

YOUR basic home reference library will be determined by who you are, what you do, and where you live. Lawyer, banker, doctor, writer, realtor, housewife; east, west, north, south: each will need his or her own books of reference. Is there such a thing as an average man or woman college graduate and a library to suit? I think not. Individual differences in taste and need are infinite; regional interests are extremely varied.

So any choice of 25 basic home reference books is arbitrary. My selections are mostly orthodox, although I have salted in a few eyebrow-raisers. *Alice in Wonderland* and *Andersen's Fairy Tales*, for example—just to make you ask, How can he call *them* reference books? I'll tell you. Because I've found myself referring to them again and again through the years since boyhood, using them in the aging process as touchstones, measuring sticks, and lodestars. Isn't that good enough definition of a reference book?

I have suggested locations for these books—living room, kitchen, study or den, and bedroom. You may prefer to shelve the *Modern Home Medical Adviser* in the rumpus room. Some people read in the bathroom, if not actually in the tub. I don't. But I do keep a few reference books in my car, to read when tied up on the freeway.

The secret of a good reference library is to have the books always there. Lend not your books. Don't try to compete with the public library. The paperback revolution has brought thousands of good books down to purse level. Architects, particularly of tract houses, seem to be unaware that people are buying books as never before. Although I own hundreds of paperbacks, my

reference books are all in hardbound copies for the hard wear they get.

All of the 25 reference books in the following list are in print and can be bought at, or through, your local bookstore. If there isn't a bookstore in your community, you are lacking one of the hallmarks of civilization. Church, school, library, park, bookstore—the essentials for cultural living.

The basic things in life are of the brain, the stomach, and the heart, and my reference books relate to all three. He who lives and reads not is no more alive than he who reads and lives not. I remember what that great public librarian, Joseph L. Wheeler, retired head of the Enoch Pratt Free Library of Baltimore, said when queried as to why he had thousands of books shelved in every room and on the stairs of his home: "Books are cheaper than wallpaper." And who was it who said, "Books! Next to mother's milk the best food."? See item 5. Use your reference books!

LIVING ROOM

1. WEBSTER'S NEW INTERNATIONAL DICTIONARY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE. Third edition unabridged. G. C. Merriam Co. \$47.50, plus \$32.50 for the little wheeled truck to hold it. Along with stove and bed, this is basic household equipment. Keep it centrally in the house, with smaller dictionaries in the other rooms.
2. THE COLUMBIA ENCYCLOPEDIA IN ONE VOLUME. Second edition with 1959 supplement. Edited by Bridgewater and Sherwood. Columbia University Press. \$35. If you haven't shelf and purse for one of the great multi-volume encyclopedias,



chosen and annotated by

dias, this is the best single-volume work. When things get strained domestically, gather the family in front of the fireplace and read aloud from the encyclopedia. It soothes and distracts.

3. A DICTIONARY OF CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN USAGE. By Bergen Evans and Cornelia Evans. Random House. \$5.95. A witty gloss on words and phrases, good and bad, which can be used as a tool by writers and as a conversation piece by readers.
4. THE READER'S ENCYCLOPEDIA. An Encyclopedia of World Literature and the Arts. Edited by William Rose Benet. Crowell. \$7.95. Includes all manner of things, themes,

With a Special Book List for the Oklahoma Family—selected by

1. OKLAHOMA: *A History of the Sooner State*. By Edwin C. McReynolds. University of Oklahoma Press. \$4.95.
2. OKLAHOMA: *A Guide to the Sooner State*. By Kent Ruth and the Staff of the University of Oklahoma Press. \$5.95. This is the only one-volume encyclopedia on the state.
3. OKLAHOMA: *The Story of Its Past and Present*. By Edwin C. McReynolds, Alice Marriott and Estelle Faulconer. University of Oklahoma Press. \$3.95. This brand-new history, written for

high schools but equally entertaining for the adult reader, brings the story of the state forward to 1961. Heavily illustrated with new, accurate maps, glossary, appendices, index and study questions, it was officially adopted as the ninth grade Oklahoma history text in 1962.

4. A GUIDE TO THE INDIAN TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA. By Muriel H. Wright. University of Oklahoma Press. \$5.00. This one-volume encyclopedia is arranged alphabetically by tribe, giving linguistic group and connections, present location, numbers, history, gov-

ernment and organization, contemporary life and culture, and ceremonials and public dances, with reading references.

