

# Oklahoma Books

*A Handbook of Oklahoma Writers*, by Marable and Boylan, University of Oklahoma Press, 1939. \$2.50.

A most valuable reference book—the first Who's Who of state writers ever published in Oklahoma—has been prepared by Elaine Boylan, '19, librarian for the *Dallas* (Texas) *News*, and Mrs. Mary Hays Marable, instructor in library science in the University.

*A Handbook of Oklahoma Writers*, which is a full-sized book of more than three hundred pages, contains a vast amount of information about the state's writers. It traces the growth of Oklahoma's literary productions from the pioneer days to the present, supplies a town list of writers, a general bibliography, and gives individual biographies of the more outstanding authors.

The biographical sketches are conveniently divided into five sections: novelists and short story writers, poets, dramatists, historians, and writers of general non-fiction.

Also included is a list of some literary honors and awards won by Oklahomans.

As professional librarians, Miss Boylan and Mrs. Marable have frequently been asked for material about Oklahoma literature and authors. They decided to prepare a handbook that would serve the lay reader, the student of Southwestern literature, club members, librarians, and collectors of Western Americana.

Aside from its reference value, the book is first class reading to anyone who is interested enough in books and magazines to be interested in the writers who produce literary material. The well-edited biographies bring to life many persons who probably are known to most Oklahomans only as familiar names.

The University Press, as usual, has presented the material in this book in attractive format.—R. C.



*Marcy & the Gold Seekers*, by Grant Foreman. University of Oklahoma Press, 1939. \$3.00.

An account of the gold rush to California over the southern route, as revealed in the journal of Captain R. B. Marcy, and other documents, is told by Grant Foreman in this new book from the University of Oklahoma Press.

Nearly all of the published literature about the gold rush of '49 is concerned with the Overland and Santa Fe trails to California. Mr. Foreman is one of the first to draw a clear picture of the adventurous trail taken by many gold seekers

from Fort Smith, Arkansas, to Santa Fe—the southern route.

In 1849 the war department directed Captain Marcy to take a detachment and escort a large party of gold seekers from Fort Smith to Santa Fe, and map out a feasible trail. A party of about five hundred made the trip, along a route to the south of the Canadian River. Captain Marcy returned by a route farther to the south, by way of Fort Washita.

Although the book is based chiefly on Captain Marcy's well written journal, Mr. Foreman has filled in the story with information from letters and newspaper reports and official documents. *Marcy and the Gold Seekers* provides a full and authentic account of the gold rush migration to California over the territory that is now Oklahoma.

Kenneth C. Kaufman, '16, '19ma, book editor for the *Sunday Oklahoman*, made the following comment on the book:

"But no matter how valuable it may be as a chronicle, it has an even livelier interest: it contains the raw material for a body of imaginative writing which should rival that about the Santa Fe and Oregon trails. There is even a full blown romance recorded. The story of the beautiful Mary Conway, of Little Rock, who rode the entire distance to California on a spirited black horse, and the young army officer who won her love, but whose tragic death broke up their plans."

*Marcy and the Gold Seekers* is a substantial addition to the University Press's list of Indian and Western titles.



*The Story of Oklahoma City*, by Angelo C. Scott. Times-Journal Publishing Company, 1939. \$2.50.

The lively story of the growth and development of Oklahoma City—particularly during the hectic first decade after the establishment of the city in 1889, is told entertainingly in this book by Dr. A. C. Scott, former director of extension lectures at the University of Oklahoma.

Dr. Scott has recorded his personal observations, as well as facts gathered from newspapers and documentary sources. He has lived in Oklahoma City for fifty years with the exception of ten years spent at Stillwater as president of Oklahoma A. and M. College.

The book is valuable chiefly as a reliable record of pioneer days in Oklahoma City—which is the purpose Dr. Scott had in writing it. However, he has given a summary of later development to bring the story up to date.

The book is published in a Golden Anniversary Edition, attractively bound.

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## New University of Oklahoma Press Books

### 1. A HANDBOOK OF OKLAHOMA WRITERS

Mary Hays Marable and Elaine Boylan . . . . . \$2.50  
Biographies and complete lists of works of more than 300 Oklahoma writers. A first literary "Who's Who" of Oklahoma—town lists, literary prize winners, and fields of endeavor. This book is a must item for your book collection.

### 2. MARCY AND THE GOLD SEEKERS

Grant Foreman . . . . . \$3.00  
The story of Captain Randolph B. Marcy and the thousands of emigrants he convoyed across Indian Territory during the gold rush of 1849. The "southern route" of the caravans which is little sung but second in importance only to the Santa Fe trail itself.

### 3. PROPAGANDA FOR WAR: The Campaign Against American Neutrality 1914-1917

H. C. Peterson . . . . . \$3.00  
Burton Rascoe says, "contains information of highest importance to all Americans . . . shows the subtle, ingenious, nefarious ways by which we were brought into the World War, and should put us on guard against being dragged into another."

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