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The ADVERTISING RATES FOR THIS classified page are as follows: For twenty or more consecutive insertions of any copy, minimum twelve words, 6 cents a word each insertion; for any smaller number of insertions 8 cents a word each insertion. Copy may be changed every week. The forms close Friday morning eight days before publication date. Address Department G.H., The Saturday Review of Literature, 25 West 45th Street, New York City, telephone BRyant 9-0896.

## News from the States

What the SATURDAY REVIEW most desires for this department is the pithy paragraph upon some significant matter, whether in relation to author's activities, bookselling activities and problems, the trend of reading in a particular territory, or allied matters. Booksellers' anecdotes will be welcomed. It is our aim to furnish a bird's-eye view of reading and writing America which will prove valuable both to our subscribers and to the book world at large. We hope that our subscribers will submit items from time to time.

## COLORADO

Heloise B. Hawkins of Denver sends the following (her second item indicates a Populist revolt agin' Eastern editors. What do other Western states feel about this, and what, on the other hand, have Easterners to say in rebuttal?):—

Gene Fowler, the irrepressible, returned home recently for a visit. For years on the *Denver Post*, Fowler followed this with a career as a star reporter and managing editor for Hearst. More latterly he has been free-lancing from Long Island. The author of three novels, he came back to Denver looking for material for a fourth, two of whose characters will be modelled on prominent Denverites. The novel should sell in Denver.

Arthur M. Carhart, first president of the Colorado Authors' League, and author of "Men and Power," is talking over KOA, continuing the weekly programs sponsored by the League which have run for nearly two years. Recently he issued a "declaration of independence" and started "an insurrection" against eastern editors. Let the twain meet, but not, he says, with west bowing to east. Mr. Carhart's talks will be made accessible, later on, to the reading public.

Dr. Le Roy R. Hafen, historian of the State Historical Society, has written a book called "Colorado: the Story of a Western Commonwealth," running from the prehistoric cliff dwellers to modern times. Dr. Hafen is known for his "The Overland Mail," and for the co-authorship, with W. J. Ghent, of a story of the frontiersman Fitzpatrick, known as "Broken Hand."

## MISSOURI

Raymond F. Howes, Assistant Professor of English at Washington University and Book Review Editor of *The Quarterly Journal of Speech*, interesting himself in *News from the States*, sends us information, from St. Louis, about the greatest living literary Missourian:—

T. S. Eliot, a native of St. Louis, was a recent guest of Washington University, which his grandfather, the Rev. Dr. William Greenleaf Eliot, founded eighty years ago. Before going to Harvard, Eliot was a student in Smith Academy, part of Washington University. He is, therefore, claimed as an alumnus, along with Paul Elmer More, Fannie Hurst and Francis Dakin. While in St. Louis, Eliot was made an honorary member of the St. Louis Writers Guild, a lively group that includes William Hazlitt Brennan, Jay Gelzer, Shirley Seifert, and Marjorie Dowd, whose recent anthology of verses about fathers caused F. P. A. to voice a characteristic kick. Miss Dowd, according to F. P. A., had omitted his favorites, "Father, Dear Father, Come Home with Me Now," and "Pop Goes the Weasel."

Fifteen hundred people jammed Graham Memorial Chapel on the Washington campus to hear Eliot on Shakespearean criticism. The paper, which was very erudite, gave little opportunity for applause, but much for polite gaping. Luckily for the local reputation of pure literature, a group of reporters cornered Eliot and pumped him for bits of information about old days in St. Louis, the New Humanism, and the business of authorship.

## OREGON

Viola Price Franklin, investigating contemporary reading in Salem, Oregon, has some interesting facts:—

Miss Maud Covington, librarian, reports that the depression is manifest in changed reading habits. Books by Stuart Chase, Thorstein Veblen, and Edward Bellamy have been much in demand. Bellamy's books used to sit idle on the shelves, but now are generally unavailable except by special reserve. The Technocracy Forum, meeting once a week in Salem, has drawn large crowds.

Paul Patton, proprietor of Salem's oldest bookstore, can't regard the situation with equanimity. He says the tendency of the public is to patronize the library rather than to buy books as in former times. Salem is well supplied with circulating libraries, there being four, the State, Public, School, and University. Mystery stories, says Mr. Patton, are fall-

ing off in demand; travel, history, economics, are gaining in popularity.

