

Books For Art Lovers

Art lovers will welcome John Singer Sargent, a biography by Charles Merrill Mount who has modelled his own career on the work of his fellow painter George McLeod Ltd., \$7.00.

"Trumpets From Montparnasse" by Robert Gibbons takes the reader into the fascinating world of the Left Bank, Paris, illustrated with the author's excellent color and wood engravings. J. M. Dent & Sons, \$4.25.

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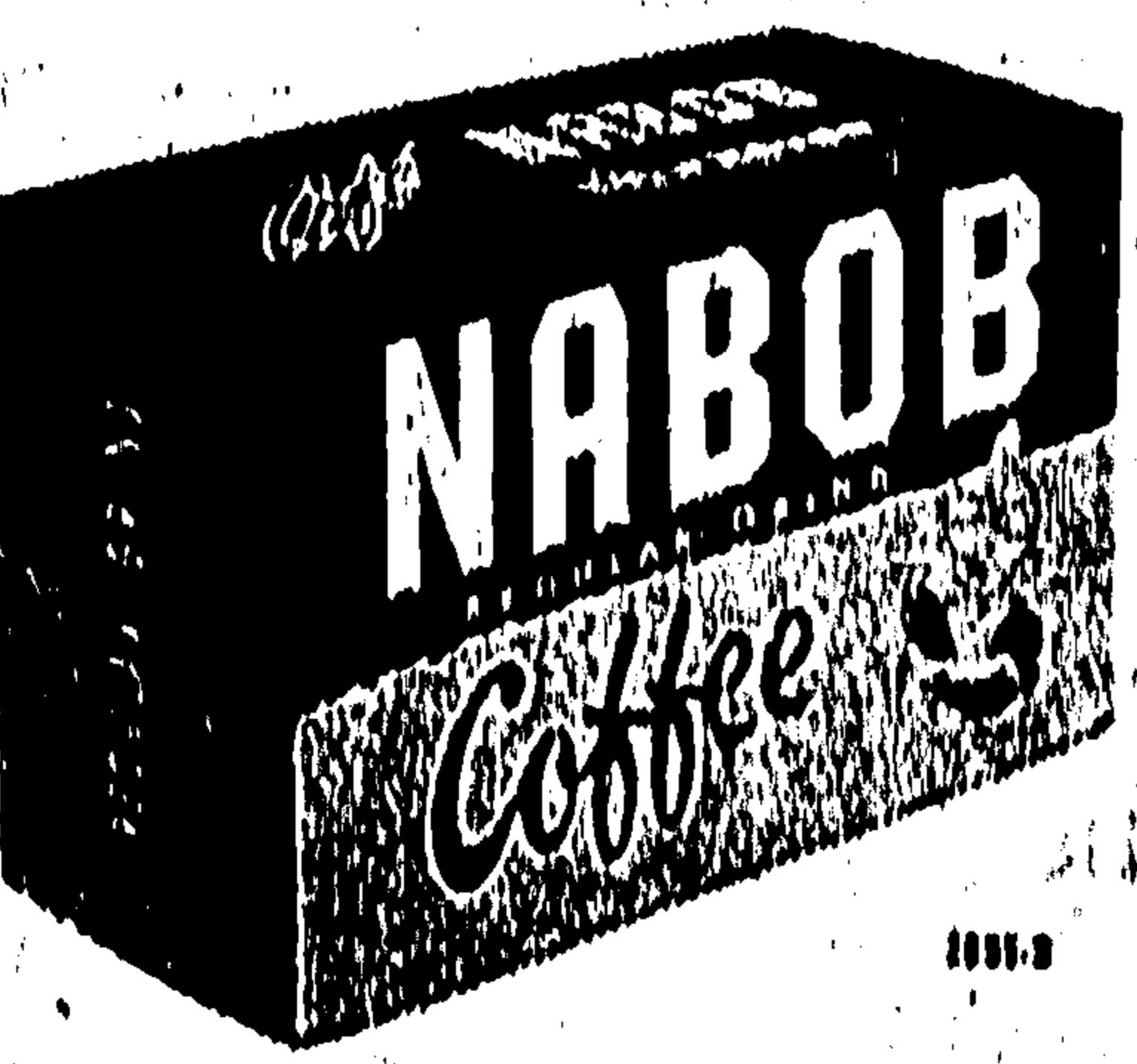
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**THE BOOK CORNER****Reporter's Story About Son Entertaining Change of Pace**

This is another in a series of book reviews arranged for The Daily News Book Page and sponsored by the Book Review Club of the Prince Rupert Public Library. It is hoped that the reviews of books from the library by various city residents and presented every week will help stimulate interest and encourage others to use the public library's fiction, non-fiction and reference facilities to a greater extent.

"MY SON JOHNNY" — BY JOHN McNULTY

(Simon and Schuster, New York)

Reviewed by HELEN SIEBER

"My Son Johnny" has been described by the author, John McNulty, as a "change of pace," for in it he turns from writing about saloon in Manhattan and racetracks to an endearing study of his own small son. He retains, however, the clear, crisp style, the keenness of perception, and the humor that have made him a successful news reporter and writer for magazines such as the New Yorker.

The story begins with Johnny as a new baby — "the cellophane hardly off him yet!" In caring for him, the McNultys lean heavily on Dr. Spock. "When anything happens in Johnny's room — noses that is — we both start running. My wife runs for Johnny, and I run for the hoot."

During the first few months of Johnny's life, father feels somewhat superfluous.

He says "I was simply a visitor who sometime in the dim past had had something to do with Johnny's presence among us."

