

curiosity. Sir Victor's contribution is an essay, written in 1980, on the occasion of his eightieth birthday, and called, appropriately, "As Old as the Century." Mr. Stone, who died in 1979, at the age of seventy, has contributed twenty-five engravings under the title "The Seasons' Course"-a charming observation of the English countryside around the year. The pictures are serenely pastoral. In his essay, Sir Victor looks at the world into which he has surprisingly survived with a kind of serene belligerence. Mr. Stone and Sir Victor, Mr. Theroux tells us, were friends, and there is a comparable joy in both of their contributions, but he is surely mistaken when he says that "this book of pictures and print strikes such a lovely balance." It is more like Henry James illustrated by Andrew Wyeth. NOTE: "Liebling At Home," a collec-

tion of five books by A. J. Liebling—"The Telephone Booth Indian," "Chicago: The Second City," "The Honest Rainmaker," "The Earl of Louisiana," and "The Jollity Building"—has been published by Playboy (\$17.95 cloth, \$12.45 paper). Much of the contents originally appeared in *The New Yorker*. ... Summit/Simon & Schuster has published "Family Matters" (\$13.95), Burton Bernstein's history of two generations in his family. The text of this, too, was first printed here.

MYSTERY AND CRIME

MAIGRET HAS DOUBTS, by Georges Simenon, translated from the French by Lyn Moir (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich; \$10.95). Maigret is dining with his old friend Dr. Pardon, and the Doctor tells him of his worries about a dying patient with a wife and five children. Maigret, in turn, recalls a worrisome case of his own, in which the younger husband of a rich woman is accused of murdering her in order to marry his secretary. The case has many confusing elements; Maigret is convinced neither of the man's guilt nor of his innocence. There is an equivocal dénouement. This is Maigret at his moody, broody, reflective best.

NASA WENT WITH A WORD PROCESSOR MADE BY WHO? —Adv. in Datamation. Oh, some wandering non-word processor, apparently.