

ENGL 215 Live Chat 1c



Zoom Meeting Information

- Zoom Meetings are about 60 minutes in length.
- Zoom Meetings are recorded.
- Recordings and PowerPoint presentations are posted on onQ (under “Activities” > “Zoom Meetings”).
- Participate in the discussion by using the “Chat” window or by raising your hand in “Reactions.”
- Your camera may be on or off.

ENGL 215 Zoom Meetings

Weeks 1-3	Live Chat 1a Confederation Poets	Live Chat 1b Duncan Campbell Scott	Live Chat 1c Stephen Leacock
Weeks 4-6	Live Chat 2a Modernist Poets	Live Chat 2b Mordecai Richler	Live Chat 2c Margaret Atwood
Weeks 7-9	Live Chat 3a Basil Johnston	Live Chat 3b Contemporary Poets	Live Chat 3c Ann-Marie MacDonald
Weeks 10-12	Live Chat 4a Tomson Highway	Live Chat 4b Brad Fraser	Live Chat 4c Thomas King

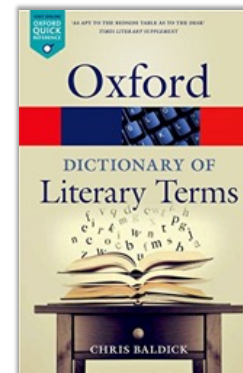
ENGL 215 Live Chat 1c



Appendix D1

- **Envoi:** What is the rhetorical function of the Envoi of Stephen Leacock’s *Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town*, “The Train to Mariposa”?

short-story cycle



- a.k.a. short-story sequence
- a series of short stories that are linked together or associated with one another in some significant or meaningful way
 - same setting
 - recurring characters
 - recurring motifs and images
- can be understood and appreciated both individually and as a collection (83)

Stephen Leacock, *Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town*

The sketches proper [of *Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town*] are grouped into five thematic sections: 1) sketches one and two, concerning Josh Smith and Jeff Thorpe respectively, deal primarily with business, with the first including an important reference to and anticipation of the political concerns of the last two sketches; 2) sketch three portrays in microcosm the social life of Mariposa aboard the Mariposa Belle; 3) sketches four through six deal with the religious dimension to life in the town; 4) sketches seven through nine centre their concern on romance, love, marriage and family; and 5) sketches ten and eleven depict the political life of Mariposans and the practices of their candidates for the national legislature.

Lynch, Gerald. *Stephen Leacock: Humour and Humanity*. Montreal: McGill-Queen's UP, 1988.

Stephen Leacock, *Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town*

1. Economic Issues

... it was not till the seventeenth day that Mr Smith, in the privacy of the back bar, broke the silence and explained. "I tell you, boys," he says, "it's a caff—like what they have in the city—a ladies' and gent's caff, and that underneath (what's yours, Mr Mullins?) is a Rats' Cooler. And when I get her started, I'll hire a French Chief to do the cooking, and for the winter I will put in a 'girl room,' like what they have in the city hotels. And I'd like to see who's going to close her up then." (15)

2. Social Issues

Look at the lights and the crowd! If only the federal census taker could count us now! Hear them calling and shouting back and forward from the deck to the shore! Listen! There is the rattle of the shore ropes as they get them ready, and there's the Mariposa band,—actually forming in a circle on the upper deck just as she docks, and the leader with his baton,—one—two—ready now,—“O CAN-A-DA!” (52)

Stephen Leacock, *Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town*

Preface	Preface	Opening Narrative Frame	
Chapter 1	Hostelry of Mr Smith	Economic Issues	Pragmatic Realities
Chapter 2	Jefferson Thorpe	Social Issues	Spiritual Realities
Chapter 3	Knights of Pythias		
Chapter 4	Rev Mr Drone	Religious Issues	
Chapter 5	Whirlwind Campaign		
Chapter 6	Beacon on the Hill		
Chapter 7	Mr Pupkin	Romantic Issues	
Chapter 8	Zena Pepperleigh		
Chapter 9	Mariposa Bank Mystery	Political Issues	Pragmatic Realities
Chapter 10	Great Election		
Chapter 11	Candidacy of Mr Smith		
L'Envoi	Train to Mariposa	Closing Narrative Frame	

Stephen Leacock, *Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town*

3. Religious Issues

Mullins would notice the item for a hundred dollars due on fire insurance and would say ... that couldn't be fire insurance, and the Dean would say surely not, and change it: and Mullins would say surely there couldn't be fifty dollars for taxes, because there weren't any taxes, and the Dean would admit that of course it couldn't be for the taxes. In fact, the truth is that the Dean's figures were badly mixed, and the fault lay indubitably with the mathematical professor of two generations back. (57-58)

4. Romantic Issues

With hands clasped she would sit there dreaming, all the beautiful day-dreams of girlhood. When you saw that far-away look in her eyes, it meant that she was dreaming that a plumed and armoured knight was rescuing her from the embattled keep of a castle beside the Danube. At other times she was being borne away by an Algerian corsair over the blue waters of the Mediterranean and was reaching out her arms towards France to say farewell to it. (93)

 **Stephen Leacock,**
Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town

5. Political Issues

... the voters hesitated no longer. They had waited, most of them, all through the day, not wanting to make any error in their vote, but when they saw the Smith men crowding into the polls and heard the news from the outside, they went solid in one great stampede, and by the time the poll was declared closed at five o'clock there was no shadow of doubt that the county was saved and that Josh Smith was elected for Missinaba. (138)

Envoi

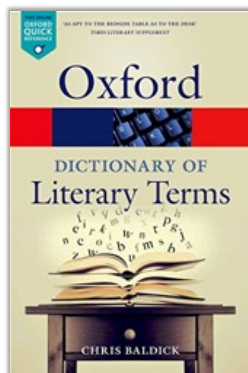
What? it feels nervous and strange to be coming here again after all these years? It must indeed. No, don't bother to look at the reflection of your face in the window-pane shadowed by the night outside. Nobody could tell you now after all these years. Your face has changed in these long years of money-getting in the city. Perhaps if you had come back now and again, just at odd times, it wouldn't have been so. (145)

 **Stephen Leacock,**
Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town

Viewed thus, the two-sketch business and political portions of the *Sketches* can be seen structurally to contain the social, religious, and romantic concerns of the book. This is what might be expected in the fiction of a political economist, and the exigencies of such a writer's priorities offer a reason why the social-microcosm sketch, "The Marine Excursion" is not the first sketch, as might be expected. The structure of the *Sketches* mirrors the priorities of life within Mariposa and, in a pragmatic sense, Leacock's priorities: the realities of business and politics appear first and last, and at the heart of the book is found what may be called the spiritual realities of religion and love.

Lynch, Gerald. *Stephen Leacock: Humour and Humanity*. Montreal: McGill-Queen's UP, 1988.

envoi



- French for "sending on the way"
- sometimes spelled *envoy*
- a final stanza, shorter than the preceding ones, often used in the *ballade* and *chant royal* poetic forms
- also repeats the *refrain* of the poem (118)
 - *refrain*: a phrase, line, or lines repeated at intervals through a poem, especially at the end of a stanza (306)

Queen's University Official Statement of Copyright: *This material is copyrighted and is for the sole use of students registered in courses at Queen's University. This material shall not be distributed or disseminated to anyone other than students registered in courses at Queen's University. Failure to abide by these conditions is a breach of copyright, and may also constitute a breach of academic integrity under the University Senate's Academic Integrity Policy Statement.*