



Charles Vaughn Boyd himself, with his friend Teddy

1923 Brings Changes in the Service Department!

The first of these is in connection with the Section covering

Interior Decoration and House Furnishing

Those of our subscribers who have corresponded with him will be glad to know that

Charles Vaughn Boyd

who conducts the Architectural Section of the Service Department, has consented to take over also the allied Section of Interior Decoration.

In future our subscribers who wish advice in regard to the decoration or furnishing of their homes should address their enquiries to Mr. Boyd in care of this office. We must, however, give

A Word of Warning

to those who are interested in building and furnishing at the same time.

It should be distinctly understood that the Architectural and the Interior Decoration Sections are quite separate from one another, and that questions must be addressed separately to each one. Letters which contain requests for advice about building **MUST NOT** include questions about decoration or furnishing, though a letter on the second subject may, of course, be enclosed in the one envelope.

IT IS MOST IMPORTANT that this rule should be strictly followed; in cases where it is ignored, only the one set of questions—those about building the home—will be answered.

Don't forget to send a stamp and a filled-in coupon for each Section addressed, and please don't ask for replies by return mail. Mr. Boyd gives the most careful consideration to every letter received, and he feels that he cannot give the best possible service unless he is allowed plenty of time. His work involves much looking-up of carefully gathered material to find just the suitable thing for each individual; it frequently necessitates the drawing of delicate little plans, too. So we ask you to give the longest possible notice of your intention to build or decorate, so that no inconvenience will be caused if your reply does not come for several weeks.

When you get to know Mr. Boyd and his work, we think you will agree with us that a letter from him is worth waiting for!

Look for the announcement of another "Change" in the next issue!

BOOK REVIEWS

ANN AND HER MOTHER: By O. Douglas. Hodder & Stoughton. \$1.75

THE author of "The Setons" and "Penny Plain" has already an audience for her stories—an audience not, perhaps, of very modern readers but composed of those folk, beginning to grow elderly, who delight in quietly-told incidents of the life of their youth; a life that may have been humorous, tragic or uneventful, but far removed from the grime and shrillness of modern literature. "Ann and Her Mother" is a chronicle of the happenings in the life of a Presbyterian minister's wife, at first in a small Scottish village, then in a factory town and finally in the great city of Glasgow. But no breath of city air hangs about its pages. They are filled with tales of the doings of her children, of her husband's congregations, her own small voyagings and adventures and finally of the tragedy that the war brought to that quiet, Scottish household—a ripple of tale, like the ripple of a Highland stream, now swirling about some small stone or bit of stick, now running on so softly that there seems to be scarcely any movement. After an overdose of the raucous clamour of the modern novel it is a relief to dip one's self in the fragrant quiet of "Ann and Her Mother."

WISP: A GIRL OF DUBLIN: By Katharine Adams. Macmillan. \$2.00.

THIS is the story of a little Irish girl, who lives in a dingy tenement off Jeffers' Court. She makes friends with some children from America and their cousins from India and helps them to know and love Ireland as she does herself. Katharine Adams is a new writer in the field of fiction for girls. She lived in Dublin for many years while her father was American Consul there, and "Wisp" is the result of that residence.

PAGAN LOVE: By John Murray Gibbon. McClelland & Stewart.

THERE is a distinct reminiscence of the style of Oppenheim in Mr. Murray Gibbon's latest novel, which is not such a fine piece of work as was his "Drums Afar." Neruda, the American millionaire, who controls vast business interests, and dominates by his financial genius the world of New York, is distinctly a character in whom Oppenheim would have revelled. The rapidity of Walter Oliphant's rise in the world, after his rescue of Neruda from drowning, would have a distinct appeal to that meteoric writer; and the conclusion of the book—well, we must let the reader discover for himself the key to the mystery, but we can assure him that never did Mr. Oppenheim conceive a more startling ending.

THE BALLAD OF THE QUEST: By Virna Sheard. McClelland.

AT HER best, Mrs. Sheard's verses have a fugitive and delicate melody, a charm of cadence and lilt about them which makes them always readable. Of the poems included in the present volume, one likes best, I think, "The Shepherd Wind," "A Southern Lullaby," "The Lopely Road," and "October Goes." We quote from the first mentioned:

When hills and plains are powdered white,
And bitter cold the north wind blows,
Upon my window in the night
A fairy garden grows.

