

# NEW BOOKS by Sooner Alumni

**FROM WHERE THE SUN NOW STANDS** Compiled and edited by W. D. "Dick" Grisso  
Stagecoach Press

W. D. Grisso, '26ba, '28Law, has a great curiosity about the legacy of the Western Frontier and a profound interest in the men and women who settled it. His interest has prompted him to search for the authentic flavor of the frontier in the speeches of those who lived its history.

His selection of 16 memorable addresses is compiled in a slender volume, *From Where the Sun Now Stands*. The only criterion used in choosing the orations for inclusion was their appeal to the editor. They have great appeal for many others, including the reviewer.

The addresses provide a great variety of subject matter. There are powerful and melancholy speeches by the chiefs of the Choctaw, Cherokee, Comanche and Nez Perce nations. Temple Houston defends a prostitute and asks the jury to "tell her to go in peace." With chilling oratory, two judges hand down verdicts of guilty in two famous murder cases.

Perhaps the speech which kindles the greatest interest may never have been delivered at all. It is attributed, through legend, to a candidate for Congress in Mississippi, and no finer job of fence-straddling was ever done than the candidate's stand on the whiskey question.

*From Where the Sun Now Stands* is an excellent first edition for editor Grisso. It should find a place in the library of everyone who shares Grisso's love of the West and the flamboyant and colorful speech which was a part of its heritage. —DB

**EDDIE NO-NAME** by Thomas Fall  
Pantheon Books

When your child or grandchild is safely past the Dick, Jane, Sally and Spot stage ("Oh, see Dick run!"), he will probably appreciate a book with a story to tell—and *Eddie No-Name* would not be a bad choice. Eddie is an orphan home boy who gets his chance for adoption in form of a week's visit to the farm of stern but kind Jonah Whalen and his wife Cora. The boy's anxiety to please the farmer nearly spells disaster for all concerned.

Author Thomas Fall is better known to

his Sooner classmates as Donald C. Snow, '41bus. Born in Arkansas and reared in Oklahoma, he has written extensively about the Southwest and is the author of two novels.

Fall's story has been charmingly illustrated by Ray Prohaska and the finished product is a credit to Pantheon, the young readers division of Random House. —CJB

**THE MODERN UNITED STATES AIR FORCE** by Lt. Col. Carroll V. Glines  
D. Van Nostrand Company, Inc.

In this book Lt. Col. Glines attempts to inform the general public of the workings of the U. S. Air Force. I say "attempts" not to diminish Gline's efforts, but rather to state a lack of confidence that the public will take advantage of this book. The Department of Defense receives the greatest portion of each tax dollar sent to Washington, and the Air Force has received the largest share of the Defense budget for several years. This should be enough to arouse public interest; I fear that it is not.

Glines, a former AFROTC instructor and holder of two degrees from O.U. ('52 bus, '54m.bus) heads the magazine and book section of the Secretary of the Air Force's Office of Information at the Pentagon—a position which undoubtedly led him to realize the need for a layman-language volume. Glines emphasizes throughout his book that the Air Force today is quite different from the one that broke from the Army in 1947 and that it will undergo many changes in the future.

Gline's work is not intended as a reference book on the Air Force. Rather its 198 pages form a dedicated officer's capsule interpretation of the organization he has served for 22 years.

While giving considerable space to impersonal things, such as organization and equipment, Glines does not forget that in reality the Air Force is made up of men and women. —JS

**THE MAN WHO CONQUERED PAIN**  
By Grace Steele Woodward  
Beacon Press

Ether, the first anesthetic, opened the doors to miracles of surgery which could never have been attempted without its pain-conquering effects. The man who dis-

covered this anesthesia and introduced it to the public might have expected both fame and fortune for his achievement; instead Dr. William Thomas Green Morton died an obscure, impoverished Boston dentist.

The Morton story is a natural for biography—the struggles of a pace-setting pioneer for whom recognition and gratitude came a century too late. Grace Steele Woodward, '20, (wife of Tulsa alumnus Guy H. Woodward, '20) has done justice to her subject using the Morton family letters as her chief source material. —CJB

**THE GENERAL AND THE CO-ED**  
By Bob Duncan  
Doubleday & Company, Inc.

The title, the book jacket design, even the opening few pages might lead you to believe that Author Duncan, '50, is about to treat you to a tale of campus humor. He isn't. Rather *The General and the Co-ed* is the story of an embattled assistant dean of students named Evans—and the people and situations confronting this poor soul are far from funny.

The hero's battlefield is McDermott College (which incidentally bears no resemblance to our mutual alma mater), a small, run-down but respectable church college in California. When the college's president suddenly retires, the ungrateful board of trustees by-passes a loyal dean for a hard-bitten army general with a talent for raising money. The general soon has the place running like a poor man's West Point with girls. One of the girls is the co-ed of the title, an unscrupulous climber with questionable morals and a very rich father. Add a professor friend who is also a small-time embezzler and a dissatisfied wife, and it is easy to see why hero Evans has almost more than he can handle.

Bob Duncan is one of the most successful of the thriving crop of O.U.-trained authors. A veteran television writer (with wife Wanda, '52), Duncan has also mastered the knack of vivid description without aid of the camera. The plot of *The General and the Co-ed*, his third novel, is slow getting started, but as the author warms to his story, the action picks up quickly and builds to an effective if logical climax. —CJB