Turning to Portland, *The Outlander*, a quarterly review, edited by Albert Richard Wetjen and Roderick Lull, has made its appearance. Revolt against old formulas is stressed by the editors. Six of Mr. Wetjen's stories are being translated into Austrian and Swedish. Mr. Wietjen is president of the Oregon Chapter of the American Fiction Guild.

## UTAH

Madeline Reeder of Ogden, Utah, has this to report about Bernard De Voto, Utah native, who is the storm center of *The Saturday Review* letter page (see Points of View) this week:—

The buyer of one of Ogden's prominent rental libraries took me aside the other day and asked me for an honest opinion: Would Mr. De Voto's "Mark Twain's America" really go over at \$4 per volume? A prophet, evidently, is not worth \$4 in his own country. Why is it that perfectly obvious talent is never recognized at home? The main library at Ogden boasts no circulation at all for Mr. De Voto's "House - of - Sun - Goes - Down" or his "Crooked Mile" unless some innocent puts them on the western shelf with Zane Grey, Mulford, Bower, and the rest. Yet they are good and exciting books. [Does this mean Zane Grey, Mulford, and Bower are tame?—Ed.]

## Trade Winds

By P. E. G. QUERCUS

☞ Bookstores haven't yet got to the point of putting up signs (as they do in speakeasies) WASN'T THE DEPRESSION AWFUL?—but there is definitely a better feeling. ☞ We hear interesting rumors of progress in the reorganization of Brenano's. ☞ Why, in Barry Faulkner's mural mosaic in the 11th Avenue lobby of one of the innumerable Radio City palaces, are *Publicity* and *Hygiene* represented as flying into a cloud?—and *Thought* is a bit pigeon-toed? ☞ Marcia Passage, of the Sunwise Turn (44th Street) is very pleased with the handsome Garden City Publishing Co. reprint (\$1) of Beatrice Tunstall's *The Shiny Night* which she says is a very fine novel. ☞ Conrad Aiken's *Great Circle* is one of the books Old Quercus intends to read.

L. L. D. writes she was amused by a sign in an East Side stationer's: a window full of booklets, sign said *Pamphlets on Sex, Love, and Marriage, Choose 2 out of 3.* ☞ One of the best buys is the *Midgert Dictionary* (English-French) published by Burgess & Bowes, London, 20 cents at Woolworth's 42nd Street—and well printed.

☞ From the H. W. Wilson Company—specialists in books for public libraries—comes *Famous First Facts*, A Record of the First Happenings, Discoveries and Inventions in the United States, by Joseph Nathan Kane (\$3.50). Old Curiosity-Seeking Quercus has turned its 757 pages with unflagging fascination, adding to that store of miscellaneous information which enriches this column. ☞ For instance, the first American novel, announced in 1789, was *The Power of Sympathy* by Mrs. Sarah Wentworth Morton, published under the pseudonym of Philenia. ☞ The first antiquarian book store was established in 1830 at Boston. ☞ The first full size book was Steeven Daye's *Whole Booke of Psalmes*, 1640. ☞ The first telephone directory was issued in 1878 by the New Haven Telephone Co., listing about 50 names. ☞ The first insurance book was published by Benjamin Franklin at Philadelphia in 1725: *Ways and Means for the Inhabitants of Delaware to Become Rich*. Quercus defies Poor Richard's successor, Mr. Curtis, to think up a better selling title.

☞ *Famous First Facts* came to the H. W. Wilson office as an unsolicited manuscript, which makes it an unusual publication for their list. The Wilson publishing procedure is astute: they sound out the libraries (i. e., the customers) before

a line of type is set. In the case of a previous book, *Living Authors* by Dilly Tante, sample chapters were sent to fifty librarians before it was accepted, and orders had come in from 2,000 libraries before it was sent to press. The manuscript of *Famous First Facts* was read by fifteen prominent librarians, whose consensus of opinion led to its acceptance, after which the Wilson office checked all the facts and dug up the illustrations.

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*“And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man.”* ISAIAH: IV-1



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