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to begin with . . .

The most comforting illusion of parenthood is the unquestioning belief that this child will be the wittiest, the wisest, the most wondrous of all. We could envision no less of OHIOANA who makes her curtsy to you now.

She will tell you of her "family" and her "home" with a child's affectionate enthusiasm and frankness. You will expect her to be provincial. Dismiss the thought. Her kith and kin have roamed the frontiers of the world and the mind. Her relatives, at home and ex-patriate, whom she will present to you, are cosmopolitans of culture and learning, in entertaining variety.

Being practical, OHIOANA will, with arch innocence, attract your attention to her family's current literary efforts, hopefully expecting you to buy and read them. She understands the twin hungers of mind and body which invade her authors.

Acquaintance ripening into friendship, you may discover the spirit of OHIOANA and share her enthusiasm for her "home and family." We sincerely hope so.

EUGENE D. RIGNEY, Chairman
Board of Editors

IN APPRECIATION

It should add to our readers' enjoyment to know that all the signed articles have been contributed by the writers without compensation.

The layout and art work have also been contributed. William Marshall of the Ohio State Museum suggested the format as his donation and Columbus Art, Inc., created the layout and furnished all the art work at no charge.

The monetary value of these contributions is far more than we could ever pay. We are correspondingly grateful for them and for the love of Ohio which inspired them.

The contributors are not responsible for the proof reading, which has been done by the staff.

Kiplinger rambles 'round about Ohio and the past

WILLARD KIPLINGER, of the famous Kiplinger Washington Letters, is a native of Bellefontaine, Logan County. His latest book, BOOM AND INFLATION AHEAD (Simon and Schuster, $1.95, paper bound), appeared in January with an advance sale of 100,000 copies. It is reviewed in this issue.

I. SALUTE

It's fine for Ohio to have a new publication devoted to the writers and authors of the state, and for Ohio libraries to pay special attention to the literary products of the native sons and daughters. Of course, Ohio writers and authors are better than those of other states, because Ohio is better than other states. This is never doubted by those of us who were born and grew up there, and the proof of it is that we were born and grew up there. We love Ohio at close range and afar, and when someone points a finger at us as natives, we nearly bust with pride. We are recognized by Ohio. We have arrived. There's nowhere to go any higher.

Now, there's a difference between writers and authors, and it is this: Writers write for today, and can be read by millions for a nickel or dime or quarter, and the product then be sold as wastepaper, which brings a high price. Authors are people whose stuff is bound between board covers, and sold for reading by relatively few, and then preserved and stood upright on shelves, to gather dust, unbroken and unsoiled by human hands, but catalogued by librarians. It's the board covers that make the difference.

Writers and authors have special virtues. One is that they keep other occupations from being overcrowded. For example, I was brought up to be a carriage maker, like my father and grandfather, and the world lost a good one when I turned to writing. There are compensations in these matters, however, for the world today might not know what to do with an unemployed carriage maker.

Another thing about writers and authors is that plaques sometimes get put on the houses where they were born. When some literary ladies went looking
for the house where I was born in Bellefontaine, they found it had belonged to my carriage-maker grandfather who had been done out of business by the horseless carriage, and they also found that it had been torn down to make room for a parking lot. This shows Ohio’s progress.

One of the most important points about people who write is that they have roots. You might not suspect it when you see them so busy making a show of their flowers, leaves and other verdure, but they really do have roots. As for Ohio writers, they have roots in Ohio, which seems fairly obvious. A point not always obvious, however, is that soil conditions determine the verdure, although the soil isn’t always given credit. I know well that the Ohio soil out of which I grew does influence my thinking, my actions and my writing today. Not only have I not outgrown Ohio, but I try not to outgrow it, I even cling to it. This is not sentimentalism. It is a sound way of keeping close to people and human attitudes, without which no writing is of much good.

The soil is made of the locality and the times, and the times are a part of history. You can bite off any portion of your life, and you will find the times important and significant. I’ll try biting off my childhood, and see whether those times mean anything to you. Bear in mind that as a reporter I tell you only what I knew, saw and thought, and bar out anything I have learned by reading.

II. REMINISCENCES

The world started in Bellefontaine, Logan County, Western Ohio, in 1891. There were some goings-on before then, but they were either hearsay, which came from older people, or history, which you could read in books. As for the Biblical story of the beginning of things, it was for Sunday belief.

The arc light originated in Bellefontaine. It was the light at the street corner, made by electricity and two carbon fingers. These carbons were removed every little while and thrown in the gutter, and neighbor boys used them for writing.

The Spanish-American war occurred at Bellefontaine. The volunteers, the boys in blue, got together at the depot one morning, and went away in coaches on the railroad train, sticking their heads out of windows, yelling and waving their caps. My uncle Huber was on the train and I didn’t understand what made my mother cry.

The Spanish-American war brought us boys the glass mustard bottles, shaped liked the battleship Maine, and all the boys ate mustard like mad, so as to get more glass ships, so as to have bigger navies than anyone else.

The war also brought us interesting papers from New York, with interesting stories about how pigs ate babies that fell into their pens, and other interesting stuff that was better than the local news in the Bellefontaine Examiner. (I carried the paper, but didn’t read it.)

Most respectable people were Methodists or Baptists or Lutherans, but there were some people on the other side of the railroad tracks who got up early on Sundays and went to 6:30 service, called Mass. We thought it an odd custom.

Most people, being respectable, were Republicans and for McKinley as against Bryan, who was some sort of an irresponsible person, on account of something about silver.

The Bible was the Word of God, and every phrase in it dripped with meaning, if you could only find it. You could open the Bible at any page, and start reading, and you could find consolation. Even the begats, if you knew how to see through them.

Sin consisted of theater going, card playing, dancing, and envying thy neighbor his ox or his ass. As for smoking and drinking, it was taken for granted that they were beyond the pale. Father chewed plug tobacco at his bench in the carriage factory, but it was a family secret. Mother and Grandmother were stalwarts in the W. C. T. U. Peruna was barred, for it had a whiskey base.

