

# TOASTS

**M**ARCUS DUFFIELD has been in newspaper work in San Diego, London, and New York. At present he is getting together material for a book on the activities of the Legion, of which the article published in this issue will form a part. Needless to say, he is not connected with the Legion, nor is he a member of any so-called "radical" or pacifist group. In fact he started writing under the most unimpeachable of auspices: the United States Government, which once awarded him a Liberty Bond for an essay on "Why We Should Buy Liberty Bonds."

**L**IKE MOST New Yorkers, ELMER DAVIS was born and brought up elsewhere. About twenty years ago he came from Indiana to join the staff of *Adventure*. From 1914 to 1924 he was on the editorial staff of *The New York Times*. At present he is free lancing, dividing his time mainly between fiction and commentaries on politics. His best known book is *Show Windows*, a collection of essays on contemporary personalities, published in 1927. It was followed by *Giant Killer*, one of the best-selling novels of 1928. His latest is *Morals for Moderns*.

**T**HIS ISSUE seems to be the newspaper men's. EDWARD ANGLY is on the New York *Herald Tribune*. He started with the *Galveston News* down in Texas, where he worked until 1920. Then the metropolitan urge got him and he traveled north to New York. Feeling that while there was shoe leather there was hope, he listed all the possible employers in alphabetical order, but found it necessary to go no farther than the A's. The Associated Press took him on and sent him abroad as a foreign correspondent. Most of his stay abroad was spent in Great Britain, France, and Soviet Russia.

**O**UR POET for this month, THOMAS HORNSBY FERRIL, lives in Denver, Colorado. Most of his time is spent in publicity work, since very few poets these days find poetry remunerative enough to keep body and soul together. The Yale University Press not long ago published a volume of his poems, *High Passage*.

**J**OHAN R. TUNIS is no easy-chair sports writer. He played on the tennis team at Harvard, and has been following sports actively and enthusiastically ever since. He was among the first to attack the encroachments of professionalism on amateur sport, and is still at it. At present he is in Europe, covering the Davis Cup matches for the New York *Evening Post*.

**H. N. BRAILSFORD** started as a lecturer on logic at Glasgow University, but he gave that up for journalism. At different times he served on the editorial staffs of several English liberal papers, among them the *Manchester Guardian* and the *Nation*. For four years he edited the Independent Labor Party's weekly, *The New Leader*, and made it a notable literary review. His published works include a study of *Shelley, Godwin, and Their Circle*, and an essay entitled *Olives of Endless Age*. His article in this issue is the result of a recent trip to India.

**W**HEN WE get an author who is willing to talk in this department, we like to let him go. Here is ROBERT B. PARKER, JR. on Robert B. Parker, Jr. — "Born in Ipswich, Mass. Took a couple of degrees at Harvard, expecting to be offered a chair. Wasn't. A year's editorial work



ELMER DAVIS

was followed by a touch of the Navy on land and several years of farming — more or less at sea. This distracted me so that I wrote two novels which editors said things about. Again distracted, I experimented with the stock market. . . ." You need say no more, Mr. Parker. We don't blame you for retiring to South Lincoln, Mass. We don't blame you for writing the things you write. But if you should ever want to stage a come-back, we know of no surer bet than *Universal Electric*.

**A**ND HERE are the confessions of RODNEY GILBERT: "I am a person of Quaker ancestry and conventional education in the Arts who developed at an early age so strong a distaste for the dull and useful life that it remains to this day the greatest driving force in my make-up. It has made a dabbler of me; a dabbler in languages, farming, philosophy, blacksmithing, journalism, seafaring, war, international politics, and fiction. It has made me a person of a hundred short-lived enthusiasms and a trouble-hunter

who has devoted much more spiritual and physical energy to getting into uncomfortable and embarrassing positions than most successful men put into the building of a great fortune. This inclination took me not only around the world, but over many hard roads in the waste places of several continents. Now I have returned to America after an absence of nearly twenty years with no material or intellectual loot worth mentioning. From being a humanitarian I have become an advocate of race prejudice and of the extermination of the unfit, a cynical critic of liberal political institutions and a believer in ruthless imperialism. I am, in short, a burned-out adventurer displaying all the characteristic spiritual traits of a very premature senility." He forgot to mention that he, too, is a newspaper man, living in New York City.

**W**HILE he was still a professor of mathematics at Johns Hopkins University FABIAN FRANKLIN became interested in economic theory and later lectured on important aspects of it at both Johns Hopkins and Columbia. He was once editor of the *Baltimore News* and subsequently associate editor of the New York *Evening Post*. Although he was born in Eger, Hungary, seventy-eight years ago, no one has a keener or more alert interest in contemporary American affairs. As an opponent of prohibition he has been constantly active ever since the publication in 1922 of his book, *What Prohibition Has Done to America*.

**L**OUIS I. DUBLIN is the statistician of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. In this office he has had an extraordinary opportunity to study the social phenomena of large groups, represented by the policy holders of his company. Dr. Dublin is a technician who does not object to taking the public into his confidence; he is the author of many books, monographs, and addresses on vital statistics and public health, among them *Health and Wealth*, *The Money Value of a Man* (with Dr. Lotka), and *Population Problems*.

**H. ALEXANDER SMITH** practiced law in Colorado Springs for a number of years and was connected with the United States Food Administration during the war. In September 1919 he went to Princeton to become Executive Secretary of the University. Later, after traveling abroad and studying at Oxford, he came back to Princeton to lecture on international relations. For the past ten years he has been a member of the Commission for Relief of Belgium Educational Foundation, which was organized after the war for the rehabilitation of Belgian education and the exchange of professorships and scholarships between Belgium and the United States. Dr. Smith is still a member of the faculty of the Department of Politics at Princeton.