

THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC, BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN  
August 16, 1962 SECTION D

# Novelist's First Book To Be Published in Fall

By CORINNE ABATT  
Special Writer

In October when the novel "No Red Ribbons" by John E. Quirk hits the book stores, Birmingham area residents will be able to boast of a new author in their midst.

A visit with Quirk would convince almost anyone that here is a man who could do whatever he set his mind to. About two years ago he set his mind to writing a novel. He finished it in a year and a half working three nights a week, typing as fast as he could and seldom

having to go back to make changes. The product of this rapid-fire effort is six hundred and some pages of action-packed story, part of which is set in the Detroit area. It will be published by the Devin-Adair Company.

"NO RED RIBBONS," meaning no actual place, is the story of two high-flying, free-wheeling Navy pilots in World War II, their return to civilian life and their experiences as businessmen in the Detroit area. Quirk has drawn heavily on his own background which in many in-

stances parallels that of his heroes, but he does not consider the book autobiographical. He describes his heroes as kind of Horatio Alger types and the tone of the book is hopeful.

IT WOULD BE hard to imagine the tall, blond author writing anything less than a hopeful book, for he radiates a wide aura of enthusiasm for life. This includes his family—wife, Betty, and children, Kim, 3, and Jack, 4, a magnificent split-level home overlooking Orchard Lake with a view which he

describes as "the most beautiful in Michigan" and his own manufacturer's representative business agency.

The 31-year-old author started life in Akron, Ohio, moved to Detroit when he was nine, grew up on the East Side, attended Eastern High School, went to Wayne University for a year and then entered the Naval Academy at Annapolis.

HE WAS graduated from the Academy in 1942 and went into active service on the staff of Admiral Nimitz and spent two years in the island-hopping campaigns in the Pacific. He took flight training at Pensacola, Fla., in 1944 and as Quirk put it, "We were sure that at last we were going to be heroes and the Japs called the war off."

Even so, his air group, "The Fighting 17," was stationed on the Aircraft Carrier Randolph and got in lots of flying time in the Mediterranean on a cruise "to scare the Russians, which we didn't do" and later on a midshipman cruise. The former one is written in of the book.

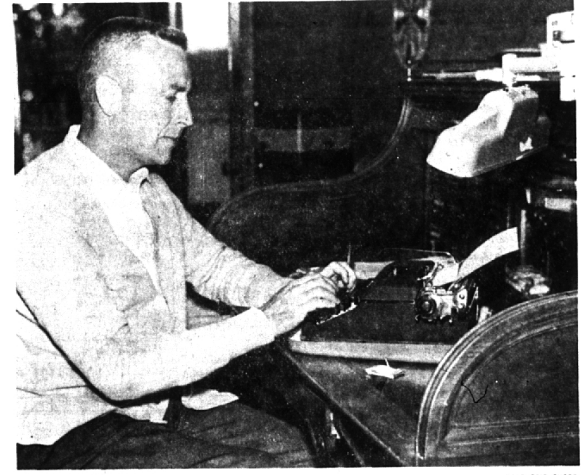
THE AUTHOR said, "I left the service in 1948 with the intention of writing, but decided eating was more important." He had been active in the writing field while at Annapolis where he was editor of two college magazines and wrote a short story each week for these publications.

He returned to the Detroit area and entered the automotive business as a sales engineer and then started his own agency where he is now.

QUIRK IS highly optimistic about his novel. During the time of writing, he never for a moment considered not finishing it and his wife shared his confidence. It flowed along as fast as he could type (50 words a minute) without extensive plotting beforehand.

He said, "I sort of did it in terms of 'what's next,' but the ending is different from what I expected it would be."

He is pleased by the fact that the Navy men who have seen the manuscript have been much impressed. (See BOOK, 2-D)



SEEN ADDING 90 words per minute to his second novel in a stolen moment is John Quirk. The book will be about the struggle for power in today's automotive industry, he says. While at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Quirk was editor of two college magazines for which he wrote a short story each week. His first novel, "No Red Ribbons," which took him a year and a half to write will be published in the fall.



JULIUS SCHMIDT, new head of the sculpture department at the Cranbrook Academy of Art, has developed a new technique, the "core-sand process," for casting metal sculpture. Schmidt, 35, comes to Cranbrook from the art department of the University of California.