As a boy I thought I was well-read, for I had read Longfellow, the George A. Henty books, BLACK BEAUTY, BEAUTIFUL JOE, TREASURE ISLAND and UNCLE TOM'S CABIN. Tried a thick book called THE COLLECTED WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, but found it confused and meaningless. If you wanted to know things you looked them up in Chamber’s Encyclopaedia, but the family set ended with the L-M volume, and there were lots of subjects that started with R. The public library didn’t come along until later, when Andy Carnegie made quite a whoopee about it. Long-fellow as a boy wrote poems and hid them about the house, where they were discovered by his family, so they knew he was going to be a grown-up poet. I, too, wrote poems and hid them around the house, but they were not discovered, and I felt it was a pity.

My childhood knowledge of places in the wide world beyond Bellefontaine was extensive. Columbus was the place where the trains came into the depot downstairs. Cincinnati was the place where street cars ran downhill on cables. Cleveland was the place where you went to take a boat for Niagara Falls. Puttin' Bay (pronounced that way) was the place where well-to-do people went on summer vacations. Lima was where they had oil wells, that coal oil came from, and the cheaper gasoline that was mainly a cleaning fluid. Toledo was where the T. & O. C. R. R. went. Wapakoneta was the place you changed cars from the traction. Springfield was the largest city in the world. Zanesfield was where Dr. Sloan got his start at making liniment for man and beast. And Bellefontaine was the center of the world, and geography books said the highest point in Ohio was near there.

The proper pay in those days was $3 a day. I know this because my father made it.

The family moved to Miamisburg, Ohio, where father got another job. There was the Indian Mound, and Indian arrowheads in the corn fields after a rain, and trilobites in the blue clay near the Mound. The family lived in a log house on the old Indian trail on the Zehring tobacco farm. (Well along in the next century, this farm became the site of the Monsanto Chemical Plant, all underground, making mystery stuff such as atoms.)

The turn of the century occurred at Dayton, where the family moved for a job at the Woodhull Carriage Works. The turn of the century may have occurred elsewhere at the same time, but I am not personally aware of it, and should
and took us boys for a ride. It had a tiller, and ran pretty fast, about as fast as a horse, and some of the boys said it was an Olds, which seemed an odd name for such a new thing.

The most magnificent dump in the world was at Dayton. From it came wheels, bearings for bicycles, axles, scrap iron, tin, and all sorts of wood to make things with. It was only six blocks away from Louis and Garst Streets, where we lived. Years later a hospital came along and ruined the dump by building on it, what with grass and flowers, but no dump.

The boys had neighborhood "armies," too. I was captain of one, which was called the "Americans," and the others were the "Spaniards." We fought in back alleys with wooden swords and also fists, but one day the Principal of the Thirteenth District School, Mr. Davidson, called us in and said we would have to quit it, so we did. Years later we heard about juvenile delinquency and gang warfare, and thought back and wondered.

Then the family moved to Columbus, which was a big step up in the world. You could go to the State University and still live at home. It wouldn't cost much more than living anywhere else. Going to college was Something. Precisely what wasn't clear, but it lifted you above the herd. It improved your family standing. It was some sort of magic.

To pay the way through college there was that blessed Wearever aluminum cooking ware, which I peddled in summer vacations from door to door in Columbus, Worthington, Westerville, Grove City, Plain City, London, Mt. Sterling (John Bricker's folks there, and Johnny was a crack catcher), Chillicothe, Waverly (quiet village then), Dayton, Hamilton, Middletown (horse cars there), Marion, (Mrs. Harding there), Cardington, Millersburg (Mother Cole there), Fredericksburg, Holmesville, Kilbuck and Apple Creek. Cooking ware paid better than writing.

Always I had wanted to be a newspaper reporter. I don't know why. It wasn't any zeal for news or the events of the day. Perhaps it was because I liked to write, using long words that sounded good, often not making much sense. Perhaps it was that I thought I could see my name in print. Perhaps it was because I thought writing was writing, and might lead to authorship of short stories like O. Henry's, or great novels, or poems that would go ringing down through the ages. Anyway, I found Heck Harrington at the University. He taught journalism, and I clung to him like a burr.

In those days it was commonly said that newspapermen were born, not made. The idea of a college-trained journalist was preposterous and presumptuous. Yet the State University wheels ground for four years and popped out two boys who were supposed to be college-trained journalists. One was Jake Meckstroth and one was me. It cost us both at least six months to establish the confidence of our fellow reporters who were born newspapermen, not synthetic like us. Then our colleagues found that we weren't notably better than they were, and didn't so claim, and thereafter we worked and lived in peace and amity.

There were those exciting years as a reporter on the old Ohio State Journal under Col. Wilson, Bob Ryder and Harry Brandon. Then the step up to the Ohio Bureau of the Associated Press, in the days of Jim Cox. Then to Washington for the Associated Press. I was getting along in years, nearing 27, and what happened after that is not a part of this Ohio story.

III. REFLECTIONS

Sometimes people ask me how a "career" in writing is put together, how it happened, whether it was planned that way. I haven't the faintest idea of what to say. It's just a series of incidents and accidents that pushes a life this way or that way, without any indication of ultimate outcome. Or, at least, that's the way it seems to me. There may be some general steering, generally in some uncertain direction, but this seems to be secondary to the sharp bounces that come along, that bounce a life or a career and send it caroming. You look back and say this or that was the turning point, but each turning point was a result of some other turning point, and if you
try to figure it all out you go nuts, or
else you develop into a pompous fellow,
puffing yourself up and rationalizing
toward the rear. If you had life to live
over again, you wouldn't have made
those same mistakes, but you'd have
made other mistakes and been a fool in
even more gorgeous ways.

As a person gets older he doesn't get
dumber, but he gets a fuller understand­
ing of how dumb he was—last year, last
month and last week. It's a shocking
thought, for it makes a person wonder
about how he ranks today.

There's one point on which there is
never any doubt, however. It is that all
of us are in debt to those who went
before us—by either decades, or gen­
erations or centuries. Apply this spe­
cifically to Ohio. We owe a lot to those
who went there first, cut down trees,
started farming, laid out roads, built
little school houses and churches, started
their local governments, collected money
for colleges, and did all the other things
which we came along and took for
granted. Towns got libraries going, of­
ten driven into it by Andrew Carnegie's
"advanced ideas."

