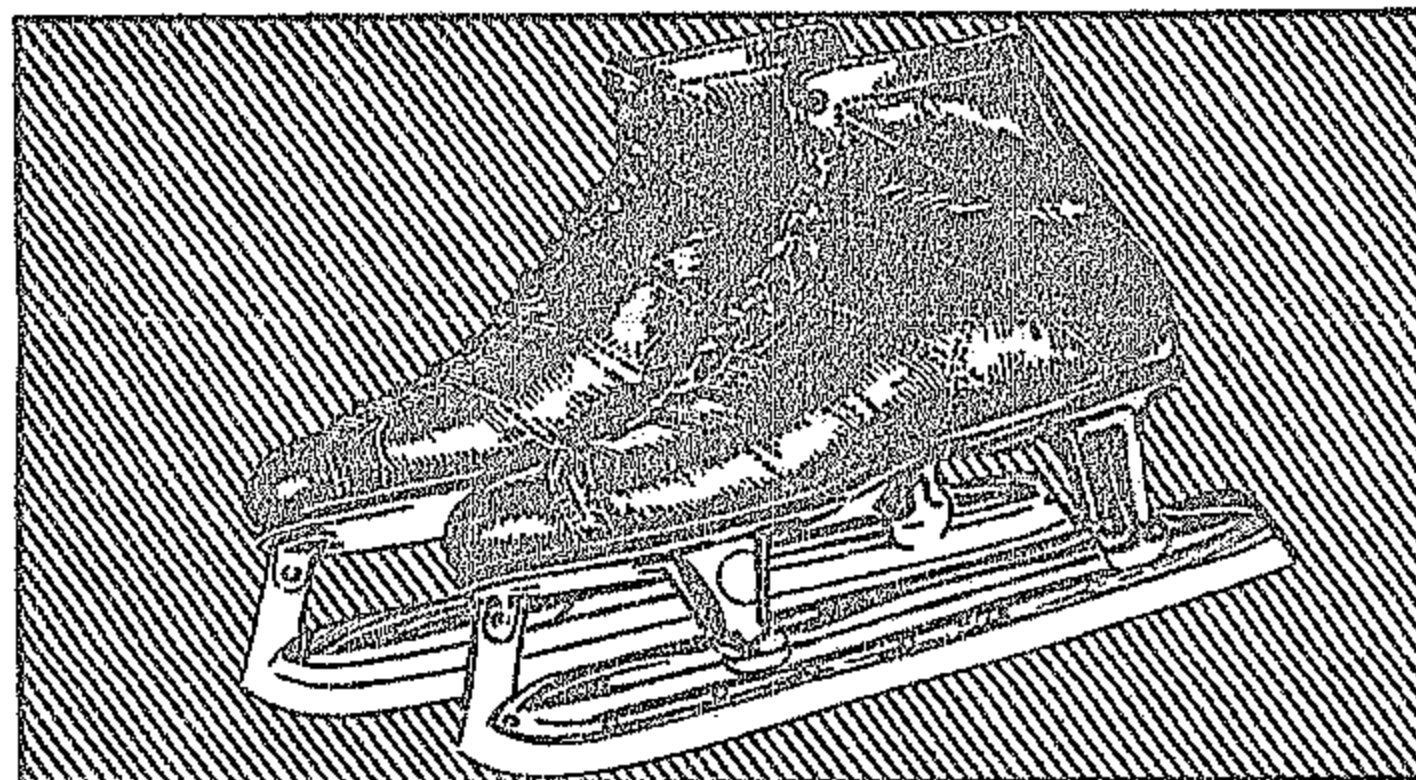
A. J. FROST, '30, M. E.

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