5. THE FORMATION OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA. By Roy Gittinger. University of Oklahoma Press. \$4.00. The processes by which the various land holdings of the U.S. government, individual tribes, and cessions finally merged into a unified state are admittedly complex and have provided many pitfalls to both the skilled historian and the student at all levels. This is the bible in its field.



ence Clark Powell, dean of the U.C.L.A. school of library services

people, and places, encountered in reading, with 19,008 articles on 1,270 pages. Excellent for students' homework.

5. FAMILIAR QUOTATIONS. By John Bartlett. Thirteenth and Centennial Edition. 1955. Little, Brown & Co. \$10.
Who, where, when.
6. THE WORLD ALMANAC AND BOOK OF FACTS. Edited by Harry Hansen. New York World-Telegram. \$2.
This famous annual originated as a newspaper office handbook. If you are addicted to quizzes and contests, chain this book to you.
7. DOCUMENTS OF AMERICAN HISTORY. Edited by Henry Steele

Commager. Appleton-Century-Crofts. \$6.50.

8. HOME BOOK OF VERSE, American and English. Compiled by Burton Egbert Stevenson. Ninth edition. 2 volumes. Henry Holt & Co. \$25.
First published in 1912, this massive compilation of familiar and conventional poetry is arranged in broad subject divisions such as Love and Death. I have an early single-volume edition, given to me by my mother on my ninth birthday, and it doubles nicely as a doorstop when it's windy in my study. Companion volume is Steven-

son's HOME BOOK OF MODERN VERSE. \$10. The compiler, who died last year in very old age, was librarian of the Chillicothe, Ohio, Library.

9. RAND McNALLY COSMOPOLITAN WORLD ATLAS. Rand McNally Co. \$14.95.
"I should like to rise and go where the golden apples grow," wrote Robert Louis Stevenson in *A Child's Garden of Verses*. A good atlas is just as poetic a book. If you have traveled, it will show you where you went; if you plan to travel, it will guide you. There are many atlases; this one is excellent for its large, clear maps and its wealth of

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oie Lottinville, director of the University of Oklahoma Press

6. INDIAN TERRITORY: *A Frontier Photographic Record*. By W. S. Prettyman. Selected and edited by Robert E. Cunningham. University of Oklahoma Press. \$5.95.
Here is the whole panorama from 1880 to 1910, offered from the original photographs made during that period by Mr. Prettyman, revealing the Indian character of the original territory, its gradual settlement, and its emergence as a prosperous young state.
7. SEQUOYAH. By Grant Foreman. University of Oklahoma Press. \$3.75.
8. OIL! *Titan of the Southwest*. By Carl Coke Rister. University of Oklahoma

Press. \$6.95.

9. EARLY DAYS AMONG THE CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHOE INDIANS. By John Homer Seger. Edited by Stanley Vestal. University of Oklahoma Press. \$3.50.
In the years since it was first published, this book has become a classic, not simply for the people of Oklahoma, but for readers throughout the United States. One chapter, "My Battle With the Boys," telling of Seger's first days as a schoolteacher in the Cheyenne and Arapahoe country in western Oklahoma, is a universal favorite and has been reproduced often in anthol-

ogies. The book is exciting reading.

10. CARBINE AND LANCE: *The Story of Old Fort Sill*. By Colonel W. S. Nye. University of Oklahoma Press. \$5.00.
From its first epic page, through the 75 years of the Plains Indian wars—Kiowa, Comanche, Apache, Cheyenne and Arapahoe—to its close in our time, the story is a model of its kind. Heavily illustrated.
11. THE TEN GRANDMOTHERS. By Alice Marriott. University of Oklahoma Press. \$4.00.
Oklahoma history is customarily told in men's terms. But Alice Marriott,

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statistical and supplementary data.

KITCHEN

10. **THE JOY OF COOKING.** By Irma Rombauer and Marion Becker. Bobbs-Merrill. \$4.95.

Flip a coin for this or **FANNY FARMER**, and whichever comes up, you will get one of the best cookbooks according to *la cuisine americaine*. This is another book to be chained—to your wife, of course, who is already secured to stove and sink.

11. **THE COOKOUT BOOK.** With an introduction to the techniques of barbecue cooking and entertaining. By Helen Evans Brown and Philip S. Brown. Ward Ritchie Press. \$7.50.

Imaginative and appetizing recipes for barbecuing meats, fowl, and seafoods, in a volume that was chosen by the American Institute of Graphic Arts as one of the year's most beautiful. Incidentally, the Browns agree that the best cooks are of the male sex—outdoor cooks, that is.

