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EDITOR'S NOTE: On Ohioana Day, 24 October 1970, Jan Wahl was chosen to receive the Ohioana Book Award for Juvenile Fiction. At the very last moment he was prevented from receiving it in person by an attack of bronchitis which kept him in Seattle. His mother, Mrs. Russell Wahl, very kindly came to Columbus from her home in Toledo to receive it for him in absentia. Following is Jan's Acceptance Speech which he would have given when he received the award for his book, "The Norman Rockwell Storybook."

We think his speech makes a very fine editorial. Therefore, we are happy to introduce you to our guest editor.

ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

by Jan Wahl

Two years ago this November the telephone rang. I was in my apartment which was then in Brooklyn Heights, preparing to leave for a winter's holiday in Denmark. A voice at the other end of the wire asked: "What do you think of Norman Rockwell?" It was Robert Kraus, the publisher of Windmill Books.

I answered quite frankly, saying at his best I thought Norman Rockwell was superb, not only as a colorist but as a catcher of the American small-town spirit I myself felt growing up in Northwest Ohio in and around Toledo. I loved Norman Rockwell’s storytelling in his paintings, his ebullient sense of humor, his quick joy in the virtues of the "little" people. I also remembered at once a curious experience I encountered in the town of Stockbridge, Massachusetts, about three or four years before.

I had been invited up to that very beautiful New England town located in the Berkshires, in mid-winter. It had been suggested to the proprietors of The Stockbridge School, a unique progressive high school situated on a great estate, that I might care to be "writer in residence." Thus I was invited up for the weekend and met a number of the local townsfolk. To my astonishment, I realized I knew, vividly, a number of them... I recognized that cowlick, that certain wart on the chin, that pair of funny ears. It was uncanny. And I slunk back to my room the first two nights, wondering if I'd gone crazy? I'd never been in Stockbridge, Massachusetts—in fact I’d never been to New England.

I had never experienced such a sensation before. I knew these people all too well! On Sunday morning, when I was drinking mulled cider, I thought it was, brooding and staring into the fireplace, trying in vain to make sense of this eerie puzzle, somebody happened to ask: "How would you like to meet our townsman Norman Rockwell?"

So there was my answer: I'd been introduced to these Stockbridge folk by means of the paintings of Norman Rockwell, glimpsed on the covers of The Saturday Evening Post and studied on the calendars in my grandmother's kitchen.

Robert Kraus, on the telephone, went on to say he believed my work and Norman Rockwell's were compatible, and how would I like to do a children's book with this painter for Windmill Books? I said Yes at once, jumping at the chance to give to the children of today, and their parents and grandparents, a book celebrating what is, surely, the Good Life. With wars and atomic fallout very far away.

Then, as soon as Norman Rockwell agreed, began an intensive series of meetings with Robert Krause, who became my editor on the book, which we called The Norman Rockwell Storybook, choosing those among the paintings which were the most timeless and which spoke to me directly. That is, which perked my imagination.

I used some paintings depicting some of the same characters, and followed a cycle of the seasons through the book, beginning with the first flowering of puppy-love in Spring and ending with Winter and a case of mistaken spring fever.

It was not an easy book to write. Not only did I have to forget my real sense of awe at being associated with this wonderful, legendary artist... I had to make the stories truly my own, hearing my own Ohio voice. A further restriction imposed upon the book was that I wanted every story to be on the left-hand page of a tall book flanked by the accompanying color painting itself. And for the book to be uniform each story had to be of identical length. Something like writing a bunch of very long sonnets!

I wanted each to close with a kind of punch-line growing naturally out of the story, and each story had to flow into the painting! Not to mention the burden of having the painting already finished while I was used to having my books illustrated; i.e., the artist drawing the picture to illuminate my story.

So there were problems galore in putting together the book, whose end result, I fervently trust, appears effortless. In writing it I again walked down the streets of Napoleon and Holgate, Ohio, in Henry County, where my two sets of grandparents lived, and I mean The Norman Rockwell Storybook to be a salute to these towns also, and my own pre-World War Two childhood.

I remember the ice cream socials and more... which I remembered, particularly, when making this storybook which was conceived, I hope, in a state of grace. One review this past month declared the stories "spark memories of less complicated days."

I am proud to have my name on this special volume and am prouder, now, to receive the Ohioana Award for it and am grateful I happened to pick up the telephone that November day in Brooklyn Heights!
by Marion Renick

The juvenile editor at Charles Scribner’s Sons once said to me, “It shows in every story you write. You must have had a very happy childhood.”

I never thought about it at the time. Like the children I played with in Springfield, Ohio—or children everywhere, for that matter—I was busy just living. Taking in the whole marvelous show of sights and sounds and smells and joys and sorrows and people.

The young have always lived in this intent way. Today’s children are no different. I know this from the letters they write me. Grubby and misspelled as these often are, they fairly crackle with the activity of living.

To be sure there are always ones which follow the same pattern: I like your book, *Young Mr. Football* (or *Bats and Gloves of Glory*, or one of my others) . . . I am going to be a quarterback for the Dallas Cowboys (or play on the Cincinnati Reds, or be an author) when I grow up.

Though this pattern is repeated endlessly, such letters are revealing in their own way. Behind each of them is a young imagination which has been stirred in a healthy, constructive way through reading a book. Stirred even to make the supreme effort of writing to the author. What matters it that this letter may be part of a classroom project? This author is invariably touched at being chosen as the recipient and believes the young writer deserves a reply.

But the letters I most enjoy are written by more articulate youngsters. These are full of doings in school; of brothers and sisters; cats and dogs and ducks and guppies; rides on granddad’s new tractor and birthday cakes from mom’s new stove; baseballs batted through windows; new dresses for Easter; a leg brace which makes walking—perhaps someday even ball playing—possible. From all across the country, and Canada too, the letters bring proof that children haven’t changed in their *real*, internal living. They are today what I was at their age, allowing for the technological differences in our eras.

Many of these young friends of mine show the same urge I had for putting their world into words. In my case, I remember, the words had to be the precisely right ones. I was sure of that even before I was old enough to spell. Also at an early age I already had what might be called a story-building sense. In addition I came equipped with the inventive imagination of a flamboyant liar.

Put them all together and they spell a-u-t-h-o-r.

I remember when I was about 8 I was detailed one Saturday afternoon in early spring to tidy up the back alley. My brother, several years younger, was involved too. Doubtless the task was intended to fit some crime we had committed, but I turned the punishment into a holy quest. I convinced all the smaller fry in the neighborhood that the Easter Rabbit had lost the key to his egg storehouse somewhere in the alley behind our house and that his grateful thanks (as well as increased bounty) would be awarded those who found his key in time for him to make his annual distribution.
To this day I can see the skeptical look on my brother's face. He knew me too well. But the other kids, Bunny-believers all, fell to with rakes and eager hands. I kept their enthusiasm blazing with fresh tales, including me too well. But the other kids, Bunny-believers all, fell to with rakes and crowned ourselves with old Christmas wreaths. The March wind laughed time a shout would rise from one of the crusaders, "I found it!" — to be followed at once with a disappointed, "Oh, it's only an old toy soldier."

We raked and readied a binful of trash. We romped and raced and crowned ourselves with old Christmas wreaths. The March wind laughed with us all that glorious afternoon while we got a mean job done without noticing it was work.

I saw then what magic can be wrought with the telling of tales.

No wonder I became a writer.

To be sure, I had a long apprenticeship. It included, first, the writing of absolutely nauseating jingles which were printed in the Springfield Morning Sun through the machinations of my mother and teachers. Any vanity due to authorship was knocked out of me forever by the neighborhood children — all boys — who made it clear that to amount to anything you had to be able to wind up and pitch straight across the plate.

Thus I learned how a bumbling, inept young hopeful feels as he tries to win a place for himself on any kind of team. I also learned the mystique of sports.

Looking back now it all seems to have been spelled out clearly that I was preparing for the kind of books I would write in the future. But there was no handwriting on the gym wall, neither when I was in high school failing to make the girl's basketball team nor in college where I never made even the scrubs' bench.

Actually I wasn't all that interested in sports. School newspapers were my thing. As editor of the high school Herald I got a snoothful of printer's ink which led me to a part-time reporting job on the city daily while I was a student at Wittenberg University. My assignments were mainly for the women's pages, but I was always pestering the managing editor to let me cover sports. I had noted that the most interesting characters who came into the city room were visitors to the sports editor. In off hours I would sit in the tall wastebasket beside his desk and listen to his tales about them. I had the same wide-eyed wonder and appreciation for the anecdotes of the political reporter who was full of off-the-record chicaneries at City Hall. This was heady stuff for a shy, timid college freshman in those days at the edge of the Great Depression.

Eventually sports won out. I married a sports writer and spent years trotting along to every imaginable kind of sporting event. Sitting around afterward, listening to big-name athletes, coaches and trainers talk shop, I never realized I was absorbing information that would be as fascinating to young readers as it was to me. Then in 1939 I wrote Tommy Carries the Ball, in which Tommy never does get to carry the ball, except figuratively. It was the first football story written for younger readers, just as my later story, The Tail of the Terrible Tiger, was the first picture book about football for small children. Paul Galdone did the drawings. He and I did two more sports picture books together.