Nowadays we put on airs by calling
ourselves and our system "modern." We
aren't modern at all, we are just on our
way. We are still pioneers, doing some
jobs well, some jobs poorly. We are
bounding along, zigging and zagging,
cussing ourselves because we aren't going
faster, belaboring ourselves over what's
still wrong, more aware than ever before
of the things that are wrong, or the
things undone. Well, OK, OK, but
those are the thoughts that our pioneer
forebears thought, in Ohio or anywhere
else, and perhaps we do deserve to rank
along with them. Perhaps we DO.

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**On Prefixes**

Here lie the bones of Henry Hanks;
His goodly life was free of sin.
Disgruntlement he never knew,
For grunted he had never been.
A loyal man, he held his job
For fifty years, it should be noted;
Demotion he had never known,
Since never once had he been moted.
His spirit, now at last released,
Must drift unhappily because
Exuberant 'twill never be,
Since uberant he never was.

---

Joe (Joseph S.) Newman of the editorial department of *The Cleveland Press* was born
in New London, Huron County. He is the author of three books of collected verse *POEMS
FOR PENGUINS, IT COULD BE VERSE* and *PERISHABLE POEMS*.

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**Prelude to Independence**

**The Newspaper War on Britain 1764-1776**


The author is a native of Xenia, Greene County, who taught history for many years at
The Ohio State University, and is now retired from the faculty of Harvard University.

**ARTHUR M. SCHLESINGER**, who
was born in Xenia, Ohio, seventy
years ago (on February 27, 1888), is
retired now; but for many years he has
been widely admired as one of our most
distinguished historians. As a professor
of history he has taught at Ohio State, the
University of Iowa and Harvard. He
is the author of many books on various
aspects of American history. His newest,
"Prelude To Independence: The News­
paper War On Britain 1764-1776," was
published last January.

This is a good book, as was only to
be expected. It is based on exhaustive
research and scrupulous scholarship. It is
buttressed with formidable documenta­
tion. It is crammed with facts, which, so
far as I know, have never been assembled
before in so thorough a manner. But
"Prelude To Independence" is an aca­
demic work written by a learned profes­
sor for other learned professors and their
students. Mr. Schlesinger writes much
better than many of his dry-as-dust col­
leagues; but he has made no effort to
interest a popular audience. His point
of view is technical, his focus of attention
sharply restricted. He assumes a back­
ground of historical information pos­
sessed by very few indeed.

Nevertheless, this able book is an im­
portant contribution to the history of this
country. Its purpose is "to assess the role
of the newspaper in undermining loyalty
to the mother country and creating a de­
mand for separation." This means that
Mr. Schlesinger has described not only
the role of the colonial weekly news­
papers, but also all the other methods

**Reviewed by**

**ORVILLE PRESCOTT** a native of Cleve­
land and nationally known as the daily
which were used to manipulate public opinion. These included public meetings, committees which circulated letters throughout all thirteen colonies, parades and demonstrations, riots and planned lawlessness of many kinds. The patriots, says Mr. Schlesinger, exhibited extraordinary skill in "playing upon the emotions of the ignorant as well as the minds of the educated."

But the most important propaganda method open to the patriots' use was the press. The little, four-page papers set by hand and printed on hand presses printed news favorable to the patriots' cause and eloquent exhortations by such fiery writers as James Otis, Sam Adams and John Dickinson. Partisan, prejudiced and vehement, the patriotic papers aroused their readers with exaggerations, distortions and downright lies. They were passed from hand to hand and read widely. Anything particularly striking in one paper was usually picked up and printed in the rest—there were never as many as thirty papers.

Opposition to the Stamp Act, the Townshend Acts and the Intolerable Acts led to abuse of Tories and finally to demands for outright independence. And in the heat of controversy slogans were coined and ideas expressed which are still valid today.

Dickinson in his celebrated "Letters of a Farmer in Pennsylvania to the Inhabitants of the British Colonies" wrote: "We cannot be HAPPY, without being FREE—that we cannot be free, without being secure in our property—that we cannot be secure in our property, if, without our consent, others may, as by right, take it away."

And Benjamin Mecom made the following the slogan of his Connecticut Gazette: "Those who would give up Essential Liberty, to purchase a little Temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety."

Poet (SANS TOGA)

Long have the seven hills of Rome wooed poets. Long have they charmed the loving chronicler; (The loving and the willing.) Proof is graphic. The odes, epistles, sonnets now incur A proper awe, but I, midwestern poet, Would praise the hills that pleat Ohio land. The verdant guards above beloved valleys Are hills that I have known and understand. Muse, wait until I fetch my ball-point quill And meet me on yon buckeye-dotted hill!

—BETTY JANE BALCH

Betty Jane Balch (Mrs. Terrence Scherrer) of Coshocton and Columbus has contributed a goodly number of poems to The Saturday Evening Post, The Saturday Review and other magazines. She writes both light and serious verse.

Why Folk Hero Stories FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

By

JAMES CLOYD BOWMAN

An intimate revelation of the rewards and satisfactions a scholar gets from writing for young people.

I HAVE wondered over and over again a thousand times about the kinds of stories we should tell our boys and girls. Generation after generation, they come bursting into life with no knowledge of the bitterness and frustration of their elders. They're like the shining morning sun and the opening spring flowers. Our schools attempt to condition these youngsters for society; nearly always this means, conditioning them for the world of fear and hate and despair. The wonder to me is that more effort is not being made to condition them for a better world.

From this point of view, I have chosen to tell stories of stout-hearted men, who have dreamed great dreams and have led their generation in doing great deeds. When they were met head-on by a worsening crisis, they met it promptly, and led their people on to victory. Fear and hatred and frustration never entered their world.

My hope has been to bring alive in the minds and hearts of boys and girls a few of these stout-hearted men so vividly that they become life companions, comrades to whisper words of hope and cheer as the long trail winds on and on and to the very end of their journey, and without fear.

