

MEMORIES OF A GENIUS

OSCAR WILDE. By Andre Gide. Philosophical Library, New York, \$2.75.

This is the first authorized American translation of Gide's personal memories of Wilde. When the Irish poet came into disrepute, Gide rushed to his defense. When the scandalous trial threatened to wreck Wilde's life, some tried to defend him through his works; but Gide, on the other hand, insisted that the man too was admirable.

These sketches were written at the turn of the century. They reveal Wilde at the prime of life, before prison and public condemnation broke his spirit. Frequent meetings with the genius gave Gide material for these intimate recordings of the great writer's character and ability. Wilde was a master of the epigram and Gide quotes many which did not appear elsewhere in print. When he got out of prison he went first to France and it was there that the author saw much of him and heard him talk of his agonizing experiences and his plans for the future. Some of Wilde's letters from prison are literary masterpieces not printed in collections of his works.

in: E.D.-Lambright
Tampa Sunday Tri-
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