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From Raven I. McDavid, who has for two decades helped this journal when we've needed linguistic expertise, comes word of an unusual book: **LANGUAGE OF THE UNDERWORLD: (Essays)** by David W. Maurer. Collected and edited by Allan W. Futtrell and Charles B. Wordell. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky. 1981. \$30.00. The half-century of Maurer's investigations in the language patterns of subcultures established him as one of the founders of sociolinguistics; in sensitivity of perception, in clarity and concreteness and vigor of expression, his work has been rarely approached and never excelled. These twenty essays—edited by two of his students and introduced by another, with Maurer himself providing new overviews—indicate the breadth and depth of his interests, from fishing to moonshining, from narcotics to safecracking. Although I personally miss some of his incomparable satiric pieces, such as "The Liquid Capitalists" from *The Reporter* (1950) and "Utopia at High Dugeon" from Blachly's *Progress in Drug Abuse* (1970), I find this a fair representation of one of the best friends and most stimulating colleagues I have ever known. I look forward to its appearance in paperback, with a lower price, corrected typography, and a more useful index.

We have reports from David Grimsted on three interesting volumes: **THE NEW BILINGUALISM: An American Dilemma.** Edited by Martin Ridge. Los Angeles: University of Southern California Press. 1981. \$20.00. This book contains the papers and discussion on questions of biculturalism in the United States given at a conference sponsored by the Center for the Study of American Experience. Although conferences tend to be inconclusive, the book offers a survey of intelligent opinions on the issue, and some telling comparisons with the experiences of other nations, especially Canada.

IMAGES OF AMERICAN SOCIETY IN POPULAR MUSIC: A Guide to Reflective Teaching. By B. Lee Cooper. Chicago: Nelson-Hall. 1982. \$22.95; paper: \$10.95. Arguing that popular

music provides a major way to involve students in thought about general social issues, the author provides a series of topics—growing up; sexual, racial and occupational stereotypes; rural and urban life; moral and religious values—that can be profitably explored in the classroom through popular songs. The text is intelligent if slight, and the bibliographies of writings and songs pertinent to particular topics are extensive and helpful.

JIG COOK AND THE PROVINCETOWN PLAYERS: Theatre in Ferment. By Robert Karoly Sarlos. Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press. 1982. \$22.50. This monograph chronicles the career of the Provincetown Players between 1915-1922, when, the author argues, the commercial success of their experimental drama led to the dissolution of its amateur spirit. The author carefully describes the productions and the participants, most interestingly the group's central spirit, "Jig" Cook.

No. 44, **THE MYSTERIOUS STRANGER (The Mark Twain Library).** By Mark Twain, with forward and notes by John S. Tuckey, text established by William M. Gibson and the staff of the Mark Twain Project. University of California Press. 1983. \$12.95; paper: \$3.95. The first title in the new "Mark Twain Library," this volume, like others to follow, uses a text established by the *mavens* of the University of California Mark Twain Project, but without the extensive scholarly apparatus of their *CEAA Works* edition. And geez, what a strange work this first book is—playful, bitter, mystical, funny (even, for a few insufferable pages, boring)—an epitome, in short, of late Twain. The paperback is cheap; good.

Our agent in Austin, Alan Gribben, reports on more Twain material: **MARK TWAIN INTERNATIONAL: A Bibliography and Interpretation of His Worldwide Popularity.** Edited by Robert M. Rodney. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press. 1982. \$35.00. According to Rodney, between 1867 and 1976 at least 5,344