To me these have not turned out empty wishes. Six months ago, I was undergoing a series of tests at the Lahey Clinic. One of the younger doctors looked down and asked, "What business have you engaged in?" Trying to forget my pain, I answered, "Oh, nothing much, I'm a mere egghead, a college professor." The doctor took another look, but said nothing. I forced a crooked smile and added, "But I did have a fascinating James Cloyd Bowman, a native of Leipsic, Putnam County, is the author and editor of scholarly books used in many colleges. Dearest to his heart, it seems, are his books for young people, about our Folk Heroes: THE ADVENTURES OF PAUL BUNYAN, PECOS BILL, JOHN HENRY, and, most recently, MIKE PINK (Little, Brown, 1937.) Before long his story about Johnny Appleseed should be in print.
been my good fortune in life to make friends with many men from many walks of life. One thing most of my college friends could never fathom was why I'd go out fishing or hunting with men of all sorts. I have read many thousand books, but I have gleaned more wisdom and information from men than from books.

The differences of Paul Bunyan, and laughed and laughed. Are you the Mr. Bowman who got his painful probing. The author faces a hard problem in getting at the facts surrounding any Folk and hearts of youth than cold matter-of-fact and more lasting impression on the minds old and young—excepting the stolid and unimaginative. Besides, the folk tales and legends so closely associated with these Negroes have been a steel driver himself. From his lips I took down and put in my story the hammer song John Henry was chanting when he died with his hammer in his hand. I soon learned that the death of this folk hero had more influence on the conduct of the American Negroes than any other event outside the Emancipation Proclamation. The Tuskegee Department of Fine Arts made the pictures, and Hull, the minstrel who had led Barnum's Negro Band, wrote the scores at the beginning of my chapters.

Personally, my Johnny Appleseed story lies closest my heart. This doesn't mean that my other heroes are not my close companions, too. An author must live intimately with his characters; and to know them, he must love them.

My father, when a lad of nine, walked into Ohio barefoot at the side of his father's covered wagon, all the way from Eastern Pennsylvania, to become one of the earliest settlers in Putnam County. This happened the year that Johnny Appleseed died. I was raised largely on Johnny's Northern Spies and Rambo apples. My home was within four miles of the Blanchard River, along which Johnny had journeyed back and forth for twenty years preceding his death.

When I began writing Folk Hero stories, I decided to write Johnny's story, and began hit and miss research at off times. My big time came seven years ago when I made a trip into Indiana to speak at the annual meeting of the Junior Librarians. I wrote ahead to ask if there was any person I might contact who was interested in Johnny.

At Indianapolis, my contacts brought little return. After speaking and auto-photographing books, I flew on to Fort Wayne. As I was signing the register at the hotel, the clerk handed me a letter from the most outstanding authority on Johnny. It read: "I'm waiting here in the lobby. Page me. 6:40 p.m. Robert C. Harris."

Because of our mutual companions, Johnny, we were close friends at the first hand-clasp. I invited Mr. Harris up to my room. We talked until midnight. At leaving, he asked if he might show me around after I had spoken the next morning.

He was in the audience, but, if I was any judge, my speech was next thing to a failure. The librarians were excited over their election of officers which followed as soon as my speech ended; and my mind was partly on my day with Mr. Harris.

He drove me out to the site where Johnny had passed his last hours. And while we stood on the exact spot, he described the circumstances. While listening carefully, I allowed my eyes to wander about across the low rolling rich farming land.

Later, I uncovered my head at Johnny's grave, and bowed to read the inscription, "He lived for others." Mr. Harris described with much detail the plan under way to make the surrounding park into a National Shrine. Two or three million dollars have now been spent.

After lunch, Mr. Harris took me to see a close friend, the librarian at the Lincoln Library. In introducing me, Mr. Harris said that we had come to talk about Johnny. We discussed Johnny's selfless life, and his traits of character and his motives. Mostly I asked questions and posied my own personal opinions to see if they would stand up under scrutiny. Some of them met rather rough handling.

When we were ready to leave, Mr. Harris asked if I might see three treasured pieces of information relating to Lincoln's father. These were original charge accounts and bills of purchase and sale at different stores. One would infer from these, that Lincoln's father was a substantial person.

At the Public Library, Mr. Harris asked to have a film run for me. I listened intently and took notes from the speeches that had been made at the National Celebration for Johnny.

It was now nearing the time for my
plane. At the car, Mr. Harris gave me a bundle of papers containing the results of his long loving search for the facts about Johnny. I later found that he had given me his complete file, including also stories from early newspapers and magazines. Later he published this same material in his "Johnny Appleseed Source Book." And as if this wasn't enough, he handed me a gavel made from the wood of an apple tree, known to have been planted by Johnny.

I would, indeed, have been astonished at this high honor, had it not been for my good sense to understand that Mr. Harris was not honoring me. While he did not say so, I knew his hope was that I might someday use the information to honor Johnny. In this spirit I accepted his gift. I felt deeply the confidence he had placed in me.

Three different times since, I have made a start to write my story; but each time untoward circumstances halted me. And by the time I thought I was ready to continue, I found that what I had written no longer made sense, even to me. A year ago, it occurred to me, if I was to make Johnny's life come alive in my imagination, that I would have to begin with Johnny's boyhood. Otherwise my story would lack motivation. The extra research involved has proved most pleasant. I was living here in a suburb of Boston with all the needed material near at hand. The librarians were willing to help me. My mother was descended from one of the Old Plymouth Colony Planters. My wife had been reared in Cambridge, and came from Old Puritan stock. With all of this family tradition as a background, I was soon able to assimilate Johnny's early environment. I based his boyhood days on solid research.

Two weeks ago I finished writing my story. The manuscript is now in the hands of my literary agent. After living for so many years with Johnny, he'll continue to companion me to the end of my journey. We'll invite Paul Bunyan to keep us chuckling. And if and when we should decide to be the first to travel to the moon, we'll also invite Pecos Bill and Widowmaker. In this jocund company I should have little to fear.

In place of a foot-note, I prefer to say that this is the first time I have laid bare my secret heart in public print. Judged by the Puritan ideals of my mother and wife, this sort of thing is bordering on the unseemly. My hope, however, is that my readers will not infer that my motives have been merely to show off.