Writing a picture book was a new technique I had to learn. Another lesson was the writing of non-fiction, which came with my years as an editor of My Weekly Reader, the newspaper widely used in the elementary schools. Furthermore, fitting neatly into my training pattern, although it seemed to happen by chance, was my work on the Once Upon a Time in Ohio radio programs when I was script supervisor and news broadcaster for Ohio School of the Air over Ohio State University's WOSU. It was then I developed the deep interest in Ohio lore which turned into my one non-fiction book, Ohio, in the States of the Nation series published by Coward-McCann last fall. I got a very special satisfaction out of writing that one because it was a chance to tell everybody about my favorite state.

Ohio brought my list of published books to 29. It seems incredible to me that I could have done so much work while having so much fun over it. Of course, it actually hasn't been fun every single minute of the time. Everybody has stuck-on-dead-center days and periods of failure. I have written whole books which just didn't come off. Perhaps the basic idea was uninteresting and/or implausible. Perhaps the characters never stood up on their two feet and talked like real people. I think every aspiring writer should know that even established authors can turn out stuff that is dull and banal — even when they are trying their hardest not to.

I have a copy of an old novel called A Modern Mephistopheles, which illustrates this point. It was written by Louisa M. Alcott, and is so bad that even the Little Women wouldn't have read farther than Chap. III. It is my cherished reminder that even a big-league player doesn't hit a homer every time at bat.

How easily I slide into the baseball vernacular. Perhaps it is because of late I find myself turning more and more to the sports pages. That's about the only place left to read any hopeful news about the human race. There the battles are bloodless, the violence is controlled by fair rules.
The losers take defeat without rebellion and always have the chance to come back and win next time. Furthermore, behind nearly every achievement in sports lies a story of heroic self-discipline, which is a characteristic blatantly lacking in many people who make headlines on the other news pages.

Even though so much modern fiction has conned their elders into accepting the defeated, whining anti-hero, I believe children are still moved by the deep human need to find genuine, self-reliant, high-hearted heroes. To my way of thinking, it seems so important to keep alive in new generations this feeling for the truly heroic that, to me, children are the most important of all readers to write for.

So I am delighted to get letters like the one from a 4th grade youngster who wrote me about an older boy in one of my books: *The part I liked best was to see how he conducts himself.* That young reader recognized a hero when he met one and his appreciation was direct and sincere. In fact, he signed his letter, “Sincerely yours.”

Those misspelled sign-offs in my fan mail have something endearing about them. “Sincerely yours,” “Yours turley.” Frequently, “Your fiend.” Sometimes, “Love to all authors.” Over and over again the same postscript: *Write me back.* With often a second P.S.: *If you don’t have time to write a letter, write another book.*

**Author:** Marion Renick not only has a marvelous and witty sense of humor, but she is also the talented author of thirty juvenile books themed to sports. Her newest book, *Ohio*, is one of the series *States of the Nation* published by Coward McCann. Mrs. Renick was born in Springfield, attended Wittenberg University and now resides in Columbus.

**AN OHIO ARTIST**
**IN PARIS**

by Madeleine Deschamps

A few minutes away from the Latin Quarter, and just off a lively street, busy with flower and fruit stalls, you turn into a quiet courtyard, knock on an even quieter door and enter the silence of an artist studio — a large two-storied room, with tall windows opening onto a Paris sky.

This is where Jean Lodge works and teaches. Born in Ohio in 1941, she first studied with Philip Morsberger at Miami University, Oxford, where she obtained her B.A. At the age of 22, she moved to Europe and studied at the Kokoschka School in Salzburg and got a certificate of Fine Arts from Oxford, England, before coming to Paris.

In Paris she worked with S. W. Hayter in his famous Atelier 17 and also followed courses at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts.
For three years Jean Lodge taught graphics at the College Studies Abroad of the American Center. Since last year, she has been teaching in her own workshop, "Les Ateliers d'Art." For, apart from her own research in the art of graphics, Jean Lodge has several classes of both children (she has over 30 pupils) and adults whom she introduces to new techniques in engraving. In training children, she wishes to give them an artistic education based on direct observation and free expression; the children are thus prompted to develop their own creativeness in the arts — painting, drawing or engraving. Jean Lodge's adult students are trained in various gravure techniques, particularly etching and direct engraving.

Parallel to her teaching is Jean Lodge's personal work. Developing in an age when Pop Art was the leading trend, she steadily pursued her own investigation in an art which is essentially a visual research.

Keeping in close contact with scientific discoveries, she worked on the problem of metal surfaces with the French National Center of Scientific Research and she is interested in the unusual physical and biological structures which microscopes reveal.

The optical effects of her engravings, obtained through purely geometrical combinations of patterns, seem to be the materialization of mechanical movements or speeds. They create a new dynamism, that of the picture surface, animated with intangible waves, sometimes generating almost cosmic spaces.

Jean Lodge is particularly interested by its infinite possibilities of commercial techniques applied to the fine arts. She is using a new technique of her own, combining off-set and type with etching and engraving, thus developing this optical dynamism of the lines.

She has been represented in numerous travelling exhibitions organized by the American Embassy through France (Cannes, Marseille, Grenoble), as well as in many International Exhibitions (Austria, England, Italy, Brazil, Japan) and Biennials (Bradford, Kyoto, Barcelona). She has held several one-man exhibits since 1965 in England, Sweden, Paris and Ohio (1967 and 1968), where she will have another show this year.

Jean Lodge wishes to keep her studio in Paris but she is remaining in contact with the United States where she hopes to teach, thus maintaining her position in the Parisian and International art world.

Mlle. Madeleine Deschamps is an instructor in art at the Sorbonne, Paris, and is an assistant at the Centre National d'Art Contemporain. A beautiful young Parisienne, Mlle. Deschamps speaks fluently English, Spanish, Italian and Portuguese. She has to her credit many impressive degrees in art appreciation and diplomas from l'Ecole du Louvre, Cambridge, and Institute d' Etudes Politiques de Paris.
"What is a river? Is it merely a sizable channel of water flowing from higher to lower ground, a conduit into which smaller channels (streams and creeks and ditches) empty their waters? Or is it a transcendent identity that defies cartographers? One could guess before reading his book how Walter Havighurst would answer. For this experienced novelist-historian there is no "merely."

An honest and sympathetic approach to his subject has characterized all of "our" Havighurst's projects, of which this is at least the twentieth book-length item, not counting several collaborations with Marion Boyd Havighurst which remain quite countable in their own right. That Walter Havighurst has pondered the philosophical and metaphysical problems inherent in his subject — the story of a river which neither begins in the usual modest sources nor ends in the grand flourish of emptying into the sea — may be assumed. The task which he accepted of telling all there is to tell about the Ohio River necessitated some omissions, for the flow of the water does not really begin in Pittsburgh nor end in Cairo. "Ohio", as school children learn, is the name of only a goodly segment of a greater channel. This is, however, less a quibble with the book than with the river! Anyway, the arbitrarily defined subject is here fashioned into the best kind of history, replete with anecdote, legend, and conscientious interpretation.

A lively imagination does not easily stick close to the banks of any subject — river or otherwise. There is always some flooding. Rather impertinently, I have wished Walter Havighurst's writing would overflow the banks more often. His dikes and dams are generally in good order. The Ohio River, however, has been rampant enough to turn-on even a sedate historian. This book is a happy fusion of tangential events and straightly channeled history. It can be read either in bits and pieces or straight through with pleasure and profit.

The history of anything implies the history of everything else. Havighurst knows that, too, for he has the kind of integrity which rejects lies without throwing away fantasy. Thus, in his account of three centuries of the Ohio, he must tell about the fictitious Eliza's crossing of the real Ohio River, the follies of such characters as Blennerhassett and Mrs. Trollope, who peradventure happened to live "on" the Ohio River. But he cannot tell about these events without relating them to backgrounds. The result is a tapestry woven in depth, resembling Samuel Hudson's great panorama, which opened in Louisville in 1848. In hundreds of drawings on a canvas-roll almost a mile long, Hudson had painted a scenic history which took the spectators on a "voyage from the Monongahela hills to the marshlands of Cairo."
Havighurst's summary of Howe's achievement may also appropriately describe his own book:

Moonlight views of a glistening stream under the dark life of forest contrasted with scenes of moving river commerce and cities spreading on the shores. As the canvas unrolled between two huge cylinders, its various scenes were greeted by cheers, applause, and a final ovation.

Havighurst's canvas, which unrolled from a diligent typewriter — this man puts us all to shame with his industry — begins with prehistory. The opening sentence neatly proclaims: "Past is a short word with a long reach." The past, as history, however, begins late on the Ohio, and most of the relevant military and cultural events are no less remote than two hundred years ago, and often — a tribute to the author's courage — almost smack up-to-date, including the pollution-problem.

