

**JUNE
1
1954**

is the
closing date
for the

**HARPER
\$10,000**

Prize Novel Contest of 1954

Any unpublished novel in the English language is eligible. No entry form is needed. But each manuscript must be accompanied by a letter stating that it is submitted for the Contest and has never been published in book form.

The Judges:

A. B. GUTHRIE, JR.
Pulitzer Prize Novelist

ORVILLE PRESCOTT
Daily book critic of the
New York Times

BERNARD DeVOTO
Critic, novelist and Pulitzer
Prize Historian

Send manuscripts or write to:
The Harper Prize Novel Contest
HARPER & BROTHERS
49 East 33rd St., New York 16, N. Y.



583 pages of **MAX
BEERBOHM**

His most brilliant
dramatic criticisms

are collected in
Around Theatres

WOLCOTT GIBBS writes: "There is hardly a sentence in it that is not my envy and despair. How funny and provocative and astonishing theatre reviewing can be in the hands of an incomparable stylist who also happens to be a uniquely perceptive critic as well as one of the authentic satirists of our time."

\$6. Simon and Schuster



APPLE HILL

Boys and girls 4-12, all races.

Individual guidance in swimming, riding, crafts, tutoring, trips, etc. Our aim: good counselors rather than fancy equipment; each child to participate heartily as a responsible, courteous citizen of the world. Fee \$350. Free uniforms. Mr. & Mrs. Guy Murchie, Jr., Box S, East Sullivan, N. H.

FIFTH ANNUAL WRITERS' CONFERENCE University of Connecticut June 27—July 2, 1954

John Malcolm Brinnin—Malcolm Cowley—Elizabeth
Enright—Alfred Kazin—Frances Gray Patton.
Lectures and workshops for the criticism of manu-
scripts and the critical reading of texts in fiction, non-
fiction, poetry, and children's literature.

For bulletin write to
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT WRITERS' CONFERENCE
Box U-56, Storrs, Connecticut

subject matter. With characteristic vigor, the author demands of the free world that it develop "something of that passion for and belief in the supreme importance of our cause which is characteristic of the devotees of the Communist creed." The volume's appendix contains a summary of Communist policy on atomic energy, and of Communist policy at the United Nations. —MARTIN EBON.

ROYAL RAKE: The idea that the royal family should be a symbol of respectability was an invention of Queen Victoria, and would have outraged some of her more adventurous ancestors. Victoria's uncle, the Prince Regent and later King George IV, for example, has preferred being the symbol of immorality and profligacy in an age that was hardened to both. He dazzled and finally disgusted London society by his endless escapades and infidelity. While Nelson expected every man to do his duty and Napoleon plotted England's downfall, the Prince Regent was waging his private war against his wife, Caroline, which ended in her trial before the House of Lords.

"The Great Corinthian: A Portrait of the Prince Regent," by Doris Leslie (Oxford University Press, \$3.50), is a dull biography of this spoilt Prince, this corpulent Adonis, as Leigh Hunt called him. The wit and charm, which we are told he possessed, are lost in the ornate telling, and after the first fifty pages the reader grows weary of his affairs and mounting debts, even as the Prince himself had. Profligacy, like patriotism, is not enough, and we conclude with Queen Victoria that we are not amused.

—FRITZ STERN.

FROM CHATEL TO PARTNER: Vera Brittain has written a superlatively good book, something of a model of its kind. "Lady Into Woman" (Macmillan, \$3.25) is written in just the right mood, in the easiest and most attractive of styles, and is just the right length. From first to last it is intensely interesting and is crammed with useful information. The story which Miss Brittain tells constitutes perhaps the most remarkable series of social changes that have occurred within living memory: the transformation of the chattel-female into the comparatively free modern woman. This transformation Miss Brittain believes to be more significant and more beneficial than any other great constructive change during the last fifty years.

It has often been remarked that men cannot be free while one half (meaning woman) of the human race remains unfree. I know of no more effective proof of that statement, than

the story which Miss Brittain so vividly unfolds in this volume. The passage of lady into woman has been paralleled by the passage of gentleman into man, for as Miss Brittain shows with the increasing freedom of women increasing benefits have accrued to men—to everyone, to humanity. —ASHLEY MONTAGU.

ECCENTRIC ABROAD: It was Benjamin Thompson, Count Rumford, whom Franklin D. Roosevelt, in a possibly heady moment, lumped with Franklin and Jefferson as one of "the three greatest minds that America has produced." It was also Benjamin Thompson who very nearly cracked in two that carefully reasoned toleration of the mad, the eccentric, the egotistic, the irascible, and the amoral, which the eighteenth century cultivated toward its great men. In a short, neat biography, "An American in Europe" (Philosophical Library, \$4.75), Egon Larsen, an accomplished British journalist, shows us how in his sixty-one years Thompson, who was born in 1753 in North Woburn, Massachusetts, became one of the scrubbiest and most brilliant men of his age.

