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**Ohio State Engineer**

**Title:** The Bookshelf Speaks

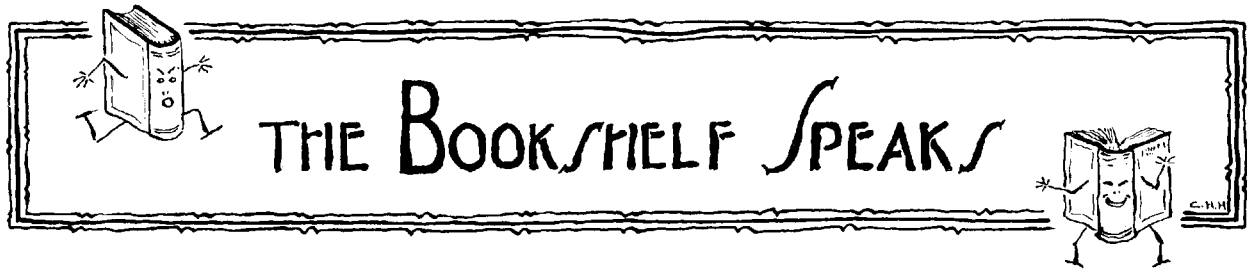
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**T**HERE are books purporting to deal with college life, and possibly some that do, but "Chimes," by Robert Herrick, is the first one for some time that attempts to portray the ambitions, conflicts, politics and other things that are alleged to occupy a professor's spare time. Whether the book deals justly or not is not for us to say, since we are not a professor. Much that appears true may be false, yet there are quite a few ear marks of fact in the story. The founding of a university, almost over night, in a mid-western town, the consequent rapid growth and development of the various departments furnish the subject matter of "Chimes." Herrick was himself a professor for thirty years, so he is able to give many amusing things about the politics attendant on such affairs. The moving force in the tale is a Dr. Alonzo Harris, a robust character full of western enthusiasm and optimism, who had a dream of a great university that would educate the masses rather than a selected few. The dream seemed in a measure realized when the university was but three years old in that it had a quite extensive array of "Departments" and deans. The fact that often the dean had scarcely more than one assistant did not hinder the growth of the organization as a whole and soon, by the help of a good line of athletic sports which are about as good a means of advertising as a university needs in some cases, the new university had ten thousand students, a great many unfinished buildings and a rapidly growing faculty. The death of Dr. Harris checked its growth and removed the driving force of the whole enterprise. The wealthy donors soon began to insist on a more marked degree of control than they had been able to obtain during the life of Dr. Harris and with the appointment of a new president politics began in earnest. There are one or two strong characters besides Dr. Harris. One of the outstanding characters is Mrs. Crandal who had almost supreme power in the university politics and who attended to all of the woman's affairs. The whole story is an ironic study of academic circles. If "Chimes" is founded on fact, it is to be regretted that such conditions exist.

Pipe smokers will like "The Anatomy of Tobacco," by Arthur Machen, which sets forth in a manner most amusing a lot of pseudo philosophy and an almost unlimited number of unpronounceable words. This book was written when the author was but twenty years old, away from home and rather lonely, yet you would hardly guess that the author was other than a venerable author as far as the style and phraseology are concerned. When the subject matter and the pseudo authentic terms are considered however, the true Machen is shown, full of fun and some occasional sarcasm.

"The Diary of a Dude Wrangler," by Struthers

Burt, was very highly recommended by one of our former English instructors and needless to say it lived up to its recommendations. One man who read it said that he regretted having read it, since it made him want to return to the West where he had lived when he was a boy, so you see it's not hokum. The book is a more or less rambling account of the author's life as a tourist "wrangler," or "dude wrangler," as he likes to style himself, since anyone who does not do all of their own camping work is called a dude, out in the great outdoors where men wear knickers, if they work in an office. Among many amusing, and at times rather bitter, accounts of the queer doings of eastern tourists and campers who want bus service and modern conveniences on a cow ranch, were found the one about a woman who got on a horse, only to find that she was facing the receding scenery, and couldn't figure out how it had happened, another about a ranger who chased a refractory bear cub thirty miles, on foot, and who on his return found that the bear cub had preceded him and was again disturbing the cook at the park hotel, and still another about two Englishmen who talked of "swarming" a mountain. There are many smiles, a few real laughs and a great deal of keen criticism and thinking in this book, making it very enjoyable and one to be remembered.

Now, since summer seems to be well on the way and the summer furs coming again into view, it is proper that a fur story should be next. So here goes with "Rocking Moon," by Barrett Willoughby. That does not necessarily mean that the moon actually oscillates, as the title would seem to indicate, in fact the reasons for selecting such a title are not at all obvious and can be found only by closest scrutiny. The story is of the usual heman type with a proper accompaniment of the beautiful unsophisticated girl. In this case the most wonderful hero is a citizen of the United States, in good standing, who is afflicted with the wander lust, which has led him to the far north, to Alaska in fact. The background of the plot is the old Russian semi-barbarous frontier life, mysterious and dark. Native superstition adds to the wierdness of old caves and the long arctic nights. The plot has for its main theme, the wooing of the fair Sasha, daughter of a Russian priest. Of course the "American" wins and the romantic Irish-Russian loses, but who ever read of it happening otherwise, in books? The tale is not really so bad though quite likeable. The action does not drag and certain parts are quite mysterious, so that interest does not lag.

"The Anatomy of Tobacco," by Arthur Machen; "Chimes," by Robert Herrick, and "Rocking Moon," by Barrett Willoughby, were furnished for reviewing by The College Bookstore through the courtesy of Mr. F. C. Long.