Perchance the echoes of old songs
Found here a resting-place at last,
With drifting perfume that belongs
To roses of the past.

Or all the moonbeams that were lost
On summer nights the world forgets,
May here be prisoned by the frost,
With souls of violets.

The wind doth shepherd many things,
And when the nights are long and cold,
Who knows how strange a flock he brings
All safely to the fold.

RAINBOW GOLD: By Sara Teasdale. Macmillan. \$2.75.

EIGHTY of the "very best" poems for boys and girls—poems both old and new, with illustrations by Du-

gald Walker. Here are all the old favourites of childhood—Kubla Khan, The Lady of Shalott, Young Lochinvar—with stirring ballads of Robin Hood and Sir Patrick Spens. Here also are poems by newer and less known authors—Robert Graves' "Star Talk," Hodgson's "Time, You Old Gipsy Man," Masefield's "Sea Fever," Padraic Colm's "Terrible Robber Men." The imaginative child will find here poems for his soul to feed upon; he who is less imaginative, stirring songs of adventure. And the illustrations must appeal to all alike.

NEIGHBOURS: By Robert Stead. Hodder & Stoughton. \$1.75.

"NEIGHBOURS" is the story of Frank Hall and Jean Lane, neighbours in childhood in a little Ontario town, neighbours again on adjoining homesteads in the Saskatchewan country. It is a picture of the building of a homestead community on the western plains—a stage in our development fast passing away. While not a great novel in any sense of the word it is an interesting and convincing picture of life as it was lived on the prairies some decade or two ago; a quiet and uneventful tale of love and labour, without the impossible thrills and escapades that are found in so many a novel of western life.

CONTRASTS: By Lawren Harris. McClelland.

THOSE who are admirers of Lawren Harris's melodramatic and somewhat vulgar and violent art-work may enjoy this book, "Contrasts" which is written in the freest of Free Verse. It is bound in an effective cover of orange and black, and illustrated throughout by Lawren Harris himself, the black and white sketches partaking of the characteristics of his work in colour. As a lesson in the art of How Not to Write Poetry this book may be found useful; but we fear that even the most modern of the Modernists may fail to find that "beauty born of murmuring sound" which the old-fashioned readers of poetry demand as a part of the Art of Versification.

TRAPPER JIM: By Edwyn Sandys. Macmillan. \$1.00.

A BOOK for every up-to-date boy, offering him much sportsman's lore, as well as a lively and amusing narrative. The normal lad loves to learn of the great world out-of-doors, of riding, trapping, shooting, boxing, swimming, canoeing,—and there are very useful pointers on all these subjects given to him in this book. Edwyn Sandys is a well-known writer for boys, and "Trapper Jim" will gain for him the friendship of all live and manly lads of from fourteen to sixteen years old.

THE BELLS OF ST. STEPHENS: By Marian Keith. McClelland & Stewart.

A PLEASANT little story of a Canadian country town and the fortunes of those who attended St. Stephens, the Presbyterian kirk, whose Rector, Dr. Sutherland, fleeing from the clutches of an all too affectionate housekeeper, imported his two nieces and his nephew to take her place and keep his household affairs in more or less order. While there is nothing extraordinary about this book it ripples on pleasantly enough, and its picture of Mary, the auburn-haired heroine, will doubtless appeal to many readers. Her efforts at missionary work in Sawdust Alley, her friendships and enmities, loves and hates are all amusingly depicted, and the book will serve to pass away an idle hour entertainingly.

PUPPY DOGS' TALES: Ed. by Frances Kent. Macmillan. \$1.65

A BOOK for all little girls and boys who have pets and like to hear stories about them. Here are tales of puppies and kittens, bunnies, canaries, pigeons, chickens and lambs; some gathered from people who love animals and have told the editor their favourite tales about them. Others are tales and poems from well-known sources, retold especially for children. This is a gift book for children from four to six years old, and has many fine illustrations of dogs, cats and pets of all sorts.