Fifty-one orchestras were known to be in operation in Ohio when a count was taken last summer, including the community and college orchestras.
OHIO STATE BALLADS

Reviewed by
WILLIAM T. UTTER Professor of History at Denison University, Granville, the descendant of generations of Ohioans, who has written extensively in the field of Ohio history.

HERE IS A COLLECTION of twenty folk-songs which will appeal to every Ohioan, whether his interest is in music, historical tradition, or folk-poetry. In an introduction to the excellent accompanying brochure one reads that Anne Grimes has devoted "considerable time and energy" to the task of preserving Ohio's musical tradition. This is an understatement, for the energy is that of a well-trained and exceptionally intelligent musician and much of the time—thousands of hours of it—was spent in pursuit of Ohioans who were carrying unrecorded ballads around in their heads. The success of her enthusiastic sleuthing has been phenomenal, in fact almost unbelievable. The task of selecting a score of songs from a collection numbering in the hundreds must have been difficult indeed, for how does one proceed to winnow when there is so much wheat?

One cannot really be objective in evaluating a collection of folk-songs such as this. The musically inclined may notice how the "gap-scaled" melodies are sung by Mrs. Grimes with almost intuitive ease; how the dulcimer becomes a versatile accompanying instrument if it is resonant and well-played. The folklorist will appreciate the authoritative notes which she has written for her songs. Those whose special enthusiasm is for the history of Ohio's earliest years will be thrilled to have on one record The Battle of Point Pleasant, Logan's Lament, and St. Clair's Defeat. Those seeking additional reasons for being proud of Ohio will be glad for the identification of Old Dan Tucker and Up on the Housetops with our tradition. But best of all is the thought that by means of this record, and others which we hope may be in prospect, the musical tradition of our region may be implanted in the fertile minds of school children.

Orchestras in Ohio, especially the major ones, have not been slow to present opera programs as part of their offerings. In the 1956-57 season, the American Symphony Orchestra League reports, among the Ohio orchestras so doing were those in Springfield, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Toledo. In the current season more are expected to follow suit.

ANNE LAYLIN GRIMES (Mrs. James W. Grimes) was born in Columbus, where she now lives. She is the mother of five children, the president of the Ohio Folklore Society, and the owner of the outstanding collection of dulcimers in this country. Her second album of folk music, MIDWEST FOLKSONGS, will be released this spring by Riverside Recording Corp.
FIRST NOVEL BY CINCINNATIAN CALLED "SUPERB PERFORMANCE"

THE OLD MAN AND THE SKY


Mr. Portune was born in Cincinnati and educated there and at Heidelberg College, Ohio State University and in England. He teaches mathematics at Hughes High School, Cincinnati, and at the University of Cincinnati Evening College. His book is the first to be published under Putnam's Talent Search Program.

ROBERT PORTUNE, Cincinnati high school teacher, is our latest Ohio novelist. I must assure you, after reading his first published work, that he is a very effective one.

The title of Mr. Portune's unusual story is THE OLD MAN AND THE SKY. It is the story of a small Ohio town—West Madison—that has been placed in a position of unwonted prominence by the strange behavior of one of its oldest citizens.

As we meet him, Old Charlie Ellis is engaged in a period of reflection; he has been thinking of the great evil that may be found in the hearts of men. But the vaults of his ancient memory are dark; they yield only minute bits and faded images out of the past.

With this incomplete evidence Old Charlie has concluded that there has been no design or pattern in his own life, and no purpose in the lives of others. His faltering and palsied mind then assures him that man is in error in supposing himself created in the image of God; man must be more accurately described as an experiment of the Almighty that turned into utter failure.

From this point the old man moves to the idea that God's experiment with the men of Mars has turned out much better, and that flying saucers will soon bring them to earth to correct the wretched condition of earth men. He seats himself in his front yard to await them.

The story of Old Charlie's strange vigil is quickly carried into far places. Big city newspapers carry accounts of the old man who awaits liberation by saucer men. A great national picture magazine expands the yarn.

Huge crowds begin to gather in West Madison, as tension builds, all quite naturally, to an almost unbearable peak.

The crowd becomes a potential mob, and, when the saucer finally appears (the work of three juvenile delinquents), it becomes a real mob. The town is sacked.

The foregoing becomes something of a backdrop for a story that is as individual as are the moods of its author. The people of this little town emerge clearly—their faults and frailties—in some cases their venality—in others their nobility.

Mr. Portune also employs this means as a device for a thoroughly intelligent criticism of modern society—so thorough, indeed, that for a time the reader is willing to concede that Old Charlie is right: Man is a failure.

But Mr. Portune then quite deftly turns to another, and more positive conclusion: Man, in a hospitable environment, may behave both bravely and nobly, even in defeat.

This work is a superb first performance by an author you are likely to hear more about in the future.

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Charlie has concluded that there has been no design or pattern in his own life, and no purpose in the lives of others. His faltering and palsied mind then assures him that man is in error in supposing himself created in the image of God; man must be more accurately described as an experiment of the Almighty that turned into utter failure.

From this point the old man moves to the idea that God's experiment with the men of Mars has turned out much better, and that flying saucers will soon bring them to earth to correct the wretched condition of earth men. He seats himself in his front yard to await them.

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CHARLES BURCHFIELD
OHIO'S GREAT PAINTER
HIS RETURN TO "THE CHANGING MOODS AND ASPECTS OF NATURE"

by HENRY S. FRANCIS
Curator of Paintings and Prints
The Cleveland Museum of Art

OHIO claims rightly as one of her most eminent native sons, Charles Burchfield, who was born at Ashtabula Harbor and grew up in and about Salem, Columbiana County. Though he has long lived south of Buffalo, New York, at Gardenville, he has always had in the very individual aspects of his work a spirit which derived its character and inspiration from the environs of his native heath. Yet despite the characteristics of this inherent locale, Burchfield is not a regionalist.

