TRADEWINDS

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BOUT BOOKS: From California comes a slim, handsome volume, "About Books-A Gathering of Essays," published by The Book Arts Club of the University of California. All of these essays have appeared in various book and library journals, and it behooves us to suggest to all genuine book-lovers that here, indeed, is a notable addition to the field of bibliology. The contributionsand there are four of them-are articles by men distinguished in publishing and library work. Messrs. Adams, Cleland, Grabhorn, and Wroth turn honest opinion and sharp criticism against many of those who work with books, make books, and use books.

* *

dolph G. Adams takes to task the librarian who is primarily a business administrator and knows little or nothing about books; T. M. Cleland deplores the fact that of the thousands and thousands of books that come out each year only fifty are of sufficient beauty and craftsmanship to merit attention at book clinics and expositions; Edwin Grabhorn takes issue with the poor printing done by machines; while Lawrence C. Wroth laments the lack of precise teaching of bibliographical work.

The newspapers called our attention the other day to an engineer who

contrived a precision writing instrument capable of inscribing the sonnets of Shakespeare and the complete writings of E. Philips Oppenheim on the head of a pin. And with more meticulous care perhaps, the Waverley Novels as well. Admittedly that is quite an achievement, but hardly comparable with one Macmillan's have to their credit. We have in mind the onevolume edition of "The Concise Cambridge History of English Literature." We salute the indefatigable and erudite Mr. George Sampson for compressing fifteen volumes of this famous history into 1,094 pages. As we thumb through it and look for our favorite sources and references we are happily surprised to see how "complete" a concise job can be. But we somehow always expect such enterprises from Macmillan and Cambridge. We think of the one-volume edition of Fraser's "Golden Bough" and G. B. Harrison's "The Elizabethan Journals." This new volume joins a notable group. And while we're "heped" about all this, we say (advt.): "It's a buy for only \$4.50."

The bookstore of R. H. Macy's recently was puzzled over the poor sale of one of the year's finest cook books—"100 Ways to Please Your Hus-

books—"100 Ways to Please Your Husband." Good cook books always sell well, and the merchandising manager wondered what was holding this one down. One of the salesgirls suggested

that the books be removed from the cook book counter and placed on display in the drug and health book section. The suggestion was followed. Result: "100 Ways to Please Your Husband" was sold out in short order.

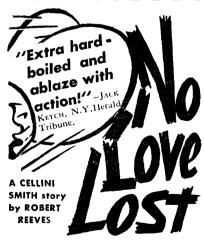
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**EWarning: If you are binding or saving copies of the *Review*, note that the present volume XXIV will include 37 issues instead of the customary 26. Volume XXV will begin with the first issue in January. Thus subsequent volumes will conform with the calendar year, and simplify the task of librarians and our business department.

EFSchuman's, dealer in histories of medicine and science, has moved from 730 Fifth Ave. to 20 E. 70th St., New York . . . Eric Estorick's "Stafford Cripps: Prophetic Rebel" is a study of the famous barrister and ambassador through Cripp's statements. It is an indictment of Britain's appeasers during the past decade . . . Ah, a dish for the gruesome: "Murder à la Mode." A prize winner and a woman at that-Eleanore Kelly Sellars . . . Say, do you know crime? O. K. What famous newspaperman was jailed in connection with reporting the dramatic Battle of Cameron Dam, in Wisconsin? Another? What woman is known to have committed 42 murders, and perhaps still lives? All this from "Murder Out Yonder" by Steward Holbrook . . . We'll give you the answers at the bottom . . . And way ahead in December comes "Hotel Splendide" by Ludwig Bemelmans . . . Fireworks in the offing . . . "Confusion on the Potomac" will set the alarm . . . Van Wyck Mason has changed to Reynal and Hitchcock, and the first of the new titles will be "The Rio Casino Intrigue" . . . The answers: Floyd Gibbons and Belle Gunness of La Porte.

Louis Greenfield.

Title and Author	Crime, Place, and Sleuth	Summing Up	Verdic
MADMAN'S BUFF Kurt Steel (Little, Brown: \$2.)	fantastically disarranged N. Y. bed-room presents Hank Heyer with tough,	Lip Sisko, stool-pigeon taxi jehu adds hilari- ous spice to dextrously plotted, swiftly paced, and exceptionally well- characterized tale.	High grade
MURDER à la MODE E. K. Sellars (Dodd, Mead: \$2.)	dept. store chief's wife fo'lowed by double pois- oning in Manhattan.	Rivalries, and worse, of business men and wo- men basis of opulently written, competently constructed, and puz- ling yarn with delayed Garrison finish.	Good marks
SOME LIKE IT HOT Sidney Marshall (Morrow: \$2.)	tor in Chicago studio and strangling of ac- tress charged up to ac-	Studio patter brisk, and intrigues, both amorous and financial, interesting. Action incessant but rather confusing and solution pretty cloudy.	So-so
THE AFFAIR OF THE SKI-ING CLOWN Clifford Knight (Dodd, Mead: \$2.)	flare into double mur- der, which almost baf-	Bizarre nature of first crime, thrilling ski epi- sodes, extremely well concealed killer, and ef- fective sleuthing hold the attention.	Effec- tive



• "Lurid and lively yarn of double-crossing gangsters, trans-Pacific oil speculators, yeggs, pugs, soft-voiced cops, and murders solved by Cellini Smith—than whom they don't come tougher." — THE CRIMINAL RECORD, Salurday Review. \$2.00, Holt.

OCTOBER 4, 1941 21

PERSONALS

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