

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE.

Katharine Susannah Prichard.

Nationality: Australian.

Born , Levuka, Fiji, 1884. Father , Tom Henry Prichard, then editor of "The Fiji Times". He arrived in Australia with his parents at the age of four. The family came from Monmouthshire in Wales and settled in Victoria. Mother, Edith Isabel Fraser, daughter of Simon Lovat Fraser, born in Australia. Grandfather Fraser came from Clare in the West of Ireland and Grandmother Fraser from Edinburgh. She was a sister of John Rockhead , architect of the Wallace monument at Stirling.

Childhood and youth spent in Victoria. Educated at State schools and South Melbourne College, afterwards took night lectures at the Melbourne university . Contributed short stories to "The Bulletin " (Sydney) , "The Australasian " (Melbourne), " New Idea", and many other Australian publications. Went to London 1908 and later to the U.S.A. Freelancing in Fleet street, wrote for "The Daily Chronicle", "The Star", "Daily News", "Globe", "Weekly Dispatch", "Pall Mall Gazette", "English Review", "Daily Herald". Also "Progress", "Documents du Progrès" and "Dokumente des Fortschritts", published in Paris. Editor women's work on "The Herald", Melbourne. 1910.

1915. "The Pioneers" won Hodder and Stoughton's £1,000 prize

1916. "Windlestraws", written earlier , published in London.

1921. " The Black Opal", published by Heinemann.

1919. married Captain Hugo Throssell. V.C. . Have since lived in The Darling Ranges , at Greenmount, West Australia.

1922. only son, Ric Prichard Throssell, was born.

1924. "The Grey Horse" won "Art in Australia" prize for a short story.

1926 "The Pioneers" filmed in Australia.

1926. "Working Bullocks". (Jonathan Cape ) London . Published by Viking Press in U.S.A.

1927. "Brumby Innes" won "The Triad" prize for a Three-Act Play.

1928. "The Wild Oats of Han", a children's story , written earlier-- about 1915-- appeared in "The Home" and was published by Angus and Robertson , Sydney .

1928. "Coonardoo" won "Bulletin" prize. Published , Jonathan Cape, London . In the U.S.A. by W.W. Norton

1929. "Haxby's Circus " was runner up in a £2,000 . English novel competition . Published , Jonathan Cape , London . In U.S.A. by W.W. Norton.

2. Biographical Note -- Katharine Susannah Prichard.

1930. "The Earth Lover" , poems. Sunnybrooke Press. Sydney .  
1932. " Kiss On The Lips", short stories. Jonathan Cape .  
1934. after a visit to the U.S.S.R. , "The Real Russia". Modern Publishers. Sydney.  
1941. "Moon of Desire." Jonathan Cape.  
1937. "Intimate Strangers" . Jonathan Cape.  
1944. "Potch and Colour", short stories. Jonathan Cape per Angus and Robertson , Sydney .  
1946. "The Roaring Nineties", Jonathan Cape and Australasian Publishing Comp.Pty Ltd.  
1948. " Golden Miles." second of goldfields trilogy , by same publishers.  
1950. "Winged Seeds", third of trilogy , ~~by same publishers~~ , due for publication by Jonathan Cape , at time of writing.

Translations:

- "Working Bullocks". Russian 1933. French 1949.  
"Haxby's Circus". Hungarian 1935.  
" The Pioneers" Africans. 1945.  
"The Roaring Nineties". French , as "Les Chercheurs D'Or" , 1947.  
" Golden Miles". Czech 1949. Polish and Slovak 1950 .  
Russian 1950.  
Short Stories . French and German .

- "The Pioneers.  
"Working Bullocks".  
"Coonardoo".  
"Haxby's Circus ."
- } American editions.  
("Fay's Circus" in American edition .)

Anthologies.

- "A World of Great Stories". "The Grey Horse". Crown Publishers New York . Only Australian writer in this collection .  
"Capajon". "The Cooboo" and "Grey Horse". Mackaness.  
Australian Short Stories . Nettie's Palmer.  
Australian Short stories . Dolphin Press.  
Australian Short Stories .

Travels: Europe & the U.S.A. , South Seas, Malaya,  
the U.S.S.R. - & all over Australia -  
Address: Greenmount , West Australia .

NOTES FROM REVIEWS.

"The Pioneers". Philadelphia Press.-- "We will await with interest other works by the same author, works that she needs must write now that her work has received recognition, and won the interest of the reading world. That they will be strong and fine and able we may well believe, but that they will equal, or even approach, this masterpiece, is almost beyond the most sanguine belief. It is the work of a lifetime, this book, and well worth while."

"Working Bullocks". John O'London Weekly.-- "We are given some marvellously vivid and powerful pictures of elemental forces at work in men, women, horses and forests. Character emerges rough-hewn and Homeric."

"The Bulletin" Sydney -- "A work of genius, and a novel of which any country might be proud."

"New York Times"-- "An impressive, realistic novel from Australia. A startling and unusual novel."

"Coonardoo." Herald. (Melbourne) "It must be reckoned Katharine Susannah Prichard's best work. With it she holds her position as our leading novelist, irrespective of sex."

"Observer" (London) "And certainly if any other Australian novel of that year was better, that other novel must have been astonishingly good... Here is a novel of which Australia may well be proud."

"Fay's Circus" (Haxby's Circus in English edition.) (Independent. Los Angeles. -- "Hold your horses: here come the elephants! The best circus story in ten pale moons. We emerge from this excellent novel's spell wiser, refreshed and richer".

"The Roaring Nineties". TRIBUNE. (London) "In the present novel, she carries her naturalist method to a still higher level, and I think vindicates her position as the most important Australian novelist, the main exponent of the school of critical realism. She tells the story of Western Australian gold mining. ... A noble book. And there are not many books to which one can nowadays apply that epithet."

"The Roaring Nineties challenges comparison with the best contemporary novels written anywhere and will, doubtless, take its place among them." Mirror. Sydney.

"Golden Miles". Montreal Gazette. "Golden Miles" tempts the reviewer to employ all the well-worn, fulsome adjectives which may be applied to a book which one has enjoyed, modifiers like ~~enthralling~~ robust, exciting and enthralling."

Tribune (London). What would happen to the novel industry in England if it somehow, against all its good intentions, turned up a novelist with such massive, earthy and passionate (if slightly ponderous) understanding both of people and the whole set up here, as Mrs Prichard has of West Australia. It's hard to imagine in our thin and rickety novel world."

Notes <sup>from</sup> of Reviews .

"The Roaring Nineties" . THE ARGUS. Melbourne .  
Magnificent close-ups of the bush , in all its haunting,  
inhuman, arid, yet creative grimness. She has it in her  
blood and thinks Australian . "

SYDNEY MORNING HERALD. " Miss Prichard's subject is the  
sub-struggle of the crowd; hers is an art of mass observation, and  
her hero is the masses. "

NEW YORK TIMES . C. Hartley Grattan . "The Roaring Nineties"  
is unquestionably the most important Australian novel of recent  
years . . . . . Katharine Susannah Prichard is now unquestionably  
the most important fiction writer of Australia. "

WOMAN'S MIRROR ( Sydney . ) H. M. Green . "Katharine Susannah  
Prichard is also the most representative novelist that Australia  
has yet produced. Lawson still remains our most representative  
writer, but he wrote no novels, and no set of novels by any one auth-  
or gives a better idea of this country than those of Katharine  
Susannah Prichard . "

The BOOKMAN . ( John H.C. Sleeman ) "Katharine Prichard  
is , to my mind , Australia's greatest living novelist . "

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