12. **LAROUSSE GASTRONOMIQUE. THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF FOOD, WINE, AND COOKERY.** By Prosper Montagne. Crown Publishers. \$20. The first English translation of this huge French classic. The accent is on that country, for there is no denying

the French leadership in the world of food. The articles and illustrations cover everything relating to the subject, including places, plates, partridges, and parsley.

13. **WINE AND SPIRITS, A Complete Buying Guide.** By William E. Massee. McGraw-Hill. \$8.95.

Includes all countries and their drinks, with advice on how to store and serve.

14. **HORTUS SECOND. A Concise Dictionary of Gardening, General Horticulture, and Cultivated Plants in North America.** Compiled by L. H. Bailey and Ethel Zoe Bailey. Macmillan. \$13.50.

This is a revised and enlarged second edition of the classic American work on green growing things. If you are lucky, you will have a kitchen garden with lettuces, parsleys, herbs (and snails), and **HORTUS** will be your bible.

15. **MODERN MEDICAL ADVISER.** Edited by Morris Fishbein, M.D. Garden City Books. \$4.95.

Written under Dr. Fishbein's direction by various medical authorities, this is a good book to have around just in case.

STUDY, DEN, AND BEDROOM

16. **ALICE IN WONDERLAND** and

THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS. By Lewis Carroll. Grosset & Dunlap. \$2.75.

The older one grows, the better it reads. This edition includes the original illustrations by John Tenniel. The author, whose real name was C. L. Dodgson, was a professor of mathematics who lived for 45 years in the same bachelor quarters at Christ Church, Oxford, none of which accounts for this work of genius.

17. **FAIRY TALES.** By Hans Christian Andersen. Grosset & Dunlap. \$2.75

Here again its a coin flip as to whether it be Andersen or Grimm. I flipped, and the great Dane won. This edition has illustrations by Arthur Szyk.

18. **ISLANDIA.** By Austin T. Wright. Rinehart & Co. \$5.95.

This is a long utopian novel, written in secret by a law professor and published posthumously. Throughout the world a body of readers have organized and called themselves Islandians, sans dues or by-laws. This novel is the standard reference by which they live.

19. **THE PORTABLE EMERSON.** Edited by Mark Van Doren. Viking Press. \$2.95

Though he lived and wrote a hundred

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A Special Book List for the Oklahoma Family

one of the most widely known Oklahoma writers today, wisely chose to tell the century of Kiowa tribal history largely from the memories of its older women members. She has not neglected the tales of Kiowa men, and the account as a whole has a breathtaking quality which is altogether rare.

12. **THE OSAGES: Children of the Middle Waters.** By John Joseph Mathews. University of Oklahoma Press. \$7.95.

This is a big book, but it contains the finest rendering of oral history from any American tribe. Written in simple, easily understandable terms, it abounds in adventure and is likely to be a strong motivating force among people studying the history of their state and region.

13. **THE COMANCHES: Lords of the South Plains.** By Ernest Wallace and E. Adamson Hoebel. University of

Oklahoma Press. \$5.00.

Our Comanches spoke the lingua franca of the plains area and ranged its extent, from Nebraska to Mexico, often in warlike fury. This is the great account of their life and times.

14. **INDIAN REMOVAL.** By Grant Foreman. University of Oklahoma Press. \$6.00.

The "Trail of Tears" is so closely associated with Oklahoma history that no one who pretends to have knowledge of his state can afford not to know in detail just what happened on that trail a century and a quarter ago. Grant Foreman wrote the definitive account.

15. **THE RISE AND FALL OF THE CHOCTAW REPUBLIC.** By Angie Debo. University of Oklahoma Press. \$5.00.

This is a fine account of one of the Five Civilized Tribes, whose history in the 19th century is intimately con-

nected with Oklahoma's development.

16. **THE SEMINOLES.** By Edwin C. McReynolds. University of Oklahoma Press. \$5.75.

This tribe and the Choctaws, Cherokees, Chickasaws and Creeks formed the Five Civilized Tribes, whose affairs dominated Oklahoma history until after the opening of Oklahoma Territory in 1889.

17. **THE CHISHOLM TRAIL.** By Wayne Gard. University of Oklahoma Press. \$5.00.

An accurate, interesting history, adequately mapped, has long been needed. Here is probably the last word on the subject.

18. **SOIL CONSERVATION.** By Sellers G. Archer. University of Oklahoma Press. \$3.75.

19. **COVERED WAGON GEOLOGIST.** By Charles N. Gould. University of

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red years ago, he is more modern than we are, his prose seeded with time bombs, set to go off in succeeding generations. If you are timid, conservative, and a slave of the status quo, don't let this book in your house.