editions of Mark Twain's books were issued in fifty-five countries and translated into seventy-two foreign languages. Twain's foreign readership eventually grew to be three times the size of his American audience. *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* has attracted the greatest international popularity, especially since 1920; *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* ranks second; next follow his collected stories and sketches; next (rather surprisingly), *The Prince and the Pauper*. Only Cooper, Poe and Louisa May Alcott rivaled him in the nineteenth century; Pearl Buck and Jack London had comparable followings in the twentieth. "Images embedded in Mark Twain's best known works made up a montage from which many non-Americans could have formed their only conception of America," observes the compiler; as a result, Twain has contributed immeasurably to the cultural relations of the United States with other nations. Moreover, Twain's personality and his attitudes have been perceived abroad as representing the prototype of the American character. Rodney gives each country separate treatment, its books catalogued alphabetically and by year. Serious consultants will no doubt wish that the compiler had supplied the source for each individual entry, instead of merely providing, at the beginning of the entries for a nation, the collective list of sources investigated. It will be extremely difficult to check potential new additions and identify errors. And errors probably exist, judging from an entry in the section on domestic American editions (p. 20) in which Professor Rodney claims that Twain's "1601" was written in 1876 and first printed in Japan and England, American editions then commencing in 1880. One wishes as well that he had found the space to describe at least some significant editions—the title, place, publisher and date hardly convey any sense of the physical book—and to quote, however briefly and in translation, noteworthy opinions of a few editors and authors of forewords. We have here a bare-bones catalogue of most of Twain's foreign editions up to the mid-1970s, culled from standard published bibliographies such as *The National Bibliography of Indian Literature*. It takes us a helpful step toward our grasp of the awesome phenomenon of Twain's trans-cultural charisma, and it assuredly augments the few previous, unilateral studies of Twain's relationship with England and India, but Professor Rodney's introduction to this reference work starts and ends at an elementary level that neglects deeper, more substantial conclusions.

G.I. JIVE: An Army Bandsman in World War II. By Frank F. Mathias. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky. 1982. \$17.50. J. Bunker Clark reports that this is like another Kentucky publication, William R. Dunn's *Fighter Pilot: The First American Ace of World War II*, described in this column last fall. There's not much music in Mathias's memoir, nor history, but it's a fascinating account of one soldier's adventures in the Pacific, ending on the Philippines.

Here is a paragraph in a letter from Warren French: "As for your request for one sentence in the new column about LITERATURE AND

THE BARRICADES: The American Writer in the 1930s, edited by Ralph F. Bogardus and Fred Hobson (University of Alabama Press. 1982. \$22.50; paper: \$8.95). I would say, the book reprints the proceedings of the Fifth Alabama Symposium on English and American Literature, devoted to the American Writers in the 1930s; such distinguished scholars as Irving Howe, Louis D. Rubin, Jr., Hugh Kenner and Daniel Aaron join writers Josephine Hebrst and James T. Farrell (making one of his last public appearances) in providing a richly detailed, long considered but familiar approach to the subjects that parallels previous collections rather than suggesting new perspectives."

William D. Keel has cast a critical eye upon MUSEUMS, SITES, AND COLLECTIONS OF GERMANIC CULTURE IN NORTH AMERICA: An Annotated Directory of German Immigrant Culture in the United States and Canada, compiled by Margaret Hobbie (Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press. 1980. \$19.95), and has this to say: The compiler's intent is to locate and list the sources of German-American material culture as opposed to written or printed documents. Her list of some 152 museums and archives is based on the response to 280 questionnaires sent to potential repositories (20 percent did not respond). An additional 103 relevant sites were selected from *The National Register of Historic Places*. Hobbie's directory merely scratches the surface. Her method of obtaining information limits the list from the outset. One must wonder why some state historical museums are included (Missouri) while others are omitted (Kansas). Her listing of historic places falls far short of the actual number. Long term, thorough studies such as Charles van Ravensway's *The Arts and Architecture of German Settlements in Missouri* (1977) reveal the richness and the pervasiveness of German-American material culture. We should also note that the earliest German immigrants came from the Rhineland and southwest Germany and not from "southeastern Germany" as stated on page xv of the introduction.

We have Western reference tool news, first from Kenneth E. Hendrickson, Jr., who reports on TEXAS LAST FRONTIER: Fort Stockton and the Trans-Pecos, 1861-1895, by Clayton W. Williams (College Station, Texas: Texas A&M Press. 1982. \$19.50). Clayton Williams, the author of this volume, is a lifelong resident of Pecos County. A successful rancher and oil man, he is also a dedicated amateur historian. His book is a chronicle of the history of the trans-Pecos region during the final decades of the last century, nothing more, nothing less. There is no analysis, no interpretation. It is not particularly readable and has no merit as literature. However, as a reference tool it will be valuable to students of the frontier.