Step by step, beginning in earnest with "the man in Buckskin", George Rogers Clark, the Ohio Valley was civilized — sometimes by very uncivilized means. Forts followed as well as created skirmishes, but inexorably "commerce" changed the scene, so that the natural beauties yielded to more ambivalent values.

Predictably, I found the Cincinnati "stuff" more intriguing, and I was glad to be spared quaintness as I reviewed the local legends. For example, I had forgotten about the visit of the Audubons. Other regions, however, are not slighted. This book is a must for all who kind-of-love the state with the Indian name, the mention of which always makes New Yorkers (many of them from Ohio) laugh.

Havighurst does a clean and sympathetic job with our Hicksvilles, for he is a real sophisticate, one who prefers as home the gentleness (former gentleness?) of a college town to bolder places that have tried to woo him from us. We love him in Oxford, and we wish his book well. It is carefully documented, and it should be the definitive account of the river-to-the-West for a long time. And now if the reprieved Delta Queen survives the polluted water of its home dock, nostalgia and history are both well-served.

REVIEWER: Professor John A. Weigel is one of the featured book critics for the CINCINNATI ENQUIRER. He is Professor of English at Miami University, Oxford, and an authority on literary style.

A Friendship Which Caused a Political Debacle

ROOSEVELT AND TAFT


AUTHOR: William Manners, the author of many books which include FATHER AND THE ANGELS, and ONE IS A LONESOME NUMBER, received his B.A. from the University of Cincinnati. He has been a boxer, editor, gardener and teacher before becoming a full-time author. His home is in Norwalk, Connecticut.
CLOSE FRIENDSHIPS between political leaders in positions of power are often tenuous affairs. Andrew Jackson let it be known in 1844 that he would rather see James K. Polk nominated for the presidency than his old friend and associate Martin Van Buren. Jackson retained great power within his party and Polk was nominated and elected. In 1912 William Howard Taft controlled the Republican party machinery and was able to gain renomination over the opposition of Theodore Roosevelt. The split that resulted within the party elected Woodrow Wilson, the Democratic candidate, president.

William Manners, a graduate of the University of Cincinnati, has told the story of the friendship between Roosevelt and Taft which ended in the 1912 debacle in this extremely interesting and well written book. Manners' account does not discount the matters of high political policy that ultimately divided the two men, but he places them in a personal context. Thus Taft's thank you note to TR at the end of the 1908 campaign attributing success in the election to "you and my brother Charley," may have caused as much damage to the friendship as the issues involved in the Ballinger-Pinchot conservation controversy, and Mrs. Taft's jealousy of Roosevelt may have been as important in separating the two men as the crisis of the Payne-Aldrich tariff.

REVIEWER: DONALD W. CURL was born in Columbus, and received his B.S., M.A., and PhD. from Ohio State University. Professor Francis Weisenburger, a Trustee of Ohioana Library, was his doctoral advisor. Professor Curl is now Chairman of the History Department at Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton.

WILLIAM D. GALLAGHER:
THE POET OF THE OHIO VALLEY

by DAVID D. ANDERSON

AT THE BEGINNING of the nineteenth century Ohio was a wilderness, part of the Northwest Territory, and a major goal of Americans and others who had begun to dream of an open society in the West. By the end of that century, however, Ohio had seen the passing of the Indians, the granting of statehood, the forced removal of the British from its soil, and the prosecution of a war that threatened to shatter the nation. During that century Ohio had become an agricultural and industrial empire and a political giant, mother of presidents past, present, and to come. Almost incidentally, virtually unknown beyond its borders, Ohio had also begun to produce a literature.

By 1900 William Dean Howells had been gone from Ohio for forty years, his rural background almost forgotten in his role as dean of American literature. Other Ohioans, among them Alice Cary, Phoebe Cary, and Coates Kinney, had also gone East to temporary fame and ultimate disfavor and oblivion. But those who had left Ohio had not sprung spontaneously out of a Midwestern cultural wasteland, as by the early twentieth century it was becoming popular to assume; nor were they refugees from Ohio's search for stability, order, and material success in the nineteenth century fashion that was becoming both a tradition and a myth. They were rather the result of Ohio's conscious, determined attempt to become a cultural center, an attempt almost forgotten for more than half a century and one that is only now beginning to be re-examined.

The foundation of this attempt was laid in Cincinnati in the first half of the nineteenth century. Its immediate results were the emergence of a
number of minor poets and short-lived literary journals. Ultimately, during the early twentieth century it produced a substantial number of writers who followed Howells to the East or who moved to Chicago to stimulate that city’s literary renaissance. One of the men most influential in laying that foundation was William D. Gallagher.

Poet, anthologist, and editor, promoter of the Ohio country and political activist, Gallagher was born in Philadelphia, the son of an Irish refugee, on August 21, 1808. Eight years later, after his father’s early death, Gallagher’s mother emigrated to Mount Pleasant, Ohio, where William attended a Lancastrian seminary. By 1826, after having learned typesetting and proofreading, he began the newspaper career that was to last for almost thirty-five years, during which he determined to stimulate the cultural and literary development of the Cincinnati area.

Between 1826 and 1838, he followed the trade of itinerant journalist in the region, moving from one short-lived paper to another. Among them were The Western Tiller, The Cincinnati Register, The Western Minerva, and The Xenia Backwoodsman, all of them characterized by the strong Western flavor that was to permeate his literary editing and his own writing. By 1838 he had served his apprenticeship, he had written a good deal of verse and some fiction, and he was ready to venture out on his own.

The first major result was The Hesperian, a literary journal founded and financed by himself. Although the magazine managed to survive for only three volumes in 1838 and 1839 before succumbing to the common fatal financial disease epidemic in early Ohio journalism, The Hesperian gave an important impetus to the literary development of the Ohio Valley.

During its short tenure as literary spokesman of the area, the magazine subscribed to the two literary principles that had come to dominate American literature as it emerged, clearly American and romantic, in the East. These were the search for a subject matter uniquely American and for a philosophy that transcended earthly appearance and defined a spiritual reality, both principles demanded by Ralph Waldo Emerson in The American Scholar. In essence, Gallagher and The Hesperian responded, as he sought literary contributions drawing their inspiration from subjects uniquely American, Western, and Ohioan. Among the topics included in the magazine were Indians and the mysterious Indian mounds, the rivers, early settlements, the forests, and the potential and reality of growth.

During its few years The Hesperian gave opportunity to local writers, among them James Freeman Clarke, James Perkins, and Benjamin Drake, to publish their works, and it provided Gallagher with a journal in which to sharpen his critical facilities in essays and editorials as well as a place to publish his own prose fiction. In spite of the usual shortcomings of local Western journals — the perennial lack of money, the necessity of pirating materials from other journals, and a shortage of suitable materials — The Hesperian was an authentic voice of the Ohio Valley, and Gallagher’s attempts to maintain high literary standards and a balanced variety of scientific, literary, philosophical, and historical materials provided a mark for other, later regional journals. The later Ohio Valley Dial, published by Concave Conway twenty years later, was an obvious attempt to follow Gallagher’s lead.

With the demise of his literary journal, Gallagher returned to commercial journalism, from 1839 to 1850 serving as associate editor and then editor of the Cincinnati Gazette. After two years in Washington as private secretary to Thomas Corwin, Secretary of the Treasury in President Millard Fillmore’s cabinet, he became part owner and editor of the Louisville Daily Courier and editor of the Western Farmer’s Journal. A delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1860, he supported Salmon P. Chase and then Abraham Lincoln, whereupon he spent another year in Washington as secretary to Chase, Lincoln’s Secretary of the Treasury. Political appointments continued; he became special collector of customs in the upper Mississippi Valley and then surveyor of customs and pension agent in Louisville. During these years he continued his interest in cultural development. He died on June 27, 1894.

Gallagher’s career as newspaperman and political activist was perhaps more typical than exceptional in the Ohio Valley during most of the nineteenth century, and like many other such careers, it would have been forgotten. But during most of these years he was also a practicing poet, and it is upon this phase of his career, a phase that was never profitable but was never abandoned, that his reputation among those who attempted to build a Western American literary tradition is based. His career as poet began in 1835, after tentative starts in verse, songs, and ballads, most of which are now either scattered in the dusty files of Ohio journals or completely lost. In the spring of that year he published a collection of his poems in thirty-six pages, entitled Erato, No. I; that September he published the sixty page Selections from The Poetical Literature of the West, published in Cincinnati in 1841. Those of his own works that he chose to appear in the anthology — fourteen individual poems — are typical of his Ohio-inspired quest for a poetry that
was truly Western, American, and romantic. The best of them, "Miami Woods", a sustained blank verse poem that ultimately as the result of continued expansion, was to become a celebration of Ohio's four seasons, is the first poem in the volume. In it, Gallagher focuses upon Autumn. His beginning, an attempt to define the physical appearance of the woods under the dominion of the season, is typical of the search for uniquely Western subject matter:

The Autumn time is with us! — Its approach
Was heralded, not many days ago,
By hazy skies, that veil'd the brazen sun,
And sea-like murmurs from the rustling corn,
And low-voiced brooks, that wandered drowsily
By purpling clusters of the juicy grape,
Swinging upon the vine. And now, 'tis here!
And what a change both pass'd upon the face
Of Nature, where the waving forest spreads,
Then robed in deepest green! All through the night
The subtle frost both plied its mystic art;
And in the day the golden sun both wrough't
True wonders; and the winds of morn and even
Have touched with magic the changing leaves . . .

