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Exhibit Shows
Reader Tastes
For CenturyHistorical Novel Proves
Popular Over Years

A recent exhibit at Clements Library in Ann Arbor revealed the past and present literary taste of Americans from the earliest days.

Set up by Miss Ella Hyman in the lobby of the general library, the exhibit set forth the best sellers of the last generation.

For example, when the Pilgrims arrived on the Mayflower, they had little room to spare and brought only items which would be useful in the New World.

In the early days, most New Englanders showed a strong liking for poetry, provided that it included a dose of theology, as in Michael Wigglesworth's "The Day of Doom."

The growth of feminine readers brought emotional and sentimental writers to the fore, with Edward Young's "The Complaint, or Night-thoughts on Life, Death and Immortality" proving a great favorite.

In the 1790's, satirical and Gothic (terror) novels also came up on the scene, among them Samuel Richardson's "The History of Pamela, or Virtue Rewarded."

It was about this time that the first in America's great trilogy of schoolbooks was published, "The New England Primer" soon was joined by Webster's "Speller" and McGuffey's "Reader."

Also on display were old newspapers which devoted their first couple of pages to advertising, hiding the news accounts farther back. An example is the April 27, 1775, copy of Livingston's "New York Gazetteer," which buries the first account of the battle at Lexington and Concord on the third page.

Skipping a century or two, Miss Hyman set up an exhibit of the very beginning of the twentieth century. America's taste was strictly for the historical novel, such as Winston Churchill's "The Crime" or Mary Johnston's "To Have and To Hold."

Soon, though, a reform movement aimed at big business and politics took over the scene via books such as Frank Norris' 1903 best seller, "The Pit," dealing with a business and financial theme, Edith Wharton's "The House of Mirth" revealed the shallowness of upper-class life in New York, and in 1902 Union Square's "The Jungle" dealt so strongly with the meat trust that it led to the Pure Food and Drug Act.

In 1902 A. Conan Doyle's "The Hound of the Baskervilles" appeared as the first detective story on the best-seller list. The first American one to make it was Mary Roberts Rinehart's "The Man in

Two Farmington Students
To Study In South

Hubert Thompson, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. McDonald, 23220 Power Road; and Joan Rowe Seitz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Seitz, 33099 Shiloh, have enrolled at William Jennings Bryan University in Dayton, Tennessee.

Hubert is a sophomore and Joan is a freshman. Bryan University is a Christian liberal arts college which is interdenominational in scope. This year, Michigan ranks second, having a total enrollment of 38 students in the nearly 300 who are enrolled.

Lower Ten."

In 1917, the First World War was dominating the taste of the reading public, with such works as H. G. Wells' "Mr. Britling Sees It Through" being popular. More romantic was Vicente Blasco's "The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse."

A novel realistic vein was introduced with Sinclair Lewis' debunking of normal small town life via "Main Street," best seller of 1921. An interest in scientific writing arose in the mid-twenties with George A. Dorsey's "Why Do We Behave Like Human Beings?"

The first years of the depression saw contract bridge becoming popular, and Ely Culbertson's "Contract Bridge Blue Book" climbed to popular heights. But Hervey Allen's "Anthony Adverse" brought a return of the historical novel.

War was back in the reader's mind in 1941, when Winston Churchill's "Blood, Sweat and Tears" made its debut. Religion also was dominant, however, as witnessed by the popularity of Franz Werfel's "The Song of Bernadette," which came out in 1942.

Joshua Loth Leiman's "Peace of Mind" was one of the best sellers in the "inspirational" group, which appeared in the forties and fifties. And in 1949, once again the historical novel returned to favor, with "The Egyptian" by Mika Waltari.

John Clappison Sells Insurance

Red Cross Meet
Set For Today

An open invitation to this Thursday (October 15) "orientation meeting" have been sent to everyone interested in joining the Oakland County Chapter, American Red Cross corps of volunteers — and to the public.

