

World's Automobiles Star In Ford Centennial Edition

AUTO-UNIVERSUM 1964 Special
Ford Edition: Publisher, Arthur Logan,
Zurich, Switzerland; 216 pp., approx-
imately 900 photographs.

Reviewed by
NORMAN VON WINTERMUTE

There was a time in the not too
distant past when almost every
home contained both a Sears Roebuck
and Montgomery Ward cata-

log. The automobile changed that,
and those "dream books" are sel-
dom seen.

However, it is fitting and under-
standable that the automobile has
replaced these catalogs with books
of equal excitement, and of these
"Auto-Universum" is certainly one
of the best.

It is a book large in size, large

B-D THE BIRMINGHAM (MICH.) ECCENTRIC Feb. 27, 1964

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Potpourri

By JULIE CANDLER

The Birmingham Eccentric got a catty letter this week after our account of how the Douglas Browns' two golden Siamese cats took separate planes to Birmingham.

The letter was penned on behalf of the feuding felines' five-week-old offspring, whom we reported as placed in a "foster home."

"We resent this on behalf of our people-mother, who has nursed us through a four week's illness," said the Siamese scribes.

"We resent this on behalf of our people-father who buys us lovely hamburger and scrambled eggs and on behalf of our poodle-dog sister who plays wonderful games with us."

"We have a PERMANENT home," they insist, signing themselves "Cat Tastrophe" (Tass) and "Cat T-ract" (Tari).

Their permanent home is apparently at 6984 Woodbank Drive, and we suspect the people-mother and people-father are the Richard A. Buggs.

WE KNOW that at least three poetry groups are now meeting, regularly or irregularly, in Birmingham. We spent an evening with one of the groups recently at the Lawrence C. Falvey, 517 Kimberley.

That night the fans of spoken music clustered around W. D. Snodgrass, Pulitzer-prize winner for his poems collected in "Heart's Needle."

When Snodgrass reads poetry aloud, the words dance off the pages and sing with liveliness and meaning. But even with the reading skill of a great poet behind them, the words we heard that night didn't always get their meaning through to the Potpourri cranial equipment.

We weren't digging much of John Berryman, whose work Snodgrass was reading.

SNODGRASS CLAIMS that Berryman, of Brown University, is "doing far and away the most exciting work in this country now."

After reading some of the wild and kooky Berryman expressions of the trite and truism, Snodgrass said jealously, "He's turning them out two and three a day, the dirty dog!"

Let Berryman zip them off, say we, Snodgrass can do much better.

Right now he's working on a play which he tells Potpourri is a "savage comedy." It takes a bitter poke at that strange American institution, the modeling school. The energetic poet is on leave this year from Wayne State University and has replaced his big, stern-looking mustache with a gentle beard.

The whisker rebellion against the razor blade suits the Snodgrass personality much better than that mustache.

SNODGRASS SPOKE that afternoon to poetry group organizer Phoebe (Mrs. W. W.) Chao's English students. The Seaholm high school juniors were so infatuated with Mr. S. that they asked permission to attend the soiree.

They seemed to enjoy every minute of it, and we commend all those young hearts that are beating faster over poetic meters.

We can't imagine how she does it, but Betty Shields Wagner (Mrs. Edward Hissong, 7401 Franklin Court, Franklin) uses photography as a graphic medium. She does it so well that she's currently the "man" in a one-man show of 35 prints at the Flint Art Institute, through March 1.

20 cars, could well be left out or done in depth.

The sports reports wouldn't sell in a young boy's review, and while the road tests are universally bad, they should give a little information on how the car would be to live with.

My other complaints concerning Auto-Universum: that while it gives basic engine data, it fails to inform one of the manufacturer. To the uninitiated, the knowledge that the Superb, Jensen and the Facel II are powered by Chrysler engineering and that many of the

British autos receive their go via Ford power is not stated.

BODY construction, when other than steel, could also be marked.

All told, the Auto-Universum is a handsome book, and for anyone interested in commercial photography, advertising or cars, it makes a fine dream book, 1964 styling.

(Von Wintermute is a member of the British Automobile Racing Club.)

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