After continuing his description, firmly objective in its wonder at the changing face of nature, a nature peculiar to Ohio's hardwood forests of the last century, Gallagher pursues, in typically romantic fashion, the spiritual reality that lies beyond the glorious but fleeting appearance. He concludes with the faith of the romantic that there is universal spiritual truth beyond the appearance of the woods:

Almighty Father! such the lesson is,
That, is these cool and venerable woods,
I con today, and firmer in my breast,
By every syllable, these truths are fixed:
That Thou art the beginning, and the end,
Of all this wondrous work; and that Thy love
Pervades the universe; and that Thy smile
Seeketh all hearts to sun them; and that Thou,
In every glorious thing we here behold,
Declarest and reveal'st Thyself to be
The Majesty Supreme — Eternal God.

Although this early appearance of the poem concluded at this point, later versions, culminating in that which appeared in his collection *Miami Woods, A Gold Wedding and Other Poems*, published in Cincinnati in 1881, carry it through the other three seasons, with essentially the same conclusion. In all of its collected appearances, it is Gallagher's most ambitious work, his most successful, and his idea of what Western poetry should be.

In the 1841 collection he included a cross-section of briefer poems of the West, all of them romantic, but none as successful or as ambitious as *Miami Woods*. Among them are *The Mothers of the West, Harvest Hymn* and *Olden Memories*, all specific attempts to re-create the Western experience.

Other of his works, among them *The Song of the Pioneers* and *The Spotted Fawn*, continued the pastoral romantic image of the West that he created in *Miami Woods*, but none of them convey the sense of personal involvement that is evident in that poem. A personal poem, it builds upon his eye and love for nature, his insight into its functioning, and his knowledge of its past. His recreation of the changing face of the woods and of nature is the point of departure for his statement of faith in permanence and significance beyond it.

In his last years, Gallagher's writing career was not the compelling avocation of his young manhood, and it had no need to be. In the post-Civil War years the Ohio Valley began to approach maturity and to take its place in the cultural life of the nation. But that growth would have been impossible in such a short span of years if the way had not been paved by Gallagher and others of less significance. Never more than a minor poet, nevertheless he saw the substance of poetry in the Ohio countryside, and in so doing he pointed the way for those who were to continue to attempt to define that countryside and the meaning beyond it.

**Author:** Dr. David D. Anderson of the Department of American Thought and Language, Michigan State University, is an authority on poets of Ohio. *This is the first article in a series of projected essays on Ohio literature and poets.*

He is the author of seven books and more than seventy articles and works of fiction. Two additional books are now in press; and five others are in progress under contract. His numerous awards included an appointment as Fulbright Lecturer in Pakistan.
An Immoderate Moderate

RENOWNED ATHLETE THINKS AND SPEAKS


Author: James Cleveland Owens, known at home as "J.C." and better known in the North as Jesse, was born in Alabama in 1913. He was taken to Cleveland, Ohio, by his parents, became an Olympic Champion, graduated from Ohio State University, and has been engaged in business and social service. He has worked with his co-author, Paul G. Neimark, since 1958.

The frail sharecropper's child in rural Alabama, with his annual bout with pneumonia, could have been buried with others in his native soil. Instead, he grew to overcome his weaknesses, to become an Olympic champion, and to graduate from a Northern university where he became known as "the world's fastest human."

This was Jesse Owens, and this is his story, frankly told. It is a true account of adversities overcome, of triumphs and defeats, of struggle and victories, of kindnesses given and persecutions inflicted by more than one race.

Yet Owens has refused consistently to become bitter. If race relations have become one of our greatest concerns, his philosophy of reason and reconciliation should go far, with those who will listen, to heal old wounds and to prevent new ones.

Necessarily, as an autobiography must be, this is a personal book in which Owens expresses freely his feelings as a black man vis-a-vis others, including his own people.

Mr. Owens gives a thrilling account of his experiences in the 1936 Olympics in Berlin where he won four gold medals in a row. The Nordic (?) racist Hitler almost had a stroke before his insulting exit from the stadium. But the German champion, Luz Long, gave the nervous Owens some good advice that may have cost him his own victory over the American.

Calling himself an "immoderate moderate", Owens despises the attitude among his own people that he calls "Blackthink", and which he defines clearly as "pro-Negro, anti-white bigotry."

This idea is practiced by only a minority, the black militants. But Owens feels and says it is a "vicious, unfair, and destructive philosophy." He knows all about discrimination from his own experiences. And he knows the history of his people who now number about fifteen millions in the United States.

But he denounces violence and the will to destroy as the very things that will choke the sometimes tender flowers of good will and prevent the reconciliation that must become a reality if the races are ever to live together in peace.

Alienation, he believes, is an inevitable fruit of hatred on the part of all races. Emotions are sometimes hard to control, and prejudices, deeply rooted and traditionalized, stand too firmly in the way of understanding. Everyone, he believes, should be realistic about the relationship of the sometimes sordid past, the uneasy present, and the hopeful future. Bitterness is the seed of future trouble. Revenge is a poison. Reconciliation is a healing balm, and the only way to true peace.
Owens speaks his piece on the economic side, too.

"I know what is usually said," he writes, "Most whites and Negroes have been brainwashed to believe that black men and women, with few exceptions such as athletes, entertainers, or postmen, don’t have much chance in America. It's a lie.

"If the Negro doesn’t succeed in today’s America, it is because he has chosen to fail. Yes, there are exceptions. But there are exceptions for the whites, too.

"Most black men today start off just about equal with the white... because we now have the one all-important gift of opportunity."

Owens came back from the Olympics at age twenty-three with his ears full of cheers but with his pockets virtually empty of money. He was world-famous but he needed a job. Gold medals, he knew, would not put bread and meat on the table.

But the best job he could get was one as a playground attendant at $30 a week. Later, with a family to support and the need for funds to finish school, he had to take the degrading job of running against racehorses in rigged exhibitions.

But at last he got his degree at The Ohio State University, which proved to be his passport to success and eventual comparative security in a variety of fields, even though some proved rather rough at times.

One of those rough spots, which Owens frankly describes, was his troubles with the Internal Revenue Service. Busy as he was, he trusted others too much. Taken to court, he faced an understanding judge whose confidence was well placed, for eventually Owens paid everything he owed.

Mr. Owens has devoted much of his life to helping others. He has been in business to make a living. But his social work, including in a broad sense this book, is most important.

In his last three chapters he speaks plainly to his own and to his white friends. He refers to his need for a job after the Olympics, comparing it to the situation now. "Many Negroes are in the same boat today in a way. I know I've said there is opportunity all around us so thick you can cut it, and the want ads... are a daily testimonial to the fact that anyone who wants work can find it.”

"But there are two hitches. First, the Negro doesn’t want just any job. Like a white man, he wants the right job."

The second thing, Owens says, is the urgent and inevitably necessary need for training. Speaking to whites, he appeals to them to provide job training, even looking years ahead. "Give jobs before friendship. Give

speeches only if you have provided training to make the message of those speeches work.”

To this desk Jesse Owens sounds reasonable. He understands much and tells it well. Except for small minorities who will not listen, both races should gain a better understanding here. Out of too much bitterness and turmoil this man points to the way of good will and peace.

REVIEWER: I. F. Howell, an Ohio Poetry Day prize winner, is a member of The Columbus Dispatch book review and editorial staffs and also writes The Dispatch weekly column RANDOM OBSERVATIONS.

OHIOANA WELCOMES TO NEW MEMBERSHIP

The Following Whose Names Were Added to Our Rolls

November 17, 1970 to February 8, 1971

Mrs. Jessie Crafts    Miss Martha A. Niday
Mantua                Columbus
Mr. James Eldridge    Dr. John S. Phillipson
Chillicothe           Cuyahoga Falls
Miss Anna M. Fisher   Mrs. Patricia Sperling
Oxford                Worthington
Mrs. Lavinia Grimes   Mrs. Betty Thomas
Portsmouth            Columbus
Prof. John A. Weigel
Oxford

NEWLY APPOINTED COUNTY CHAIRMEN

We are happy to include the following in our Ohioana Family

GALLIA COUNTY
Mrs. Paul Wood, Gallipolis
County Chairman

Mrs. C. Richard Mackenzie
Gallipolis
Co-Chairman

AUTHOR: William A. Kinnison is vice-president for university affairs, Wittenberg University. His book is based upon his doctoral dissertation, "The Impact of the Morrill Act on Higher Education in Ohio," the Ohio State University, 1967. He is a graduate of Wittenberg and holds a master's degree in history from the University of Wisconsin. He is also the author of a biography of Samuel Shellabarger, Ohio politician.

