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### Presbyterian Publications

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CHURCH AND GERRARD STREETS, TORONTO

Frances Wilson Huard in her latest book, *With Those Who Wait* (McClelland and Stewart, Toronto, 11 illustrations, 249 pages, \$1.50 net) brings us into intimate touch with the women and children and the older men of France as they carried on during four years of war. In spite of the poignant sadness of it all, we are thrilled by the noble and undaunted spirit manifested on every hand, and the glimpses of life in different parts of France are very delightful. There is old Père Francois working among his roses in Soissons, fearing the daily shelling only as it might do harm to his flowers; there is Monsieur Amédé, the fifteen year old boy in a small hotel, who tries in his blundering, good-hearted way to take the place of several men; there is Aunt Rose, beloved of many nieces and nephews and cousins, now living a lonesome life in her big house, but busying herself by constantly writing to the scattered ones. We smile at the group who take refuge in Madame Huard's cellar in Paris during the air raids; our hearts are stirred by the fathers and mothers going to see their wounded sons, whom she meets on a crowded train, and we marvel at the women she sees in the little village who have not shirked even the hardest work on their farms. Every page of the story is full of interest. Charles Huard's exquisite drawings add greatly to the charm of the book.

It was a natural, and perhaps justifiable reaction from the horrors and tragedies which the War brought about, that mystery, detective and adventure stories should have multiplied. *Thieves' Wit*, by Hulbert Footner (George H. Doran Company, New York, McClelland & Stewart, Toronto, 345 pages, \$1.50 net), is a good example of this sort of story. The scene is New York; the case, the inexplicable loss of a half-million dollar string of blue pearls; the detective was B. Enderby, "Confidential Investigator." There are complications enough to keep the reader constantly guessing, including the unearthing of a villainous gang of jewel robbers, and an unusual ending. If one is looking for sheer diversion, this story may help him to one sort of it.

The effect upon a woman's character of a love for precious stones which has been fed until it amounts to an obsession is skilfully depicted in *Where Your Heart Is*, by Beatrice Harraden (McClelland and Stewart, Toronto, 367 pages, \$1.50 net). When Tamar Scott, dealer in antique jewelry in Soho, London, and a collector of rare gems, saw a perfect pearl, lustrous and beautiful, an unusual rose-pink beryl, or a gleaming flawless emerald, she was seized with an overwhelming desire to possess it, no matter what the circumstances. This led her to contemplate, and even carry