20. **THE PORTABLE THOREAU.** Edited by Carl Bode. Viking Press. \$2.95. Here is another Yankee radical who whipped progress, conformity, togetherness, and all the other dogmas which bite our heels. This too is a subversive book which should be given to the young and kept from the old.
21. **THE PORTABLE MELVILLE.** Edited by Jay Leyda. Viking Press. \$2.95. Includes the best of the novels, stories, poems, and letters of the great mariner-mystic, who won popular fame, and lost it, and won it again—posthumously. Melville was born and died in Manhattan, and that island community has yet to erect an appropriate memorial to him.
22. **THE PORTABLE WHITMAN.** Edited by Mark Van Doren. Viking Press. \$2.95. The good gray Quaker poet's *Leaves of Grass* stays forever green through the years which wither most things. "Who touches this book, touches a man."
23. **THE PORTABLE MARK TWAIN.** Edited by Bernard de Voto. Viking Press. \$2.95. Includes *Huckleberry Finn*, that revolutionary novel which points to the ultimate reconciliation between white and black.
24. **SHAKESPEARE'S COMPLETE WORKS.** Edited by W. J. Craig. Oxford University Press. \$4.50. Next to the Bible, and counting out the dictionary, this is the most basic book in English. I have chosen this from among many good editions simply because I have lived with my copy for 30 years and worn it beautifully smooth.
25. **THE HOLY BIBLE.** King James Version. Oxford University Press. \$9.75. Choice of a Bible is a personal matter. You may prefer a modern translation. I don't. Give me the organ music of the King James. This edition is leather-bound, a handy size, with concordance and index. Keep it by your bed, to be read first thing in the morning and the last thing at night.

Conversation Piece

What college course do you feel is the most valuable for all students to take?



BYRON B. SEARCY, '58bus
Ferree-Jennings-Searcy real estate
Fort Worth, Texas

SEARCY—The two courses I believe benefitted me most were speech and business composition. In business the most important thing you have to do is to be able to convey your thoughts either in writing or in personal conversation, and I have found in my business—real estate—that those two courses have given me more confidence in expressing myself . . . The overall academic program gave me insight as to find the information to communicate . . . I always shied away from foreign languages. If I have any regrets, I believe it would be there . . . I think foreign languages would have helped me in understanding the English language better. I did take one course in the history of the English language. It has helped me in my outside reading. There have been several occasions when a foreign language would have helped me . . . I'm taking a reading improvement course now offered by the Book-of-the-Month Club from Columbia University that I feel is very important. It is extremely helpful in increasing the comprehension of what one reads . . . I really want to pass out the roses—if any are being passed out—to a course called "English J". I don't remember the name of the lady who taught it, but she really helped me. . . I should have taken more courses in the field of communications. I guess I was a typical college student. I wasn't really serious about what the future held for me. I didn't realize it was so important. I remember from the counseling I got that I was told it would be important. As with a lot of other things, I passed over it. The courses I had in these areas have certainly been a big help to me . . . I don't know how much counseling at the freshman and sophomore levels would help in convincing students of the value of these courses. This should be pointed out to them. Every course I have mentioned that I took was a requirement, except maybe speech. I would recommend that business composition be required of everybody in the University—and one or two courses in speech.

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20. **PIONEER DOCTOR.** By Lewis J. Moorman. University of Oklahoma Press. \$3.75.
21. **LAND HUNGER: David L. Payne and the Oklahoma Boomers.** By Carl Coke Rister. University of Oklahoma Press. \$4.00. This is the story of the attempts to settle Oklahoma Territory before the area was legally opened to homesteading.
22. **DESERTS ON THE MARCH.** By Paul B. Sears. University of Oklahoma Press. \$2.75. This Oklahoma book remains the most sought-after account of man's relation to his natural environment, fields and meadows, range land, the forest, the sky, rainfall and living things, simply and beautifully written by a master of English prose.
23. **A TOUR OF THE PRAIRIES.** By Washington Irving. University of Oklahoma Press. \$2.00. This handsome edition from the Western Frontier Library is an obvious classic and should be read by every Oklahoman.
24. **THE OIL BUSINESS AS I SAW IT.** By W. L. Connelly. University of Oklahoma Press. \$3.75. Here is the intimate story of an Oklahoman, still living, during his fifty years in oil in the state.
25. **LIFE AND DEATH OF AN OIL-MAN: The Career of E. W. Marland.** By John Joseph Mathews. University of Oklahoma Press. \$3.75. Written by one of the best-known authors in Oklahoma, this book is a revealing account of success and failure in one of the state's largest industries.