This work has three main virtues. It fills a void left by earlier histories of the university. It stresses the dominance of the board of trustees as the actual governing body of the university in its first three decades or more. And it does greater justice, finally, to Joseph Sullivant, whose role in the location, founding and basic initial program of the university, originally the Ohio Agricultural and Mechanical College, has been largely underplayed by previous writers about the university.

Fittingly the book is one of several published in connection with the university's centennial year. It casts some light into dark places and brings out the major roles played by various other persons — for example, Rutherford B. Hayes and W. I. Chamberlain, trustees, and Alexis Cope, longtime board secretary.

At the same time, as an accurate history of the early days of the university, the book has faults, some of which could have been avoided. Some statements are not supported by fact, and this is apart from minor inaccuracies. In other matters, judgments or conclusions presented are open to question.

In earlier volumes dealing with the university, the functions and work of the board of trustees and its individual members have been dealt with mainly in routine fashion. Now for the first time they are probed and evaluated in great detail although one may not always agree with the judgments given. There is no question, however, that for years the trustees were the dominating element in the university. They made policy and when they were not in session its administration was in the hands of the board’s executive committee. As the author brings out, the president and the faculty often played relatively minor parts.

Sullivant, rather than Reuben P. Cannon, author of the university's enabling act, was its real founder and father. He led the successful fight to have the institution located in Franklin County. He persuaded the voters of that county to pass a $300,000 bond issue for its benefit, and he shaped the college's program. As early as September, 1870 he read to the board "an elaborate paper" as to what the purposes of the college should be. He also designed the college seal in the form of a pyramid of learning. It is this last that supplies the book with its title. It is a singular mark of neglect and lack of real appreciation for Sullivant's invaluable services that until late 1970 there was nothing tangible on the campus to remember him by except a medal awarded only once every five years.

Hayes was governor when the college was created in 1870 and he named a strong first board of trustees. This board in January, 1871 and again in October, 1872 committed itself to a broad "schedule" of ten departments. In January, 1873 the committee on faculty reported in favor of a president and six professors. Then a maneuver to eliminate the chairs of English and modern languages, and ancient languages and literature was defeated by a vote of 8 to 7. This crucial action steered the college from the outset in the direction of broad rather than narrow gauge education. More weight might have been given in the book to the importance of this vote. The author writes that "The closest division came on the chair of ancient languages." As noted, it was actually English and modern languages as well as ancient languages.
Oddly, it was Norton S. Townshend, one of the original trustees, who was persuaded to resign to take the chair of agriculture, who made the motion to delete these two chairs. Townshend, an M.D., had served in Congress. Of him the author writes that he began his medical education in 1837, received his degree in 1840, and had studied at Starling Medical College in Columbus. Yet Starling, earlier Willoughby Medical College, did not begin operations until 1847-48.

The author makes much of the alleged part politics played in appointments to the board and to posts such as secretary of the board and treasurer. After the 1870 organization the board was reorganized three times — 1874, 1877 and 1878. Sullivant was a member of the first three boards as well as board secretary. In 1878, when the name was changed to the Ohio State University, Sullivant was not renamed to the board but was re-elected secretary. The writer says the new board (1878) "replaced" Sullivant as secretary. This was true technically but the board minutes (Nov. 6, 1878) report the election of Albert Allen as secretary, "the former secretary [Sullivant] having refused to act longer."

Relative to the 1874 reorganization, the author stresses the point that this legislation "also enlarged the powers of the office of board secretary, and . . . made the occupancy of that office subject to the annual approval of the governor of Ohio." Two careful readings of the act, checked further with a ranking member of the Law faculty, reveal no mention in it of the secretaryship.

Allen, who succeeded Sullivant, had been executive secretary to Governor R. M. Bishop but his appointment as board secretary followed by four years the reorganization cited. It is questionable whether the governors of this period had much to do directly with the secretaryship, let alone approving the appointee each year. As to the treasurer, the university had only three between 1870 and 1909; Henry S. Babbitt, 1870-1884; F. W. Prentiss, 1884-1899; and L. P. Kiesewetter, 1899-1909.

Even as to Allen the account gives a misleading impression. He was secretary from 1878 to 1833. The narrative states that he resigned in the "aftermath" of the ouster of Walter Q. Scott as president. This was mainly coincidence since Allen, in his letter of resignation, Nov. 15, 1883, said quite explicitly that he was doing so "by reason of enfeebled health growing out of a nervous disorder of long standing . . . ."

The firing of Scott was an unhappy incident in the university's history. While the effect was the same, he was not actually dismissed but rather failed of re-election by a vote of 5 to 1 (not 6 to 1, as the book has it). The ouster caused a stir that lasted for some months, especially after Governor Charles Foster got involved. But it is an exaggeration to say, as the book does, that Scott's tenure was "in fact a traumatic experience from which the institution never recovered." "Never" is a long time.

Similarly as to William H. Scott who followed Walter Scott. The former was serious, quiet and withdrawn where the other was assertive and ebullient. W. H. Scott came under the impression that he was to be professor of philosophy and political economy but found himself president pro tem as well. The book says the board changed the temporary nature of the appointment "within a year or so," but actually this was done after thirty-eight days.

An instance of drawing a doubtful inference is in the reference (p.86) to the Mendenhall and Orton resignations as "particularly" reflecting "the sense of futility which pervaded the faculty." This might have been true as to Orton, but Mendenhall quit, as the board minutes say specifically, "to accept the very honorable and responsible appointment of Professor of Physics in the Imperial University of Japan." Further, Mendenhall returned in 1881 as professor of physics and remained until 1885 when he went into government service. And although Orton was relieved of the presidency at his own request, he continued on the faculty until his death in 1899.

The author makes a point of the identification of the president not as head of the university but merely as head of the faculty. He cites reference by Hayes to W. H. Scott in November, 1887, as President of the Faculty" rather than as university president. But both terms were used in the board minutes as early as 1880.

The influence of Secretary Cope, meanwhile, had grown steadily. In time he and Hayes became fast friends and depended upon each other. There is no question as to Hayes's influence as a trustee. But it needs to be remembered that he served in this capacity only 5 years and 8 months until his sudden death in 1893. This was hardly a "long period of years" when some of his colleagues served very much longer, e.g., L. B. Wing, 20 years, 8 months; D. Meade Massie, 18 years, 6 months; and T. J. Godfrey, 25 years. Nor did Hayes function, as the book suggests, "ex officio as president of the university in so many respects."

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The narrative seems to suggest that Sullivant volunteered his design for the university seal. He designed it and then, to quote, had it "engraved and presented" to the board which accepted it and made it "the official insignia of the institution." Again the board minutes report somewhat differently, namely, "Mr. Sullivant, to whom had been referred the duty of procuring a corporate seal, reported that he had drawn a device and had it engraved, now submitted it for the inspection and approval of this body, ..." The difference may seem slight but it is one between accuracy and inaccuracy.

"Typos" and their ilk are the bugbear of every writer and editor. This book has a bit more than its share. As examples, p.xi, I. R. Smith for J. R. Smith; p.xii, Weisenberger for Weisenburger; pp.27, 31, Roscoe Huhn (for Huhn) Eckelberry; p.47, accomodate (sic); p.71, N.B. (for N.S.) Townshend; p.83, argicultural (sic); p.117, effected for affected (?); p.154, enobling (sic); and p.183, fulsomely (sic). These are apart from occasional questionable use of words.

Finally, one is baffled by the book's cut-off date of 1907. This was not a significant year in the university's history unless the first critical Carnegie Foundation bulletin has some bearing on this. But while this appeared in March, 1907 and called Ohio's program of higher education "wasteful" and "demoralizing," this would not seem to justify 1907 as a terminal date for this particular work.

**Reviewer:** James E. Pollard has been identified for 58 years with the Ohio State University; emeritus professor, formerly University historian, previous director, School of Journalism; author of History of the Ohio State University, 1873-1948; History of the Ohio State University, VIII, Part 1, 1940-45; History of Ohio State Athletics, 1879-1939; William Oxley Thompson, a biography, 1955.

**Ohioana Library News**

Ohioana Library is very proud and happy to be the repository of the Ohio State House copies of the Proclamations for the past eight years relating both to Ohio generally and out-of-state matters, on subjects of interstate interest.

This valuable and large collection of Proclamations was received from the Executive office, Capitol Building, through the generous decision of Governor James A. Rhodes.

Ohioana Library is deeply appreciative of this important gift which is invaluable for reference to state matters pertaining to Ohio.

Because we wish these Proclamations to be readily available to patrons at all times, we immediately ordered a series of large leather folders and have placed these valuable Proclamations in chronological order between the clear plastic pages of these books.