Handsome, vain, inscrutable as teak, narrow-minded, serpentine, he spied for the British against his own country during the Revolutionary War; established throughout Europe the concept of beneficial self-help work centers for the poor; deserted one wife and the child who, in later years, was to be virtually his only friend, in spite of the fact that he repeatedly smothered her chances for marriage, and turned her into a queer, aimless spinster; designed and built the great English Garden in Munich; had two illegitimate children; founded the Royal Institution in London, the world's first research center for science; became an adept and lifelong bootlicker; put in practice, through innumerable and successful experiments with gunpowder, heat, light, nutrition, and domestic conveniences, the first principles of applied science; and habitually trampled on his friends, associates, and underlings.

He spent the last years of his life as a British subject and a secluded celebrity in a pleasant suburb of Paris in a house where his second illegitimate child was born.

—WHITNEY BALLIETT.

GENIUS & EPILEPSY—BRYANT

Sketches of St. Paul, Socrates, Caesar and 17 others who had both.

"You have performed a real service"—Dr. Wm. Lennox, Neurological Institute, Boston

"A source of hope and courage"—Dr. R. H. Felix
—Director—National Institute of Mental Health

\$2.50

YE OLD DEPOT PRESS, Concord, Mass.

Fiction

Continued from page 16

different from his prep-school village.

Sixteen-year-old Cecile submitted to his tutoring, though she sometimes grew impatient with Horace, who "has been a corpse and worse for centuries." Perspective, outspoken, untamed, curious about grown-ups and their wickedness, she taught Mr. Twining, through her candor and curiosity, more than he was able to teach her. They make an interesting study in innocence: the precocious, unknowing girl and the imperviously naive schoolmaster. If Mr. Jones had not cluttered his novel with other excessive people and grotesque involvements, it would be a better book.

Hindu Haunts

"The City and the Wave," by Jon Godden (Rinehart. 245 pp. \$3), tells of a lonely young Anglo-Indian living in Calcutta, who finds the fate promised him by an astrologer fulfilled in a fashion he could scarcely have expected.

By John Frederick Muehl

IT WOULD be interesting to see the notes that were made by Jon Godden in the preparation of her novel "The City and the Wave." It is more than likely that, presented as an outline, the plan of the book would seem uncommonly good. Miss Godden's novel has an interesting setting. Its principal characters are both plausible and significant. Most of all, there is a clear and simple story line which has, at least in the abstract, much thematic force. But something happened in the writing of the book. Or perhaps it is precisely that nothing happened, nothing to round out the bare plot outline or to clothe the skeleton characters in flesh. "The City and the Wave" is good enough to raise serious expectations, but it is strangely lacking in evocative power. It remains a diagram, quite sound, quite lifeless.

The chief character is Len Chase, a young Anglo-Indian who lives in the crowded slums of Calcutta, alone and lonely, ingrown and embittered, lacking family and friends, lacking even an identity. Under the influence of an astrologer he becomes increasingly obsessed with the idea that Calcutta is to be destroyed by a tidal wave which will sweep up from the

GENE FOWLER'S most irresistible book



This uninhibited volume started out to be a sober biography of that incredible man, Sadakichi Hartmann, art critic,



poet, and moocher extraordinary, who for some eighty years never once retracted his ardent claim to genius. With the bibulous help of several friends, including John Barrymore, W. C. Fields and John Decker, Gene Fowler somehow never finished that masterly life story. Instead, he gives us an utterly delightful and zany account of those

gatherings when Hartmann's alleged friends met to pay him ribald homage, to outdrink each other when possible, and to indulge in some of the funniest and wildest discussions ever to be set down in a book.

Photographic endpapers \$3.75



MINUTES of the LAST MEETING

THE VIKING PRESS

INDIANA UNIVERSITY Writers' Conference July 11-17

Staff

J. F. Powers Paul Pickrel
Richard Wilbur Robert Coughlan
Elizabeth Yates

Scholarships available. For details address
Philip B. Daghlion, Director Indiana University
BLOOMINGTON INDIANA

Tanglewood

A SUMMER OF MUSIC

Berkshire Music Center, the school connected with the Berkshire Festival Concerts by the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Directed by Charles Munch. Six weeks, July 5 to August 15. Programs & Catalog: Symphony Hall, Boston 15, Mass.

Around the World
Duraclean
keeps furnishings NEW
Phone Your Duraclean Service Dealer

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

Summer Writing Conference

JUNE 21-JULY 30

Workshop in Fiction: Frederick Buechner
Workshop in Poetry: Horace Gregory
Workshop in Playwriting: Radio, Film, Television, Drama: Arthur Arent

Weekly discussions led by distinguished editors, publishers, and literary agents.

FOR INFORMATION WRITE

Admissions Office—Bulletin A4
Washington Square College
100 Washington Square East
New York 3, N. Y.