It is hard to describe the qualities which define his very unique creative sense. First and foremost they come from within himself, yet contain persistent elements reflecting the rural countryside in which he spent his youth. Always retiring and sensitive, he lived a great part of those years in the world of his own imagination, fed by the moods and peoples with the imagery with which he endowed the haunts he frequented. The local lore impressed him deeply, the physical aspects of familiar places were cloaked in the variation of changing seasons. His sparsely peopled landscapes are full of indigenous detail and replete with topical observation used in enhanced and heightened ways to achieve a romantic sense of what he was interested in portraying.

In 1956 the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, honored Burchfield with a retrospective exhibition, which was shown in seven museums from coast to coast. In that showing the wealth of his output revealed the scope of his imaginative gift and for all time recorded the art of one of America's, and certainly Ohio's, most poetic and gifted painters.

The primary quality of his genius is the understanding of forms in nature in their many aspects, benign or malignant. As a draughtsman he is sure in invention, remarkably personal, endowing all thought and moods with translations of nature which promote a telling response from all beholders. And in the extent of his imaginative world there are stature and breadth to his composition, no matter how small or unimportant the subject.

After graduating from the Cleveland School of Art, he returned to work in Salem and painted in his spare time, and weekends. Aspects of natural phenomena, the cold winds of autumn and winter, the simmering heat of summer, the silence of snow, were turned into symbols. Sonic presences were changed into personified visual shorthand, the sounds of katydids and crickets, owls, all the variegation which sprang from his deeply creative imagination. In the years from 1916 to 1920 came some of these liveliest creations, one of the outstanding being Church Bells Ringing, Rainy Winter Night (illustrated). His rich color sense with contrasts of blacks and whites provides the swirling lines with added sensation. To paraphrase Burchfield's own words, this large watercolor was an attempt to portray childhood emotions, a rainy winter night with church bells ringing, the terrifying sound reaching out and saturating the rainy sky, the roofs dripping with rain, and the only comforting note the Christmas tree and candle within doors. The sound of wind creates the monster, vivid and jangling, the houses like disturbed creatures full of grimace and awe.
Ten years later, when he had moved to Gardenville, industrial contacts led to his large watercolor subjects of lake and shipping scenes, lonely dour streets of the city, weird and ominous landscapes like the March Wind, (illustrated). The parallel with the early imaginative pictures is apparent even though the clearer realism of actuality is uppermost. Throughout these, the telling mood dominates each scene whether it be the recording of the weather—a thunderclap, or noonday heat in a small town street, with drowsy horses and resting men, or a November Evening, in which he "attempted to express the coming of winter over the Middle West as it must have felt to the pioneers,—great black clouds sweep out of the West at twilight as if to overwhelm not only the pitiful human attempt at a town, but also the earth itself." Even in the most impersonal renderings of industrial plants, steel bridges, railroad yards, the sombre essence of the inevitable and the overpowering exudes in romantic overtones with gripping effect. These works are larger in scale, and broad in realistic power.

Suddenly in 1943 he stopped this realistic style. He returned to the subjects closest to his heart, and those of his early works,—"the changing moods and aspects of nature." This last phase grew out of experimentation with an unfinished early watercolor which he enlarged and reworked in the calligraphic style of his youth. Thus commenced a whole series of romantic returns. In some instances he followed the early landscapes, wild or quiet spots, haunted houses; in others, he used a sensitive visual microscope upon the details of nature,—the butterfly and flowers, the dragonfly hovering over pond lilies in a secluded cove. As he progressed he began creating symbols of his light forms, tree forms, wind forms, sound forms, until among his latest, specifically, another March Wind of 1951, the painting in sharp blacks and whites, is "a late winter blizzard,—the idea of wind," reduced to its simplest most economical terms. This last result is virtually abstract in treatment, a design as firm and direct as possible.

This gives Burchfield the fullest range of poetic expression, and brings to fulfillment the early promise of imaginative stature.

* * *

FREE FOR THE ASKING

James Thurber, who as everyone knows is a native of Columbus, telephoned the Ohioana Library recently from New York, asking that a copy of his speech of acceptance upon receiving the Ohioana Sesquicentennial Medal in 1953 be sent to a friend in Washington. The Library will be glad to send a copy to anyone requesting it.
BOOM AND INFLATION AHEAD

WILLARD M. KIPLINGER is a devoted native son of Ohio and a distinguished graduate of The Ohio State University (A.B., 1912; LL.D., 1937). As a business analyst and forecaster, his batting average over the past 35 years ranks him at the top of the league. He has not missed in his major predictions about depression, boom, or inflation.

We turn, therefore, with particularly attentive ear to what he has to say about the next 25 years as seen through his crystallomancy.

The report and forecast are not discouraging. We are on the beachhead of the greatest boom in our history—"no exceptions"—and it will last longer. There will be new products of all kinds, and more of them. There will be more people with more education, more productivity, more income, and more leisure; they will live in expanding suburbs, drive more cars (possibly three to a family), live in ultra-gadgeted houses, shop by TV, and prolong life and happiness with the aid of new drugs and medicines that will end cancer, heart disease, and hypertension.

Likewise, alas, prices will climb by 1 or 2% each year, rising 50% in the next 25 years. Pensions, insurance, anything in fixed-dollar amounts will inevitably decline in value.

You do not have to be a business expert to understand the nature and seriousness of the problems which these conditions impose on different age groups. A major purpose of this book, and much of its 96 pages, is to help you to manage your affairs wisely and to prepare prudently for the years ahead.

You will need to study Boom and Inflation Ahead in the light of your own situation and personal problems. Here, in the swift, summary style of the famous Letters, are practical hints and advice on the various choices among investments, stocks, bonds, real estate, and insurance; on jobs, careers, and retirement; and on population trends, and the value of college training. And there is a special section for women dealing with their role in the management of estates.

Kiplinger calls this study a "road map into the future, and it's your future." According to his view, it is going to be an extraordinarily exciting future, and, under his guidance it should be exhilarating to plan for it and to live in it.

Reviewed by
HARLAN HATCHER who was born in Ironton, Lawrence County. After a distinguished career in letters, teaching, and administration at The Ohio State University he was chosen President of the University of Michigan in 1951.