A second report comes from our agent in Rochester, Indiana and Brazil, Robert Glen Deamer. He says that A BIBLIOGRAPHICAL GUIDE TO THE STUDY OF WESTERN AMERICAN LITERATURE, by Richard W. Etulain (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press. 1982. \$22.50.) is a "fine reference work" which

“should be on the shelf of all serious students of the literature and the literary history of the American West. Admirably comprehensive and well organized, the book contains references to pertinent theses and dissertations as well as to significant published articles and books. All entries are helpfully numbered and keyed to a final author index. Etulain has organized the book into sections for bibliographies, anthologies, and general works and for several special topics like regionalism, western film and Indian literature. These sections are followed by listings for numerous individual authors. I especially appreciate the fact that Professor Etulain has not limited his authors section to writers who happen to have lived part or all of their lives in the trans-Mississippi West. Irving, Whitman and Stephen Crane—to cite just a few examples—are included right along with Willa Cather and Frank Waters. For my part, I would like to have seen Thoreau and Hawthorne also included, as I see them as important figures in the literary history of the West. But this is my only objection to Etulain’s otherwise excellent checklist. I should add that major historians, like Turner and Webb, of the American frontier and the American West *are* included and that the authors section—appropriately—is not limited strictly to fictionists and poets. I have not seen a better or more comprehensive listing in one volume of the important scholarship on the American literary West.”

Deamer also reports on *TWENTIETH CENTURY WESTERN WRITERS*. Edited by James Vinson and D. L. Krikpatrick. Detroit: Gale Research Company. 1982. \$80.00. This volume will be of interest chiefly to those who would like to see twentieth-century Western writers—including writers of the popular Western—all gathered in one place. Over three hundred writers are included: there are no serious omissions. The biographical sketches and, especially, the primary-works bibliographies provide useful information. The authors’ comments are occasionally of value. But there is little in this book of critical substance or importance. The “critical essays” on each writer should be called generalized introductions, of questionable value even to the beginning student. The critical-studies bibliographies, also, are surprisingly limited.

Gary Moulton has this report on a collection of essays: *INDIANS, ANIMALS, AND THE FUR TRADE: A Critique of Keepers of the Game*. Edited by Shepard Krech III. Athens: University of Georgia Press. 1981. \$12.00. These seven essays respond to Calvin Martin’s novel thesis that eastern subarctic Indians zealously participated in the fur trade for other than economic reasons. Martin argued that their overkilling practices grew out of a “despiritualization” of the fur-bearing animals, a position he outlines in an essay and additional comments which are included in the book. The essays criticize Martin’s thesis from a variety of perspectives, but still admit that he has opened the way to more complex explanations of native motivation.

Here are three reports from Lillian Schlissel on books of the sort for which we invented this column: *WOMEN AND WESTERN AMERICAN LITERATURE*, edited by Helen Stauffer and Susan J. Rosowski (Troy, New York: Whitston Publishing Company. 1982. \$22.50), is a collection growing out of the 1980 meeting of the Western Literature Association. Most of the contributions are solid and help to retrieve the realities of the women’s western experiences from the writings that have trivialized or obliterated them. The collection accords too much attention to traditional male writers like A. B. Guthrie, Hamlin Garland, Owen Wister, Ole Rolvaag and Wright Morris. Essays on Mari Sandoz, Agnes Smedley, Mary Austin and Paul Gunn Allen are welcome. Their writings should have been brought into the standard canon long ago. David Rembley’s study of Sacajewa is a fine job. Perhaps the next collection of papers will bring to light the many strong but lesser-known western women writers whose work still waits to be discovered.

Teresa Jordan’s book *COWGIRLS* (Garden City, New York: Doubleday. 1982. \$19.95) is based on a series of interviews with women who grew up taking care of livestock, who manage ranches and farms, who are wives and ranch “hands.” These women could never abide “staying in the house”; they follow their own bent, alone or with their children on the saddle in front of them. They work “out of doors,” by personal choice, and in this society where they are outside the mainstream, they have been largely overlooked. These dropouts from domesticity tell us in their own words how they chose their lifestyles. They bring us back to the tradition of women who have midwived cattle as well as children, and reach forward into a new tradition of women who breed their own stock and manage their own herds, who are ranchers and farmers as well as women and wives. Domesticity does not embrace all women; it never has. Jordan is a gifted writer and a first-rate photographer. Her pictures of the barn and the ranch kitchen and the stable are poetry. These tough women, and their love of the land and their livestock seem, at the end, totally natural. Women who have been separated from the life that is growing out-of-doors seem, in contrast, unnatural.