Our members and all persons acquainted with Ohioana Library are invited to visit Ohioana Library and inspect these valuable and significant Proclamations which provide one aspect of the historic and cultural record of Ohio for the past eight years.

Mrs. Janet Polacheck, coordinator of Young Adult Services of the Canton Public Library and our Co-Chairman for Stark County, arranged a lovely tea for Ohioana Library on Friday, 27 November, at the attractive Canton Garden Center. Hosts were the members of the Young Adult group who provided the delicious refreshments.

The president of this student organization was program chairman. He introduced Mrs. Frank Clover, Ohio author of Poetography, who was their honor guest and who gave a very interesting talk on her book.

It was a beautifully arranged affair and Ohioana Library wishes again to thank Mrs. Polacheck for her generous thought on our behalf.
THE CLINTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY honored Ohioana Library at its meeting on Sunday, 29 November, which was held in Wilmington.

Mrs. Nathan Hale, chairman of Ohioana Library for Clinton County, arranged our part of the program which was built around "Poets and Authors of Clinton County." These authors, when introduced, read excerpts from their own works. It was a most interesting and stimulating program.

Members of the "Wednesday Book Club" of Wilmington assisted as hostesses for the tea which followed the program.

Mrs. Hale is a member of the Wednesday Book Club, and our thanks go to her for so beautifully arranging this delightful literary affair. Assisting her was Mrs. Don Couden, Curator of the Clinton County Historical Society, who is a loyal friend of Ohioana Library and who graces any occasion which she attends.

We are indebted to our friends in Wilmington for sponsoring this notable literary event.

MRS. WILLIAM ORME CULLEN, JR. chairman for Butler County, and MRS. CLIFTON HALL, co-chairman, graciously arranged a beautiful reception in honor of Ohioana Library on Sunday, 15 November, at McKee Hall, Western College for Women, Oxford.

An impressive book display was arranged on a center table. These volumes were by Ohio authors of the county, a large proportion being by professors of Miami University and Western College.

Mrs. M. Y. Newcomb, vice president of Ohioana Library, was a featured guest who, when introduced on the program, gave a scintillating talk about the aims and purpose of Ohioana Library.

The Oxford Press covered this affair with pictures and story.

It was a delight for us to meet so many illustrious Butler County authors and composers.

Many faculty members of Western College and Miami University cooperated to make this reception successful and outstanding. We are deeply grateful to them.

We wish to thank all the authors and composers who attended this tea. It was a privilege meeting them.

Special guests were Dr. James Rodabaugh, a Trustee and treasurer for Ohioana Library, Dr. Phillip R. Shriver, President of Miami University, and Professor Walter Havighurst, noted historian and talented author of many outstanding books.

We were impressed by this illustrious group and were grateful to them and to our hostesses, Mrs. Cullen and Mrs. Hall, for a delightful and inspiring afternoon.

TESSA SWEAZY WEBB DAY, February 14th, was dedicated to our beloved Tessa by her church, The United Methodist, E. 8th Ave., Columbus. That evening Tessa was honored by the congregation for her dedication to poetry, both in her own poetry and in her promotion of all poets. They paid tribute to her also for being instrumental in having Ohio Poetry Day declared.

Ohioana Library also wishes to salute Tessa and to express appreciation to her for her years of loyalty to Ohioana and for her contributions to our shelves of many poetry books, including her own very fine collections. She is also a Life Member of Ohioana Library.

Tessa has been awarded many deserved and signal honors, both in our country and in lands abroad.

Mrs. Webb, born in Hocking County, has long resided in Columbus.

OHIOANA LIBRARY regrets that Mrs. Mary Lewis of Gallipolis has asked to resign as Chairman of Gallia County. Mrs. Lewis has served long and faithfully in this position. We owe her a salute and a sincere vote of thanks for her contributions to Ohioana Library over the past years.

The one happy factor, though, is that Mrs. Lewis promises to maintain her interest in Ohioana Library and to attend our meetings.
Book Looks


Ruth Wolff, now of Clermont County, is a novelist who is able to create fictional characters with sympathy and understanding.

Her newest novel delineates the girl Kate, who lives on a farm and who dedicates her young life to a demanding family. With compassion and effective dialogue Miss Wolff shows Kate's progression to maturity and her resignation to a life of lonely sacrifice.

And then she meets Jared Beacham, a young banker who lives in the city. Kate felt trepidation, leaving the farmland which she loved.

In the big town Kate writes. Three of her books are published. But she never becomes reconciled, away from the farm.

Miss Wolff has written a vital story which is more than a little sad.

NORWALK IN THE NINETIES by Clarence D. Laylin. The Ohio Historical Society, 40 pp. $3.00.

Clarence D. Laylin, now deceased, has written an excellent historical account of Norwalk, the county seat of Huron. The history is based on Mr. Laylin's own recollections and memories of this town in the nineties. Norwalk was the approximate geographical center of the "Firelands", cut by the state of Connecticut from the western extremity of its "Western Reserve" to recompense its citizens for their losses from the British raids.

Pictures taken during those years add to the value of the booklet. Mr. Laylin has imparted a warmth to his recollections which make this history exceptionally human.

IT HAPPENED 'ROUND NORTH BEND: A History of Miami Township and Its Borders by Marjorie Byrside Burruss. Privately Published. Bibliography. Index. $5.95.

This history, which focuses on the Southwestern corner of Hamilton County, includes legend, stories and records, fact and fancy, all of it pertinent to the general knowledge of North Bend and Miami Townships.

Transportation and trade, with emphasis on the Old River Road, ferries, trolleys, trains and canals, are described exceptionally well. Reprints of old photographs add interest to the soft-backed volume.

The author is a Cincinnatian who has devoted many years collecting her material, and her book is an interesting compilation.

THE GREEN THUMB BOOK OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLE GARDENING by George Abraham. Prentice Hall. Index. 349 pp. $7.95.

Famed horticulturist, George "Doc" Abraham, an Ohioan, claims that the American gardener more and more is switching from flowers to fruits, herbs and vegetables.

Providing the home gardener with a splendid index, this author explains how to plan and cultivate a home fruit or vegetable garden. He begins with the buying of plants and seeds and continues with soil preparation and conditioners. He finishes with crop storage and includes some green thumb tips and recipes.

This book, which is the author's third, is a complete guide for the gardener with either a large open plot or a mere window box.

THE ANIMALS' PEACE DAY by Jan Wahl. Crown. $3.95.

Jan Wahl, the prolific author of many superb children's books, has written a modern-day fable. Enchanting is this story of a group of animals who decide to celebrate peace. But at their banquet, quarreling breaks out during which the table of fine food is overturned.

The warm and appealing drawings show how the animals arose from their melee, dusted themselves off, and began to laugh. Jan has a hoot owl, flying over them all, bring out the symbolism of the whole story.

Jan has given much serious thought to this fable, and the result is interesting and successful. Young children will love this new book.

Ohioana Library presented Jan with the 1970 Book Award for the best juvenile book of the year by an Ohio author. His book thus honored is The Rockwell Storybook.

Jan's last letter to us says that he is moving to Guanajuato, Mexico, for the next four or five years . . . after trips to London and Copenhagen. To quote: "But somehow the typewriter serves as home base and as long as the Post Office is near I do not feel far from any of you whom I am so fond of!"

His letters are like his books—super! And he always signs his letters like this:


Two Ohio authors are included in this Anthology of Children's Literature, James Thurber and Lafcadio Hearn. Appendix F in the book gives brief biographical sketches of each author included in this fourth edition (1970) of an excellent selection of classic prose and poetry for children.

The works of American and English authors are divided into such categories as Nursery Rhymes, Nonsense, Fables, Folk Tales, Legends, Heroes, Sacred Writings, Fantasy, Poetry and Fiction.

Eleven years have elapsed since the Third Edition appeared. The focus on the literature of children is two-pronged, being on the recognized and cherished classics and also on current selections of distinction.

The authors included are significant and their literature is a veritable treasury of reading material. We recommend this anthology as a valuable addition to either a public or a home library.

CINCINNATI MAGAZINE published monthly by the Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce. $8 per year.

Encomiums to Cincinnati Magazine for its pictorial appeal and for its articles which portray an area on the move.

The editor, Richard L. Gordon, the art director, Lawrence Zink, and the editorial staff are to be commended for a publication which is receiving many awards and which is gaining a national reputation for excellence.
THE WONDERFUL KITE by Jan Wahl. Delacorte Press. 92 pp. $5.95.

Ping Ling is an average boy who must say "yes" to adventure. He lives in China and the story opens on the Feast Day of Lanterns. While touring through the market, Ping Ling buys a "special" kite which carries the boy to distant, fascinating places.

The two lone human-type people Ping Ling encounters are the man on the moon who wonders, "Why do earth's men care to leave a living world for such a dead one as this!", and a crying, selfish king who is very much afraid that someone will rob his treasures.

All other beings on the trip are creatures of nature: a tree which gives Ping Ling a wishing tear and a bow and arrow, a dragon that grows when it sings, and two eagles who wage war (a touch of reality).