OHIO POETRY DAY CONTEST

Ohio's Official Poetry Day staff announces some of the awards to be given at the annual poetry banquet in Columbus, on October 18, 1958. Manuscripts must be typed, double-spaced, on one side of 8½ x 11 paper, unsigned. The author's name to be in sealed envelope enclosed, with title of poem on outside of this envelope. The winners hold all rights to their entries. The following are the sponsors to date:

Mr. and Mrs. Russell E. Werts of Akron: $100 for a narrative or drama in verse, rhymed or unrhymed, with a minimum of 1000 lines, and maximum of 2000 lines. This must be inspirational, and must deal with the emotional impacts of today, and of the responsibilities of this New Age that now challenge man. An entry fee of $1 (to help in expense of having this contest judged) to be enclosed in the envelope which carries author's name. In the event the judges do not find a manuscript of sufficient merit, the award will be carried over to the following year, 1959, and the award doubled to $200. No more than two manuscripts from each poet. Closing date May 31, 1958. Send entries to Ohio Poetry Day Narrative Contest, c/o Tessa Sweazy Webb, 251 West 8th Ave., Columbus 1.

Mrs. Myers Y. Cooper, Cincinnati: $50 for a Sonnet Sequence of not less than six sonnets, $30 for first place, and $20 for second place. Closing date August 1. Send entries to Dr. Tom B. Haber, 220 Canyon Drive, Columbus 14.

NEWS AND NOTES

TO HELP college students and faculty writers to complete book-length manuscripts, fiction or non-fiction, an unlimited number of $3,000 fellowships are being sponsored jointly by G. P. Putnam's Sons, Bantam Books and the editors of New Campus Writing, an anthology originating at Antioch College. In addition, Putnam's is offering "scouting fees" for manuscripts accepted for publication.

* * *

ERNEST WESSEN, the rare book dealer of Mansfield, points out that James Caird in his PRAIRIE FARMING IN AMERICA (1859) said of Ohio that it is "pre-eminent in the production of whiskey and education."

A BOOK that really merits the term unique is WILLIE MAE, to be published this spring by Knopf. It is non-fiction; everything in it is true; it is told in the first person, and yet the teller is not the author.

The author is Elizabeth Kytte (Mrs. Calvin Kytte) of Columbus who moved to that city from Atlanta in 1950. The teller of the story is a colored woman in Atlanta who talks about her life and hard times in Georgia. Mrs. Kytte will share any profit from the sale of the book with the person she was writing about.

JEANETTE EATON, who was born in Columbus and now lives in Spring Valley, New York has found Mark Twain the most difficult of all the persons whose biographies she has written. Her life of him is her 1958 fall book and will be the 17th biography she has written for adolescents. The book is not yet titled.

Miss Eaton comments that when Twain became a success he became "a problem to himself, his family and his biographer."

THE 100-VOICE Wittenberg College Choir under the direction of Professor L. David Miller has recorded a number of selections on a 12-inch long-playing record. Two Christmas numbers are included as well as Professor Miller's own composition "A Candle in the Window of Heaven." The records are on sale at the Wittenberg College bookstore.

THE LIBRARY of Congress has approved a grant for copying all the tape recordings of ballads and folk music, mainly from Ohio, which Anne Grimes of Columbus has collected. Mrs. Grimes has taped several thousand ballads and has one of the outstanding regional collections of this kind in the country. Readers who know songs passed down by word of mouth in their family are asked to get in touch with her, care of this magazine.

A NEW BOOK by Orville Prescott, daily book critic of The New York Times, will be issued next month by Pocket Books. It is MID-CENTURY: AN ANTHOLOGY OF DISTINGUISHED CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES, a selection of twenty stories published over the last twelve years. Mr. Prescott also has a book for young readers on Random House's schedule for next year. To be issued as a volume in the Legacy Series of books about great myths and legends, it is a retelling of the Robin Hood story. Mr. Prescott's previous books are IN MY OPINION: AN INQUIRY INTO THE CONTEMPORARY NOVEL and THE FIVE-DOLLAR GOLD PIECE: THE DEVELOPMENT OF A POINT OF VIEW.

BERTHA C. ANDERSON'S next book THOSE BAFFLING BLUE JAYS will be off the press at Abelard-Schuman, Ltd., on April 4. The illustrations are by Geoffrey Whittam, an English artist. Miss Anderson, who lives in Piqua, was the winner of the 1954 Ohioana Award for the best juvenile book by an Ohioan.

WAYNE MILTON WEBER of Avon Lake, Cleveland, whose first book MY WAR WITH THE U.S. ARMY (Pageant, 1957) appeared last November, has a second book in the making. It will deal humorously with his profession, in which he has his own firm, that of interior decorating. His first book tells of his war service as a reluctant recruit with no taste for regimentation.

VELMA GRIFFIN of Dellroy, Carroll County, has a new book scheduled to appear the end of March called MYSTERY MANSION, for boys and girls aged nine to twelve. It is being published by the Westminster Press, publishers of her two previous books, FAIR PRIZE and CIRCUS DAZE. Mrs. Griffin is the Ohioana Chairman for Carroll County.

FANNY HURST'S forthcoming autobiography ANATOMY OF ME (Doubleday—early Fall) "dwells affectionately upon my birthplace and state," she writes to us. Miss Hurst was born in Hamilton, Butler County.
Ohio State Establishes
A University Press

The Ohio State joined the list of major universities with university presses when the first title, THE FISHES OF OHIO by Milton B. Trautman, appeared in November with the new imprint. (The colophon of the Press is shown above and a review of the book appears below.)

The publication program of the new organization, like other university presses, will stress books of scholarly interest but with broad general appeal as well. While the Press will not be devoted to regional publishing, many of its publications will naturally be of special interest to Ohioans. Part of the Press' program will be cooperative, that is, publishing certain books with the Ohio State Historical Society. The first such volume is THE ADENA PEOPLE—NO. 2 by Webb and Baby, a study of this important prehistoric people of the Ohio Valley. Soon to be released also under the cooperative imprint is a definitive biography of one of Ohio's first legislators, Thomas Worthington.

The Press is under the direction and control of an editorial board, selected from the University Faculty, appointed by the President and consisting of Professors Glenn Blaydes, Ralph L. Dewey, George Havens, Joseph Spezik, Dudley Williams, and Dean Everett Walters of the Graduate School, chairman.