# Casting Process Development of New Sculptor

By EVELINE OEN  
Arts Editor

New head of the sculpture department at Cranbrook is Julius Schmidt.

Schmidt, the bulk of whose work is modeled after machines, is probably best known for his development of the "core-sand process" for casting metal sculpture.

Adapted from industry, the "core-sand process" involves a new application of an old material.

DEVELOPMENT of the process began when Schmidt was at Cranbrook working on his bachelor of fine arts degree in 1951.

Schmidt, who says he likes to experiment, found a piece of core-sand in the foundry one day and took it to his studio. After working with it for a short time, he put it away until 1957, when he began using it again because he found the material most nearly satisfied him in attaining expression of his ideas.

IN ESSENCE, what Schmidt has done is to eliminate one step in the casting process. Normally a mold is formed around a model.

Schmidt's process eliminates the original model. Instead, he carves the desired form immediately in the core-sand in reverse.

CORE-SAND is made by heating a mixture of sand and linseed-based oil. When heated, the oil polymerizes, becoming a hard, varnish-like binder.

When molten metal is poured into it, the gases escape through the porous material while the heat generated as the metal solidifies destroys the binder so that once the metal is cast, the sand is removed easily.

FASCINATED by machines, Schmidt uses them as "things upon which to build an image."

A piece of sculpture is an image-evoking object, he explained. "It initiates the development of images within you."

The machine is fascinating, said Schmidt, because "at their worst and at their best, machines are still reflections of man."

MAN HAS gone to many sources—animals, insects, etc.—for ideas in (See SCULPTURE, 3-D)

# Conservatory Announces New Faculty

The Birmingham Conservatory of Music has announced the appointment of Mrs. Dolores Ruhl Kellam as dance director.

Before moving to Winter Park, Fla. last year, Mrs. Kellam was the director-choreographer of the Birmingham Concert Dancers and faculty member of the Village Nursery School in Franklin and the Clarkson Conservatory of Music in Clarkson.

Mrs. Kellam is a graduate of the American Ballet Theater, New York City, and the Ballet Arts School, Carnegie Hall. She has also been a faculty member of the Bratislava School of Ballet in New York and a member of the corps de ballet of the Salmagundi Opera Company, New York City.

THE NEW DANCE faculty under the direction of Mrs. Kellam (See FACULTY, 3-D)

# To Launch Drive For Membership

On August 20, MSFO Community Arts Council will launch its second annual membership drive.

The group has announced four of the 12 artists who will appear during the season.

Opening the series will be comedian Bob Nowhart on Sept. 27. Pianist Gorgey Sandor follows on October 26. Appearing next March 25 will be baritone William Warfield, and on April 6, the concert will be given by the Chicago Little Symphony.

All programs will be presented in the auditorium of Northern High School.

# Local Best Sellers

Fiction  
DEARLY BELOVED — Anne Morrow Lindbergh

POETRY  
POETRY IN BROWNSTONE — Hugh Auchincloss  
YOUNGBLOOD HAWKE — Herman Wouk

Non-Fiction  
OH YE JIGS AND JULIES — Virginia Hudson  
THE ROTHCILDS — Frederic Morton  
JFK COLORING BOOK — Alexander Roman and Jackie Kannon  
I HATE TO COOK BOOK — Peg Bracken

# Potpourri

by ROBIN BAHR

Plato, Sophocles, Aristotle, Plutarch and Epictetus are not easy writers and/or philosophers to read. They might be studied in college but are seldom read afterwards.

At least this used to be the case. They still aren't best-selling authors, but they are being increasingly read and enjoyed, aside from colleges, in Great Books courses here and throughout the country.

ONE GREAT BOOKS group in Birmingham is in its eighth year. Another is in its third. A new group will meet for the first time September 26 at Groves High School.

There is a group in Franklin in its eighth year and one in Southfield in its fifth year. Groups meet every other week for two-hour sessions in the evening and are open to the public at no charge. Most of the people (and that includes as many men as women) who embark on the first year of the program not only finish the year, but sign up for the next.