In the process of weaving this delightful fantasy, Jan Wahl, an Ohio author, fills the reader with color and tradition of the Far East. The author is a master in the art of employing adjectives and the use of personification. Uri Shulevitz, after tedious research, produced beautiful illustrations that truly enhance the book. The Wonderful Kite is a charming story which goes into such detail that it serves University.

$5.95.

Klein. The Press of Case Western Reserve University. Bibliography. Index. $5.95.

Ohio and adjacent states include a very rich mixture of flora and fauna. The great variety of geographical and soil situations results in a great diversity of wild flowers.

Each flower is sketched for identification. In this volume they are grouped according to plant family.

Unfortunately, the habitats of these Ohio wild flowers have been reduced. Thus rare plants have become more rare. Mowing along expressways and spraying destroy fragile wild flowers. Those flowers dependent upon streams, ponds and lakes are being destroyed by water pollution.

This new volume is a revision and reissue of the one published in 1938. It is a valuable handbook and most attractively bound.


"Foss" Hopkins is a Cincinnati criminal lawyer who for fifty years has been defending persons accused of murder. His autobiography contains not only these case histories, but also childhood reminiscences and his personal philosophy in defending those accused of crimes.

His cases are well known and remembered in Cincinnati. He has developed armor against an angry public. One of his most interesting cases was that of Harry Gold, spy extraordinary for Dr. Klaus Fuchs and Soviet Russia.

The accounts of Mr. Hopkins' court cases are exceptionally well written. Each case becomes a dramatic contest between innocence and guilt; each contains the suspense of a fictional thriller. Yet each case is bona fide truth and therefore more effective than fiction.

THE STORY OF OLD GLORY by Albert I. Mayer. Children's Press. 31 pp. $3.00.

To anyone—adult or child—who can still feel that tingling of the nerve ends and stirring of the blood called patriotism, this book will be an enjoyable adventure. The "stars and striped" cover in bold red, white, and blue forecasts the contents, the very readable but sneakily historical story of "Old Glory."

The author very effectively separates myth from reality by resorting to the use of facts. The designated audience, students in grades 3 to 5, is not only exposed to the story of their country's flag but should also learn a lesson in historical analysis. The background of the Betsy Ross story is presented then refuted by examining the Congressional Journal of that time, dates, and other records.

If you are interested in knowing why the Navy can rightfully claim our flag as its own or how we might now have a flag with 50 stars and 50 vertical stripes this book holds something for you.

The book, one of a commercial series, suffers from a tinge of commercialism and you can almost imagine that the author's assignment specified word and page limits. However, this should not materially detract from its true value in bringing history alive for the young readers.

The work of Tom Dunnington in enlivening the text with illustrations should not be neglected. These simple sketches effectively complement the text by showing the historical setting and by casually and accurately portraying the actual design of the flags of the time.

Reviewed by Mrs. Wilhelmina Shirley Executive Secretary, Ohioana Library.

ANNA AND THE BABY BUZZARD by Helga Sandburg. Dutton. $4.75.

In this delightful story of Anna and her love for a baby buzzard, Helga Sandburg reminds us of a youngster's characteristic ability to find beauty amidst what many consider ugliness.

"Nobody anywhere likes a buzzard," everyone insists. Well, Anna is determined to prove that even buzzards can be beautiful, especially hers, especially "Glory."

In this charming children's tale, Miss Sandburg skillfully and subtly fulfills two literary aims—to amuse and to instruct. The story is based upon the scientific concept of imprinting, according to which a young bird or animal, when separated from its mother before it is able to care for itself, regards its adopted mother, be it another animal or a little girl like Anna, as its own parent. Miss Sandburg realizes that an educational pill is much easier for a youngster to swallow if it is sugar coated, and this "pill's" sugar coating comes in the form of a heartwarming account of Anna and her love for a buzzard.

The numerous sketches of Brinton Turkle, talented Ohio author and illustrator of children's books in his own right, artistically accentuate each phase of Miss Sandburg's tale, making it quite easy for the young reader to visualize the activities of Anna and her unusual pet.

The marriage of Helga Sandburg's literary ability and Brinton Turkle's artistic talent is a successful union, and Anna and the Baby Buzzard would be an excellent addition to any child's library.

Reviewed by Kathy Hamilton.
BLAIN VILLAGE AND THE FORT ANCIENT TRADITION IN OHIO by Olaf H. Prufer and Orrin C. Shane, III. The Kent State University Press. Bibliography. Index. 267 pp. $10.00.

One of these authors, Dr. Prufer, is Professor of Anthropology at Kent State University who has conducted field work in Ohio, Germany and India; the other author is Dr. Shane, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Kent State who has specialized in new world archaeology and human ecology.

Together they have compiled an outstanding volume, handsome in format, on the excavations in 1966 and 1968 at the prehistoric Blain Village site in Southern Ohio.

Their findings indicate that the Fort Ancient Tradition began earlier than ca. 900 A.D.

The Blain Indians built a settlement consisting of a central mound and a village. Evidence of several of their important ceremonies, such as that of the Green Corn, has now been discovered.

The interrelation between the Woodland and Mississippian cultures in Ohio is analyzed in this notable volume.

Blain Village is located on the west bank of the Scioto River, just southeast of Chillicothe, in Scioto Township, Ross county.

One chapter is devoted to ceramics; another to the flint industry; and one to stone artifacts. All these chapters have well-developed history of that region. The author is a recognized authority on Ohio's Indian lore and civilization.

The two authors have concluded that the village of Blain Site belongs to the Baume Phase of the Fort Ancient Tradition, and that it flourished between 970 A.D. and 1225 A.D.


The important historical event of the Battle of Lake Erie determined a northern U.S. boundary. James Barry, administrator at Capital University, Columbus, brings this decisive battle into sharp perspective for students of American history.

In this vivid and informative account, Mr. Barry attributes the proper significance to this battle, how it related to developing America, and how it strengthened American negotiations with the British. Through it we were able to maintain our sovereignty in Ohio and in the region west of the Great Lakes, whereas the British were striving to expel all U.S. settlers from this large section.

Commodore Perry is the brilliant hero of this battle. Ohioans venerate him, and have erected a monument in his honor at Perrysburg. His words, "We have met the enemy and they are ours," are historic and inspiring.

This very excellent recountal is illustrated with prints of original paintings and lithographs, and with maps.

Mr. Barry has had an impressive career with the U.S. Army, serving in the European theatre of operations during World War II, and at the Pentagon where he was senior editor for the Director of Army Intelligence. His previous book, Georgian Bay, the Sixth Great Lake, is a well-developed history of that region. The author is a recognized authority on the Great Lakes region.


Cincinnati, in Scioto Township, Ross

Walter C. Langsam, President of the University of Cincinnati, has written the excellent foreword to this book of poetry by a resident of Cincinnati. In fact his foreword in itself could be considered a poetic review of the charming poems.

The title poem, "Salisbury Cathedral," is a subjective reflection on the history and mood of this "Lady Cathedral." Because these poems are autobiographical, they reveal the "self" of the poet, who expresses her personal feelings with warmth and sincerity. Her emotions relate to the universe in its physicality—a Scottish Moorland, the chateaux of France, the sea, the Valley of the Fallen outside Madrid—and to the universality of passions and sentiments—October tears, lilac wind, sudden spring.

Madame de Chambrun's themes are those of a traveled cosmopolite. Her poetic images are those of "l'antique memoire." She evokes foreign atmosphere in her poetry and infuses an appealing wistfulness into her word patterns.

GRETA by Maurice Mallin. Delacorte Press. 365 pp. $6.95.

An Ohio writer, born in Cleveland with the name Mariano Escobedo, goes far afield in the world to gather material for his exceptional novel with its background of Austria during the years of World Wars I and II.

Fraulein Greta and her father Vati belong to a noble Austrian family of South Moravia. When Vati disappears fighting at Stalingrad, Greta and her Mutti move from their country estate to Vienna.

They learn that the German Army is in retreat. Greta also hears that Victor, the handsome Prussian officer whom she loves, has been killed.

When Nazi Colonel Sperling comes to inform them that Vienna is going to fall to the Russians, Greta wants to escape with him. But she is persuaded by Mutti to remain.

This novel arouses the appetite of the reader, and then satisfies that appetite. The characters are brilliantly drawn and the insight into the "little" politics of Middle Europe makes the story outstanding.

CINCINNATI BELL BULLETIN edited by Bruce B. Newhall. Cincinnati Bell.

Very impressive are the monthly issues of the Cincinnati Bell Bulletin which Ohioana Library is now receiving and cataloguing. The format, the layout of the articles and many photographs are quite stunning in eye appeal.

The contents of the feature articles are interesting and pertinent to both the Cincinnati Bell Telephone Company and the area which it serves. Especially well-written are the editorials. The one entitled Listen to The Earth, in the June/July 1970 issue, rates special recognition. It deserves to be reprinted, and there are poetic quotes which are worthy of being lifted out and used again (with credit given). A staff editor, Luella Nash LeVee, wrote this article; likewise a very excellent profile piece, The Lady is a Leader, in the October 1970 issue.

