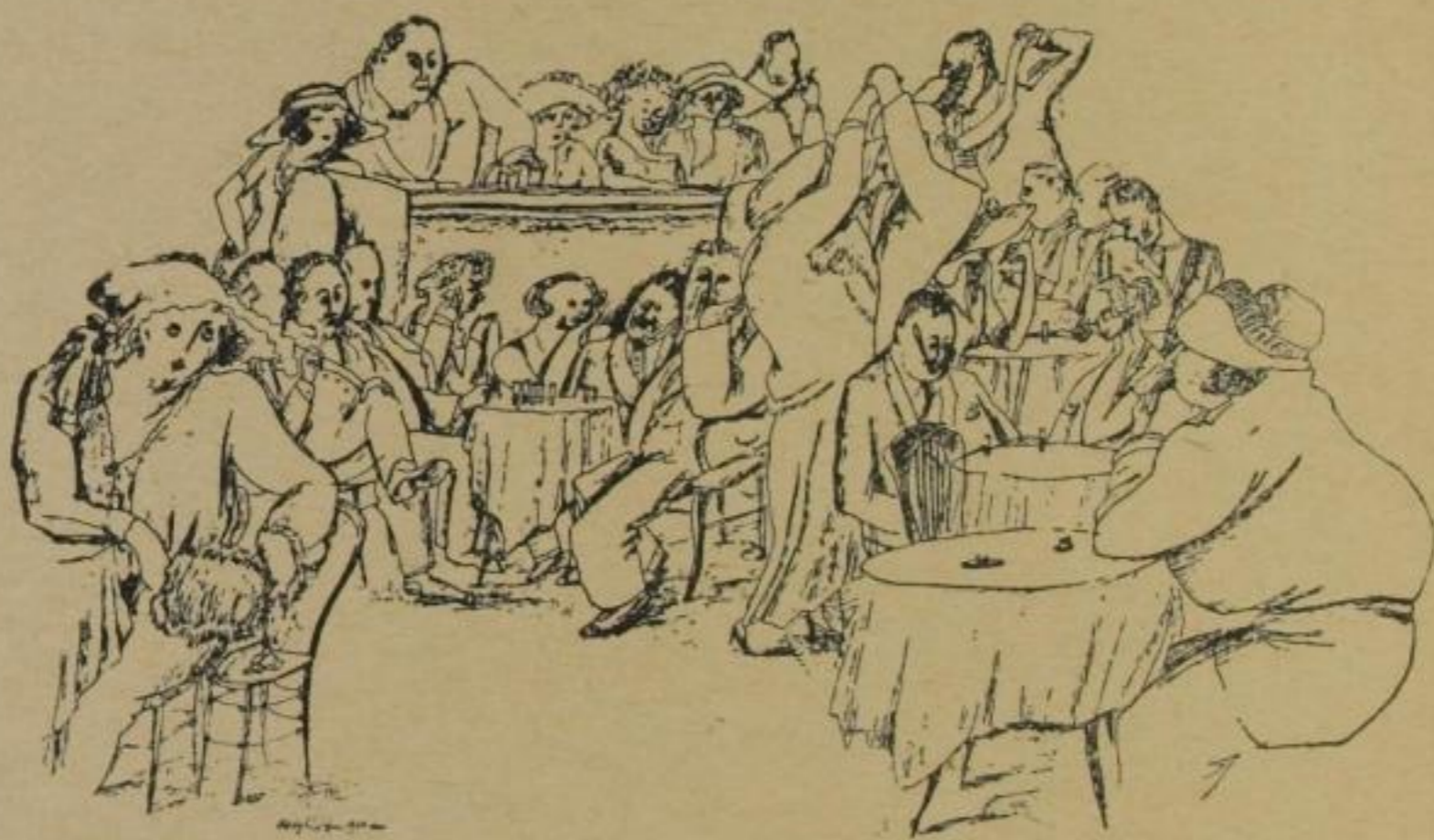


We have record of one scene the late Maurice Hewlett burying his head in his hands out of boredom, and the late Henry James touching him gently on the shoulder, and emitting the sepulchral irony "Come, come, we are not here to enjoy ourselves" (Anecdote told me by Monsieur Hewlett.) And as to the selection of members we have memory of a time when two candidates were proposed (B..... and C.....) Mr X.... had written to S. M. suggesting "B. and not C.", and received the magistral letter:

WHY B..... and not C....., I thought they were two buttocks of one bum?



Adolph Dehn

Wiener Bar

And I have a third memory of a Sussex cottage where the police descended upon us, namely Mr Yeats and myself, desiring me as an alien. And another morning we received news that Nobel award had gone to Tagore, and this filled us with merriment. It filled us with merriment because Mr Yeats had tried to get Tagore elected to the "Academic Committee" and the committee had voted against it. Yeats thought they wouldn't have Tagore because they thought him a nigger.

They refused Tagore and they chose in his place the Dean Inge. And Mr Tagore is a very good poet in Bengali, and they none of them could understand that the award was made to Mr Tagore because of his poems in *bengali* and not for the translations of those poems into prose english.

It is quite possible that they have proposed Inge to the Swedish electors, if not this year, possibly last year.

And what Fleet St. (London journalism) overlooks in its present ferment; is the fact that William Yeats is a very great poet, and that every literate, english-reading man of my generation, or let us say of the decade of which I am the youngest member, has known Yeats' poems from adolescence, and loved them, and owned them and read them over and over, and that they rank with the work of the great minor poets (minor in the sense that they have sung one mood, or two moods, but not all moods); and that Yeats ripped away the rhetoric of english verse.

And in modesty he has commented, "I got rid of one sort of rhetoric, and seem to have invented another"; which is in a measure true, but does not cover the