The all-day program at St. John Episcopal Church, Royal Oak, will start at 10:00 a.m., with a session designed especially for prospective volunteers. Special emphasis will be placed on disaster work and bloodmobile visits during the entire program.

Mrs. Bradley Pruden of Birmingham, chapter vice-chairman of volunteers, will tell of her experience in the recent Flint tornado. The bloodmobile session, including discussion of ways to sign up blood donors, operation of "mobiles," and the blood program generally, is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. Speakers include Mrs. March Gurluk of Lake Orion, chapter chairman of volunteers serving blood banks, and Mrs. James Wickert, South Oakland's donor recruitment chairman.

Reservations for the noon luncheon to be served by the church guild may be made at Red Cross offices in Pontiac, Federal 4-3575, and Royal Oak, Lincoln 2-6700.

Mrs. J. C. Walker of Pontiac, chairman of service groups, will discuss volunteer work. Mrs. E. C. Sparlock of the chapter's Home Service department, will tell how volunteer welfare aides help the Red Cross deal with problems of families with servicemen in the armed forces.

The chapter's nursing program — including disaster nursing plans — will be the topic of Mrs. Herminia Rodriguez, Royal Oak, chairman of nursing services.

FIRST CANAL

In June, 1852, according to the Michigan Historical Collections at the University of Michigan, construction of the first canal ship canal was begun under the supervision of Charles T. Harvey. The centennial of the canal's opening will be celebrated in 1955.

Pvt. Charles G. Wedyke
Now Serving In Germany

Private Charles G. Wedyke, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence W. Wedyke of 23205 Shiloh, is serving with the First Infantry Division in Germany.

The only American division to remain in Europe continuously since World War II, the First Infantry is constantly undergoing intensive field training as part of the NATO defense force.

Private Wedyke, who entered the Army last March and completed basic training at Camp Rucker, Alabama, arrived overseas in August and is a rifleman in Company E of the division's 26th Regiment stationed in Hamburg.

A 1951 graduate of Farmington High School, he was a sand blaster with the Goddard and Goddard Company of Detroit as a civilian.

M.S.C. Enrollment
Reaches 14,419

Fall term enrollment at Michigan State College has reached 14,419, including 9,059 men and 4,310 women, according to M.S.C. Registrar Robert S. Linton.

This term's figures show an increase of 92 men and 242 women students for a total boost of 334 over enrollment in the fall term of 1952.

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New Age Limit
Set For Nurses

Twenty-five registered nurses are urgently needed at Dearborn Veterans Administration Hospital, Dr. Thomas P. Crane, manager, announced recently.

Because of the acute shortage of nurses everywhere, Dr. Crane said that VA is now offering a new type of appointment to nurses over the age of 30, provided they are in good health and can meet professional requirements. Previous age limit for first appointment was 40.

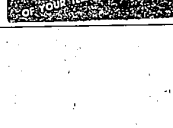
Beginning salary is \$3740 a year. Salaries of higher grade nurses range up to \$5810 a year. To the young and middle aged nurse, whether she is career minded or wishes to work for a limited time, this is an excellent opportunity to work in a hospital maintaining the highest professional standards.

Qualified nurses are invited to call or write the Personnel Officer, Veterans Administration Hospital, Dearborn, Michigan, for full information.

Alma College halfback Mary Raab, a graduate of Detroit's St. Bernard High, may be the leading scorer in the state of Michigan for this collegiate season. He has scored 30 points on five touchdowns for this season.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Forsythe of Moran Road in Farmington have moved to their new residence at 1233 Schoolcraft in Livonia.

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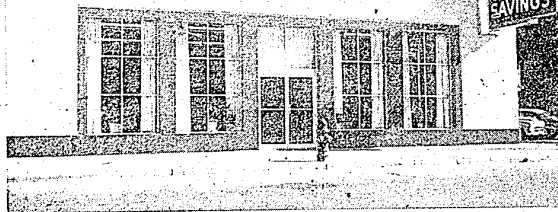
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