

CLIPPING FROM

Book Review Digest

NEW YORK CITY

MAR - - 1929

FEB 1930

473

GIDE, ANDRE PAUL GUILLAUME. School for wives; tr. from the French by Dorothy Bussy. 116p \$2 Knopf 29-18949

"The first part of Eveline's Diary in 'The School for Wives' is written just before her marriage; the second twenty years after. The purity and gravity of her young love, the intensity of her devotion, are expressed in a liquid and transparent language. Eveline's second diary, beginning after twenty years of marriage, when she is on the point of leaving her husband, contains pages which for candid emotion and sheer poignancy are unforgettable. Nothing can be more commonplace than Eveline's story of disillusion, despair, and sacrifice, nothing more exquisitely expressive and nuanced than the progress of her disenchantment, more pathetically concise than the end of the drama."—Sat R of Lit

Reviewed by J: Chamberlain  
Bookm 70:204 O 29 600w

"The 'School for Wives' [has] naturalness, directness, and a surface perfection which conceals a great many subtleties of character and judgment. Its limpid style is well rendered by Dorothy Bussy, Gide's official translator; her work, which was not very satisfactory at first, has improved with each new book. And yet, the novel will be disappointing to those readers who, unfamiliar with its author's versatility, were expecting something more ambitious."  
Malcolm Cowley  
+ Books (N Y Herald Tribune) p5 O 20  
+ 29 950w

Boston Transcript p2 O 9 '29 430w  
"In this brief and remarkably condensed novel M. Gide shows himself to be not only profound but over-subtle, for so fastidiously has he handled the character drawing and the central theme that the real point is likely to be missed. In 'The Counterfeiters' the author used the diary framework to give his people neighborly reality and to enable him to comment freely upon them and their affairs, although the comment is limited strictly by the terms of Edouard, the novelist, whose notebook we are supposed to be reading."  
Pierre Loving  
Nation 130:49 Ja 8 '30 300w

Reviewed by L: Sherwin  
N Y Evening Post p6m S 28 '29 550w

"This noteworthy book, which can be read in an hour, is remarkable as a literary tour de force, as a character study of truly Gallic subtlety, and as the exposition of an obscure moral problem involving no overt act. As a triumph of literary skill, the presentation of a complicated story of disillusionment by the medium of a diary kept by a guileless woman is striking."  
F. L. Robbins  
+ Outlook 153:109 S 18 '29 230w

"'The School for Wives' is a marvel of simplicity and economy . . . perfect unity, classical continuity, two characters only, a man and his wife, both of them coherent and static, one single observer and recorder, the wife, one single record, the wife's diary, the style a miracle of directness and simplicity: not one difficult word in the whole volume."  
Abel Chevalley  
+ Sat R of Lit 6:205 O 5 '29 1200w

Mar. 1929