In *READ THIS ONLY TO YOURSELF: The Private Writings of Midwestern Women, 1880-1910* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press. 1982. \$22.50), Elizabeth Hampsten has gathered the letters and journals of women living on the northern plains at the turn of the century. These writings were not set down in response to historical event, as with the diaries that marked the overland journey. Rather, they are the private conversations of women with friends and family members. Hampsten has wanted to learn how these women understood their own lives, and placed themselves and their expectations within the fabric of family and community life. The letters reveal the routine and trivial tasks, repeated over and over again by women who make out of that routine a triumph of ordered living. To these seemingly unrewarding materials, Hampsten applies the skills of the deft reader of poetry, and what emerges is her analy-

sis of rhythms and patterns of language. It is a method that fuses literary analysis with historical research. Hampsten is a genius of showing us "how a complex life can be revealed, how strong a presence can be felt in a strict adherence to the unmetaphorical style. . . ." *Read This Only To Yourself* makes the ordinary exciting.

David Katzman examined a volume in an ongoing Yale project: Yale University Press has issued the second volume in the projected 14-volume, authoritative edition of *The Frederick Douglass Papers* (New Haven. 1982. \$45.00). Under editor John W. Blasingame, the editorial notes are excellent yet non-intrusive, and the volume has an exhaustively thorough index. The project will be divided into three series: One: Speeches, debates and interviews; Two: editorials, essays and poems; and Three: Correspondence. Volume 2 of Series One reprints 59 of approximately 650 speeches the abolitionist orator and journalist delivered from 1847 to 1854. Douglass, who started in the 1840s as a speaker recounting his experiences as a slave, matured into a political spokesman, black leader

and reformer. Of the 59 speeches reprinted here, 25 are also found in Philip S. Foner, ed., *The Life and Writings of Frederick Douglass*, 5 vols., N. Y., 1950-1975.

Joe Gray Taylor is our authority on booze; he has belled up to *THE SILVER BULLET: The Martini in American Civilization* (Contributions in American Studies, No. 52), by Lowell Edmunds (Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press. 1981. \$19.95.), and has this to say of it: This is a delightful little book, witty, urbane and yet an adequately documented history of the martini and its place in American culture. The author is a professor of classics, not a historian, which may help explain the grace of his prose. His study of the origin and development of the cocktail is more than adequate, and his analysis of its place in twentieth-century American society is better. His documentation appropriately leans heavily on literature, but ranges from bar keepers' guides through registers of trademarks to *The Liquor Handbook*. This book will be useful for specialized research, and it is strongly recommended for pleasant reading.

american studies column

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JOURNAL OF THE EARLY REPUBLIC, edited by James Broussard, History, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware 19711, sent us a release about prizes. Anne Rose picked up \$250 for her book *Transcendentalism as a Social Movement, 1830-1850*; Joseph Tregle, Jr., is \$100 richer because of his article "Andrew Johnson and the Continuing Battle of New Orleans" from last year's winter issue of *JER*.

GREAT PLAINS Studies go on at Emporia State University and at the Canadian Plains Research Center, Regina, Saskatchewan; the two are affiliated and cooperate. They want to know who is working in the field; if you are, write to Tamsen Emerson at Emporia State, Emporia, Kansas 66801, for a form to fill in.

NEH sent us a thick packet with news about Summer Seminars for College Teachers for the summer of 1983. Those in American Studies or which list American Studies as a "cross listing" are as follows:

Modernity Versus Tradition in Twentieth-Century American Architecture/Rosemarie Haag Bleter, Columbia University, June 13-August 5

Two Social Movements of Contemporary America: Feminism and Anti-Feminism/William Chafe and Jane Mathews, Duke University, June 13-August 5

Minorities in the Southwest/Leonard Dinnerstein, University of Arizona, June 13-August 5

Studies in New England Transcendentalism/Walter Harding, Thoreau Lyceum, June 27-August 20

Religion and Cultural Change in American History/William R. Hutchinson, Harvard University, June 20-August 12

American Urban History: Cities and Neighborhoods/Kenneth T. Jackson, Columbia University, June 13-August 5

Approaches to Nineteenth-Century American Social History/Carl F. Kaestle, University of Wisconsin, June 20-August 12

Individualism and the Republican Tradition: Anglo-American Social Thought in the Age of Revolution/Isaac Kramnick, Cornell University, June 20-August 12

Alain Locke and Afro-American Culture/Richard A. Long, Atlanta University, June 13-August 5

New Perspectives in American Studies/Murray G. Murphey, University of Pennsylvania, June 20-August 12

The Forms of Autobiography/James Olney, University of North Carolina, June 13-August 5

A Generation of American Foreign Policy/Thomas G. Paterson, University of Connecticut, June 12-August 5

The Comparative Study of Slavery/Orlando Patterson, Harvard University, June 20-August 12