

BOOKS

(continued from previous page)

is a competent, popular novelist who apparently sees no reason to bite the hand that feeds her by doing anything unexpected.

—H.S.W.

CAP, BELL AND BAUBLE

SHAKESPEARE'S MOTLEY, by Leslie Hotson; Rupert Hart-Davis. English price, 21/-.

DR. HOTSON brings considerable scholarship and imagination to bear upon the costuming of the clowns in Shakespeare's plays. The evidence he offers is so fascinating that one is tempted to accept his conclusions, which in reality remain unproven.

The clown's or fool's motley has always been taken to mean the short parti-coloured jerkin with cap, bells and bauble: Dr. Hotson proves that a very general use of the word motley referred to a coarse, drab-coloured fabric. He also claims that the shape should be the ground length, full-skirted coat of the Elizabethan child—familiar to us in the garment worn by scholars at Christ's Hospital, the "Bluecoat" school.

In the light of Dr. Hotson's research, as he is forced to admit, contemporary evidence is conflicting. At least we know certainly that Elizabeth dressed her fool Monarco in the traditional parti-coloured jerkin "striped down with blew vellat layed on with copper gold

lace." Nor would it seem to help the actor of the clown's parts to dress him in a long drab garment, though an interesting possibility for the Fool in Lear.

Digressions from the main subject are the most interesting parts of a very provocative book which regrettably lacks both index and bibliography.

—John V. Trevor

IN THE TROPICS

WHERE WINTER NEVER COMES, by Marston Bates; Victor Gollancz. English price, 16/-.

THIS is the study of man and nature in the tropics by a Professor of Zoology in the University of Michigan. With a light touch the author sketches the history, geography, and resources of these regions, stopping here and there to present an unorthodox viewpoint, as that "the white man's burden" in the tropics is not the burden of improving

or governing "the benighted natives," but the burden of his own culture carried into an alien environment. Bates denies the usual American faith in technology which, exported to the tropics, is a putting of cart before horse; but he does hold that fundamental science can and should discover how to work with the climatic forces that create the immense forest vegetation, instead of trying to convert the forest into peanut fields and corn patches, and later exploring the poverty of tropical soils.

—L.J.W.

FEAR OF ILLNESS

THE CONQUEST OF FEAR, by Harley Williams; Jonathan Cape. English price, 16/-.

THIS collection of portraits, the fourth in a series about men and women who have contributed to "the arts and sciences of medicine," is meant to illustrate in a general way the theme that the conquest of fear is the beginning

of wisdom. All the people Mr. Williams writes about have helped to overcome our fear of illness. Most of them are research workers or doctors, but the book ends with a chapter on President Roosevelt as a "patient extraordinary." The author writes interestingly, and so far as a layman can tell he has been careful with his facts.

—F.A.J.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A DICTIONARY OF NEW WORDS IN ENGLISH, by Paul C. Berg; Allen and Unwin. English price 12/6. A chamber of horrors, but not to be ignored by people who wish to keep up with technical terms, social jargon, and plain slang.

ELIZABETHAN LYRICS, edited by Kenneth Muir; Harrap. English price 10/6. An anthology intended to be representative rather than comprehensive. There is a useful introduction.



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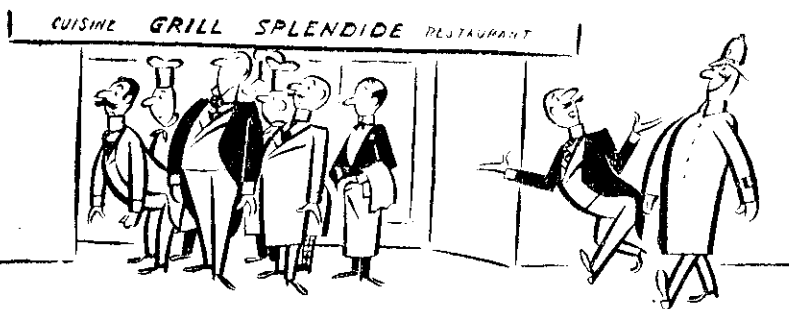
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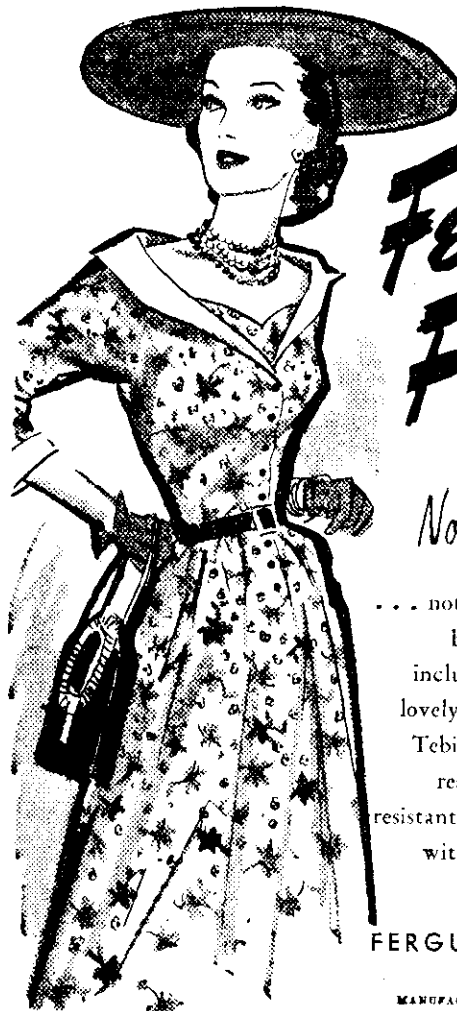
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