Our thanks to Cincinnati Bell for putting Ohioana Library on their mailing list.
HUSHED WERE THE HILLS by Millie McWhirter. Abingdon Press. 175 pp. $3.95.

Millie McWhirter is a free-lance writer who grew up in the hills of Tennessee but who has become an Ohio author by virtue of long residency in Cincinnati.

In her first novel, she returns, however, to Tennessee for her locale, and enchantingly creates the image of those beautiful hills.

She writes, "Things were happening that summer, some thirty years ago, when my mother, my sister Polly and I first went to live in the hills."

Then there was a hush on these hills. The book is the story of those hills and the people who lived among them. The reader becomes fascinated discovering what these people looked for; what they saw and said and did. The folklore and the language of the people provide the story with reality.

It was the time of the Depression when life was hard—but also it was exciting and adventurous.

Miss McWhirter writes with effective empathy for her characters. Her prose has lifting charm and purity which brings color and magnetism to her fiction.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND GUIDANCE by James A. Rhodes (Governor of the State of Ohio 1963-70). Charles E. Merrill. 163 pp. $4.95.

Subtitled A System for the Seventies, this dynamic book on education maintains that in this technological world each person can contribute. The volume proposes a system to prepare youth for his choice in training for employment, and presents a concept for implementing that choice through vocational, technical or professional preparation.

James A. Rhodes has long advocated this new concept of education for those who would like a curriculum based on vocations. In various chapters he spells out such important features as Resources for the Development of a New System; Vocational Guidance in the Elementary Curriculum; and Occupational Choice. He plans this by grades.

The author, when he was governor of Ohio, created in 1969 a special task force to study this subject. His book is based on these findings and his guidance makes good practical sense.

Another excellent book by James A. Rhodes, Alternative to a Decadent Society, also urges expanded vocational education.

SHAFT by Ernest Tidyman. Macmillan Company. 188 pp. $4.95.

The mechanics of this detective novel run smoothly. This is not surprising because the author, a former Clevelander who now lives on a twenty-seven acre farm in western Connecticut, begins each day to write at six a.m. This year three of his books are being published and two of his screenplays are being produced.

Shaft (John) is the name of a cool private investigator from Harlem. When Harlem's black crime boss, Knocks Persons, hires Shaft to find his run-away daughter, the tall, elegantly dressed black sleuth shows his clout with the police, the mafia, black panthers working for revolution, and finally with City Hall, as he travels back and forth between black and white men.

This new and original concept of a detective story is the first in a projected series of Shaft novels. Already John Shaft private black detective, is scheduled to appear in a major film.

DOCTOR RABBIT by Jan Wahl. Delacorte Press. $4.95.

The eminent British critic of children's books, Wallace Hildick, says that young children need richly imaginative fiction. This is what Jan Wahl (a native Ohian) supplies in his many storybooks.

His latest, Doctor Rabbit, is an inspired tale about a Bunny who cures the ills of the animals of the forest who travel to his office. But one day, overworked, Doctor Rabbit falls ill. What happened then? Let Jan tell you.

There is a deepening interest in children's books, and a vigorous expansion of them. Jan Wahl is a leader in the vanguard of excellent writers who recognize the importance of imaginative fiction in the healthy development of a child.

Doctor Rabbit and all of Jan's stories are whimsical fantasy at its best. No wonder his books endear themselves to young children.


Lois Wyse, herself a "Mrs. Success" who lives in Cleveland, writes a book on the wives of successful men.

Are these wives happy? Are they searching for identity? Are they contributing to society?

The author also asks, "What is it like to get mink for a birthday and emeralds a month later?"

The chapters in the book answer these and other questions about these women under headings such as "What Became of the Man I Married" and "The Second Mrs. Success."

In order to get her answers, Mrs. Wyse mailed out questionnaires to a select list and also did some personal interviewing.

Although the book is about an elitist group of women, it will appeal to women readers of Middle America.

AMELIA EARHART RETURNS FROM SAIPAN by Joe Davidson. Davidson Publishing. 281 pp. $7.00.

The author, a resident of Canton, has written the account of the adventure who traveled to Saipan to investigate an airplane wrecked there. From reports they believed it was the lost plane of Amelia Earhart, around-the-world flier, who disappeared in 1937.

They found the Earhart plane, and learned that Amelia and her navigator, Fred Noonan, had been captured by the Japanese, and held prisoners. Later Amelia was executed and cremated; then buried with Noonan.

The account is well illustrated with many photographs of persons and places on Saipan. It makes fascinating reading for those who recall the flying stunts of Miss Earhart.


The author is a native Clevelander who for twenty-five years was a principal in the junior high school system of Cleveland. He has written this book as "a step in the right direction — toward adequate reporting of the black man's history."

The book is a series of fine, one page, biographies about black men and women who have contributed to local history.

In all there are twenty-eight sketches which conclude with Dr. Charles Garvin, Professor of Medicine at Western Reserve University. The men and women are selected for their meritorious accomplishments.

Although Abraham Lincoln was never a conscious literary author, he was able to give magnificent speeches which reach the hearts of man. His famous Gettysburg Address is the best remembered example.

The author, a professor at Michigan State University, has made a collection of his speeches and brief writings. The essence of their appeal is Lincoln's ability to evoke words and rhythms which sing, and to arouse the finer emotions of the common man.

Emerson has said that Lincoln was "an entirely public man — with the pulse of twenty millions throbbing in his head, the thoughts of their minds articulated by his tongue."

In analyzing these speeches, Lincoln's prose rhythms are in the grand tradition of the King James Bible — alliteration, assonance, imagery and analogy.

The speeches, eulogies, and messages to Congress are divided into categories helpful to the reader. A fine selection.

MAN IN SPACE TO THE MOON by Franklyn M. Branley. Thomas Y. Crowell. Index. 38 pp. $3.75.

Neil Armstrong and his co-astronauts, Aldrin and Collins, are again the subjects of an excellent juvenile book which is written by the Chairman of the American Museum—Hayden Planetarium, New York City.

This authority relates the story of man's first landing on the moon, and explains for youthful readers its scientific significance.

Many fine illustrations by the talented artist, Louis Glanzman, point out the drama of the Apollo 11 flight.

The attractive format of the book and the clear explanation of the landing make this a valuable publication.


All Ohio Marines and G. Is who fought on Okinawa will be enthralled by this excellent and comprehensive history of this famous and significant World War II battle.

The authors are the same who wrote Corregidor: The Saga of a Fortress.

Their newest volume is based on interviews in Japan and Okinawa with the military and civilian survivors of this battle.

We know quite a few Ohio Marines who became heroes in this costly battle. The book is for them, their families and for students of the Pacific theatre of World War II.

The landing by the Marines was deceptively easy. But then the campaign against the tenacious Japanese defense became a desperate two-and-one-half months fight for our Marines and G. Is against the entrenched Japanese and assaults by the suicide kamikaze planes zeroing in on the supporting U. S. naval ships.

Much of the history is told in terms of people such as Ernie Pyle, Lieutenant General Simon Bolivar Buckner, and General Ushijima.

Reading the book is a veritable patriotic experience about proud American Soldiers who were sent out to win a war and who knew that there is no substitute for victory.


These speeches by Eugene V. Debs are scrupulously edited by Jean Y. Tussey of the Cleveland Plain Dealer. Both Ohio and Cleveland affected the career of Debs, Socialist party candidate for president.

In a speech in Canton, June 1918, he violated the Espionage Act. Two weeks later he was arrested in Cleveland and sent to Atlanta Penitentiary for a term of ten years. It was President Harding who commuted Deb's sentence after two years and eight months in jail.

Among these speeches, which are arranged in chronological order, are his address at Canton and the one to the jury who tried him.

He railed against power-hungry intellectuals, landlords, owners of coal mines, Elihu Root and Andrew Carnegie. He could talk steadily for two hours.

He stated in one speech, "I do not believe in the Christian religion." In another he praised Lenin and Trotsky, and declared himself proud to be a Bolshevik. He preached bloody revolution for America and his phrases sound much like the Black Panthers and the Jerry Rubins of today.

Debs' attack on our Republic should re-alert soldiers who were sent out to win a war for victory.

From his speeches the reader is made to realize that the revolution-conspiracy has been going on for a long time. Debs' attack on our Republic should re-alert America to this great danger.


"Subtitled True Accounts of God in the Lives of Men, this book relates the stories of individual and contemporary persons who have had testimonies of God and who are witnesses that God is present today on earth.

Two of the chapters are related by Catherine Marshall, the widow of the Reverend Peter Marshall of Washington, D. C. Another author is Tokichi Ishi, a Japanese, who attended school for only two years, and who became a thief.

The author has researched widely to make these inspirational selections. Mrs. Harrell is a former Ohio resident who now lives in Wilson, North Carolina.
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