WHY—if this is such difficult material to understand? One reason may be the satisfaction derived from dealing with comprehensive ideas.

To me, a weakness of current literature is its minutiae. Most of our literature deals with a segment of contemporary life. (See POTPOURRI, 7-D)

# Resident Consultant Named at Cranbrook

Dr. Edwin Sharp Burdell has been named resident consultant to Cranbrook. He was announced yesterday by Henry S. Booth, chairman of the board of The Cranbrook Foundation.

Burdell recently returned from Ankara, Turkey, where he was consultant-president of the Middle East Technical University.

His long career (Dr. Burdell is 64 and intends to remain active as long as "there are interesting things to do") includes four years as Dean of Humanities at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and 22 years as president of the Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art in New York City.

The Cooper Union, founded in 1863 by Peter Cooper, is the oldest free-tuition college in this country specializing in engineering and art. Burdell left Cooper Union in 1960 as president-emeritus and concurrently accepted the Ankara job where his task was to build a new university on lines similar to U. S. land grant colleges.

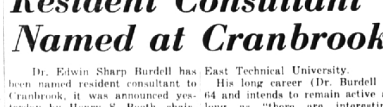
His original title of president lasted only six months when, due to the May 27 Turkish revolution, all foreigners were removed from executive positions, he became consultant to a succession of Turkish presidents.

He participated in planning the new university on 10,000 acres five miles south of Ankara. When he left last June, the school was being built with the equivalent of a \$35 million grant from the Turkish government.

THE one song out of the show that struck me as the "hit song" was "My First Kiss," sung by Aggie Grey.

Action and music were well-timed, and, consequently, well-presented. Of the 17 songs played, most maintained the mood of the show. Wolfenberger at the piano kept the cast jumping.

RICHARD BAGE is to be commended for his fine direction of the cast of young people. He seems to have a way of keeping the young folks in character throughout the entire performance. There was not one slip of the tongue in the accent—the west twang held true.



DR. EDWIN S. BURDELL

# 'Maybe It's Love' Quite Lovely

Reviewed by Isabel Himmelhoch

Carl and Annetta Womberger closed their Cranbrook Summer Theater School 1962 season with original musical comedy by Womberger, "Maybe It's Love," adapted from a story by Bret Harte.

Music and lyrics were written over a period of seven years. Additional songs were added during the rehearsal time—a period of about two and a half weeks.

Since the show must go on, the cast of 25 waited out the elements Aug. 7 and 8. "Lady Luck" was with them, and on it went.

Randolph's foiled in his plans by the local school teacher, Vincent Grey, Vincent Grey, with whom Aggie is in love. In order to expedite things, Randolph kills Bummer and tries to frame Grey with the assistance of his own girl friend, Clara, who poses as Bummer's long-lost wife.

However, Lorry, an Indian girl, spies on the conspirators, and at the finale all is righted by her testimony at Grey's trial.

Grey marries Aggie and all is rosy in the town of Smith's Pocket, Calif.

ALTHOUGH there was quite a bit of dialogue before the music set the show rolling, the cast was on its toes, and set an excellent pace, which it kept right to the finale hit his mining "California" was the opening number sung by Bummer, only to be taken in by a "city slicker" Carter Randolph. Knowing Bummer, played by Frank Row that Aggie would be Bummer's land, jockeyed from actual singing sole heir to the mining fortune, Randolph tries in vain to move Aggie out of town with a dance hall troupe, headed by Bess Starlight.

There were several catchy duets in the show sung by Richard Kroyon and Judy Shefman and by Miss d'Hyevre and Frank Green. Frank Green made an excellent leading man. With his charming stage presence and complimentary voice, he captivated the opening night audience.

Two young ladies managed to put the audience in the aisles with their respective novelty songs. Anne Douglas, as the Indian girl, sang and danced her way through "In an Indian," and Wynne Lane explained her views on love, men and lovin' "What Is It?" Both these numbers had the adroitness of weaving music with a story line to accelerate the plot.

THE BEVY of chorus girls, headed by Bess Starlight, portray-

ed Judy Lane, kept everyone seated in the audience on their toes. The girls romped through their songs and dances with the "I'm having a great time" attitude, and the crowd ate it up.

(See LOVE, 3-D)

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