Then when the baby is about six months old, father begins to be "in on things." He discovers that

the only qualification is fatherhood, and that whenever two of its members are gathered together they talk children.

The most titly sections of this book are the brief comments between chapters.

"Some old boy said that the proper study of mankind is man, I might make so bold as to add that an exceedingly good study for a man is his little boy, from whom he can learn a whole lot."

McNulty learned many things from Johnny. Seeing a man painting a sign, Johnny asks,

Girls Story Told By Coast Writer

To the growing list of Vancouverites who had books published recently add the name of Mary Whitley. Miss Whitley's "Wait Until September" should hold plenty of interest for girls of 10 years and up.

It's the story of Brenda Jeremy, a shy, timid and delicate little girl who goes to spend the summer with her uncle and aunt at their summer lodge in the Muskoka Lake district of Ontario.

With a friend, Sheila Weir, a girl of her own age, she has plenty of adventures with other young people who come to stay at the lodge and there's a happy surprise ending.

"Wait Till September" is attractively illustrated with line drawings by Sylvia Baka.

"What's that man doing?" They both stop to watch. "Without doubtless would have passed stodily by." Instead he takes note of many little tricks about painting in gold.

He learns that Johnny likes the rhythm and beat of good verse better than silly childish ditties; that his son has a "tape recorder" in his head which not only records but discriminates. He learns how alone a father can feel coming home to an empty apartment where Johnny's favorite toy lies just as he dropped it.

"There could not be a more enjoyable instructor than my new teacher, and I recommend his like to one and all."

This slim book may be enjoyed in a reminiscent mood by those whose young Johns are now grown men with little Johns of their own.

Selections from many issues of Hudson's Bay "Beaver" magazine were made by C. Wilson for Northern Treasury, a well-rounded, authoritative picture of the North from early fur trader days to "Prince George Eventually" railway.

Illustrated with end-paper maps, photographs by R. M. Patterson and Richard Harrington, and a jacket cover reproduction of a Charles Comfort painting. Thos. Nelson & Sons, \$3.50.

81-Year Old Maugham Plans Trip, More Writing

By ALAN HARVEY

Canadian Press Staff Writer
LONDON, Oct. 26.—William Somerest Maugham, master storyteller, voyager and man of the world, launches soon on a new round of writing and travelling, his forthcoming 82nd birthday almost forgotten.

The once penniless medical student, now saluted as the grand old man of English letters, plans to start a new book of essays, subject undecided. First he will take a six-week holiday in Egypt, staying with the Aga Khan and visiting Cairo and Luxor.

His secretary, Alan Seale, says Maugham is "in splendid health and looking forward to the Egyptian tour as a 'lark.' There are no specific plans for his birthday January 26.

The author of "Cakes and Ale" and "Of Human Bondage," whose early sense of insecurity persists to some extent despite book sales exceeding 25,000,000, has been in London renewing old acquaintances, seeing "all" the shows and doing the picture galleries.

MELLOW CONTENT

If you happened to be in his Mayfair hotel at cocktail hour, you might have seen a rather short man, with wrinkled, world-weary features, talking quietly with friends in the bar. In a muted voice, he seems to be enjoying life. His later writings reflect the mellow, honest content of one whose youthful fears and vanities are long forgotten.

His favorite phys of the moment, showing a wide-ranging interest, are "The Reluctant Debutante" with Anna Massey, the intellectual dialogue "Walking for God" and the bouncy American musical "The Pajama Game."

Born into an era of gas lamps and the first gramophones, Maugham spent five years as a medical student in London, his duties including delivery of some

HUMOROUS BOOKS
Recommended for friends with a civilized sense of humor are Robert Benchley by Nathaniel Benchley; "Perelman's Home Companion" by S. J. Perelman; "Thumper's Dogs: This is My Best Friend" edited by Whit Burnett and Annie Mama by Donals.

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by Byrne Hope Sanders

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Here Are Three Infallible Ways to cash an enthusiastic life-sized hug for Christmas! Give a BANK OF MONTREAL holly-decorated Christmas Cheque or a \$100 money order in brightly coloured envelope or a \$100 money order in a gay Christmas postcard cover. These ideal gifts are no further away than your nearest B of M branch! Don't leave it until the last moment. Drop in to your neighbourhood B of M today and make plans to delight the ladies and ladies in your family through the Christmas services at "My Bank." And if you're an employer, by the way, nothing builds goodwill so much as a B of M Christmas bonus cheque, complete with holly and bells!

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babies in slum districts. Three days after passing his trials, he abandoned medicine.

"My heart was not in it," he recalled. "I wanted—I had always wanted—to be a writer."

His first success was "Liza of Lambeth," published in 1897. For 10 years after that the young writer struggled along on a shoestring, until the stop-gap play "Lady Frederick," had an unexpected success. Soon he had four plays running in London at the same time.

Once before the First World War, he lived on a farm in Manitoba to gather material for a book, "The Land of Promise."

Through the years he gradually added to his reputation, though some critics professed to detect a certain commonplace quality in his writings. John Raymond, a British reviewer, contended in a largely sympathetic review that "his work displays no wounding." Raymond implies that the shy small boy with the stammer, who was lost an orphan at 10, worked off his bitterness with life. In the largely auto-biographical "Of Human Bondage," except in rare cases, the critic claims, Maugham remains outside his characters.

Lately he has written candidly and unpretentiously about himself. Another British critic, H. D. Zinn, says Maugham's writing is

bitter, my Oakes were as sweet as sin.

"And they brought me the moon I sighed for with a bit more than sixpence thrown in."

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