FISHES OF OHIO


The author and illustrator, a native of Columbus, is Curator of Vertebrates, The Ohio State University, stationed at the Ohio Museum, Columbus.

The FISHES OF OHIO is a distinguished addition to the texts on the various segments of the Ohio flora and fauna, and a very handsome book. Each of the 160 species of Ohio fishes is treated and illustrated with a pen and ink drawing and an outline map showing its distribution. Twenty-one Ohio fishes are also illustrated in color.

Reviewed by
EDWARD S. THOMAS who was born in Woodfield, Monroe County, and since 1931 has been Curator of Natural History at the Ohio State Museum.

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THE LATEST BOOKS
Part I: by Ohio Authors

Published either (1) in late 1957 and not listed in OHIO AUTHORS AND COMPOSERS—1957 or (2) in early 1958, or (3) announced for early publication. Exclusive of books on Ohio subjects listed in Part II: THE OHIO SCENE, which is omitted from this issue for lack of space.

ANDERSON, BERTHA ................................................................. Miami Co.
AUMAN, ROSSELL F ................................................................. Clark Co.
THE UNDERSTUDY OF THE WITNESSES. Board of Parish Education of the United Lutheran Church in America. A Bible-study text. Dr. Auman is a professor at Hamma Divinity School.
BAKER, WILMA SINCLAIR LE VAN ........................................ Jefferson Co.
THE SILK PICTURES OF THOMAS STEVENS. Exposition-Baner. A biography of the Coventry weaver and his contribution to the art of weaving, with an illustrated catalogue of his work. A valuable guide for collectors. The author is a native of Steubenville. Pub. late 1957.
BEYLER, CECILIA MAF ............................................................. Wayne Co.
AMERICA CALLS FROM CASTLE WALLS. Metropolitan Pr., Portland, Oregon. A record of more than half a century in the teaching profession in seven states from Ohio to the West. Announced for early publication.
BLANK, SHELDON HAAS ......................................................... Hamilton Co.
PROPHETIC FAITH IN ISAIAH. Harper. By the professor of Bible, Hebrew Union College.
BRACKETT, LEIGH (Pseud.) ..................................................... Clark Co.
See DIETRICH, JOHN E.
BRANDON, EDGAR EWING (Comp. & Ed.) .............. Butler Co.
BROOKS, KEITH ........................................................................ Franklin Co.
See DIETRICH, JOHN E.
BURNETT, WILLIAM RILEY .................................................... Clark Co.
BITTER GROUND. Knopf. How the arrival of a gun fighter and his gang in a small town changes the lives of the inhabitants. Review published in March.
BURROWS, MILLAR ................................................................. Hamilton Co.
MORE LIGHT ON THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS. Viking. Dr. Burrows's new book describes further discoveries in eleven caves yielding scrolls and manuscripts. Announced for May.
CADY, JOHN E. ................................................................. Athens Co.
HISTORY OF MODERN BURMA. Cornell Univ. Pr. By a member of the faculty of Ohio University. To be published in the Spring.
CARRIGHAR, SALLY ...................................................................... Cuyahoga Co.
ALASKAN'S CALL IT LIVING. Knopf. Alaska today by one who has lived there for many years and is the author of ICEBOUND SUMMER. Announced for May.
CATTON, BRUCE (Ed.) .............................................................. Cuyahoga Co.
BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG. Houghton. Written by Frank A. Haskell, an actual combatant. Announced for April.
COULTER, JOHN WESLEY .......................................................... Hamilton Co.
THE PACIFIC DEPENDENCIES OF THE UNITED STATES. Macmillan. Dr. Coulter is a member of the University of Cincinnati faculty. His thirteen years in the Pacific Islands enable him to give intimate glimpses of native life and behavior, and existing conditions and problems. Pub. late 1957.
CUSHMAN, ROBERT E. ............................................................. Summit Co.
THERAPEIA: PLATO'S CONCEPTION OF PHILOSOPHY. Univ. of North Carolina Pr. Announced for May.
DIETRICH, JOHN E. & BROOKS, KEITH .................. Franklin Co.
PRACTICAL SPEAKING FOR THE TECHNICAL MAN. Prentice. A good "how-to-do-it" book by two professors of Speech at The Ohio State University.
SCHULKE, ZELDA WYATT ............................ Cuyahoga Co.
SEALTS, MERTON M., Jr ......................................................... Allen Co.
SCHIERLOH, SAMUEL ............................................................ Hamilton Co
SCHLESINGER, ARTHUR M ..................................................... Greene Co.
SHAFER, ROBERT J ................................................................. Ross Co.
SHARKEY, DON (& Debergh, Joseph) ....................... Montgomery Co.
SURTZ, WILLIAMS, YADKIN, YANCY (Pseud.) ............... Ross Co.
SPIRO, MELFORD E ............................................................... Cuyahoga Co.
SURTZ, EDWARD .................................................................. Cuyahoga Co.
TATE, JANE BEVERLIN ........................................................ Allen Co.
WILSON, KARL F ................................................................. Licking Co.
WHITE, WOODALL, WILLIAM .......................... Trumbull Co.
ZALK, R. LOUIS ................................................................. Franklin Co.


ECONOMIC SOCIETIES IN THE SPANISH WORLD (1763-1821) MELVILLE AS LECTURER.

OUR LADY OF BEAURAING.

MY WAR WITH THE U. S. ARMY. Published by the Bookman Assoc. A family's summer travels in a school bus from Ohio to Canada and around the Gaspé Peninsula. Pub. late 1957.

THE PLAIN AND FANCY MOTHER GOOSE. Abelard. Seven of the most famous Mother Goose rhymes expanded into stories with a 17th century background of kings, queens and castles. Pub. late 1957.

100 DEVOTIONS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS. Association Pr. Story meditations about growing in faith. Pub. late 1957.

"MURDERSOME MOLLY." The Ohio Valley Folktale Research Project. The Ross County Historical Society. An account of the trial, conviction and execution of an elephant accused of murder. (Pam.)