

"Mr. Otis" Brought To Light Air Travel Reaches Peak

By FLORENCE JENKINS

MR. OTIS, by Stewart H. Holbrook; 70 pages; The MacMillan Company, \$3.95.

A debt of gratitude is owed to Stewart H. Holbrook of Portland for his introduction, via The MacMillan Company, of a prolific little painter, Mr. Otis.

The debt must be shared, too, by Mr. Otis himself as this is one of the rare instances where recognition has been achieved during the lifetime of the man. Were Mr. Otis of a commercial turn of mind, fame and fortune could well follow the publication of this volume which reproduces more than two dozen of his masterpieces.

Paintings by Mr. Otis have

changed hands, however, only through the medium of barter. As a result, one canvas hangs in the office of a taxicab owner in Portland, another in a farmhouse (Mr. Otis wanted a load of natural fertilizer for his flower garden), another in Chicago (the willing recipient in this case insisted on parting with a set of rock crystal glasses) and still another hangs in the home of a Klamath Falls newspaper editor. Upon occasion, Mr. Otis flourishes a hand-hemmed linen handkerchief with his name embroidered in violet by the editor's wife who was familiar with his weakness for violent shades of purple.

According to Mr. Holbrook, the loves and loyalties of Mr. Otis

during his formative years were limited, possibly by straitened circumstances, to bottled refreshments and the old Press Club of Oregon. At one time, about nine years ago, some of his works were confused with those of the late Pierre Mord Vandervaat, an itinerant artist of the same period who seemed to drop into oblivion about 1949. During that golden era of the Press Club, of course, its roster boasted so many notable names including Ernest Haycox, Ben Hur Lampman and other greats who have since passed on to their reward.

To the artist, Mr. Otis presents a challenge. To the uninitiated, the subject matter of the canvases is more provocative than the techniques employed.

Mr. Holbrook calls Mr. Otis the

founder of a new school of painting — the Primitive-Moderne (the final e is Mr. Holbrook's). Both terms might be applied to one of his better known works, "Fido Can Set Up," which exemplifies the age-old love of man for his dog. Some of the spiritual qualities which creep into his works are shown with force in "Portrait of an Aspiring Saint," which is reproduced with this review. It is the only original, genuine painting by Mr. Otis in Klamath Falls.

Mr. Otis may never replace TV, but a copy of the book close at hand will eliminate any awkward pause when the lights go up during a commercial. Reaching the bookshelves as it does just before the start of Christmas shopping, it can be added to many a list as just the gift for the hard-to-buy for Aunt Minnie or the bachelor cousin who "has everything."

If Mr. Holbrook is to be thanked for the discovery of Mr. Otis, perhaps it can be said that he is a better man for permitting himself to know Mr. Otis. Mayhap it adds still another facet to his already brilliant career.

(See Additional Picture Page 4)

Air traffic at airports and along the airways reached new all-time levels of activity during 1957, according to James T. Pyle, administrator of Civil Aeronautics, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Aircraft operations at airports having CAA airport traffic control towers numbered 25,151,000 during 1957, an increase of 14 per cent over the 22,046,000 landings and takeoffs during 1956.

Chicago (Midway) airport continued to be the busiest airport in the United States during the year in terms of total operations.

The 10 top airports during 1957 in activity were: Chicago (Midway) 438,053; Miami 366,714; Los Angeles 319,590; Albuquerque 310,711; Dallas 305,935; New York (LaGuardia) 301,015; Phoenix 285,214; Denver 280,174; Washington, D.C. 277,783 and Long Beach, California 276,922.

Tabulations are kept only at CAA control towers. The control tower at the Klamath Falls Municipal Airport is expected to be commissioned late this year, according to the local CAA chief.



SELF-PORTRAIT of the artist, Mr. Otis himself, adorns the dust jacket of the new Mr. Otis book by Stewart H. Holbrook and published late in September by The MacMillan Company.



PORTRAIT of the author, Stewart H. Holbrook, by the late Peter Winthrop Sheffers of Portland, who called his painting "The Blue Shirt."

Beef Cattle Transaction Sees Switch

BAKER — A major beef cattle transaction, involving the sale of half-interest in three registered Hereford bulls for a figure nearing \$30,000 was revealed here recently by Chandler Herefords.

Interest in the "old line" Chandler-bred sires was purchased by Cooper Herefords, owned by Gladys L. Cooper, Tipton, California. Breeders of both horned and polled Herefords, the Tulare County breeding concern is widely known in Western cattle circles.

"The Cooper herd is strong with the influence of Hazlett breeding a foundation bloodline of the 69-year-old 'old line' Chandler cattle," points out Herbert Chandler, senior member of Chandler Herefords. "Mrs. Cooper was impressed with the outstanding quality of these sires and feels they will 'nick' (cross well) on her own cow herd."

Mrs. Cooper and her herdsman, Alex Lavin, had come to the Baker County cattle ranch to look over herd sire material. With the exception of younger cattle hardly old enough to sell, the Chandlers announced they had nothing for sale. For dozens of years a popular Hereford bloodline, Chandler Herefords' popularity rose to even greater heights, this year, when their carload of bulls topped Grand Champion honors in the Hereford division of the National Western Stock Show in Denver.

Despite the fact the Chandlers had "nothing for sale," the California breeders looked anyway. They eventually began negotiations for interest in the three sires. Chandler Herefords were using all three bulls in their own breeding program. Involved in the deal are half-interest in the following:

Royal H. Dhu, a 3-year-old son of Royal Dhu 56 and out of Miss Mark D 15 by Mark Donald 92. He showed as a 2-year-old. A full brother and sister are in Chandler Herefords' 1953 show string. His first son was recently sold to the herd of A. A. Dawson and Son, Belt, Montana.

Junior Hartland, a coming 3-year-old by FB Hartland Domino 41 and out of Junior Lass 31 by Mark Donald Jr., successfully campaigned as a senior calf in several Register-of-Merit Shows. A half-brother to this same bull was a member of the Grand Champion carload of Hereford bulls at the 1950 National Western, Denver, exhibited by Chandler Herefords; he sold for a \$7,500 figure to Herschede Ranch, Hereford, Arizona.

Royal H. Dhu 51, a coming 2-year-old by Royal Dhu 56 and out of Junior Lass 83 by Mark Donald Jr. Though a young bull, Chandler Herefords have pinned a lot of hope on this big, growthy individual. He is especially "conspicuous" because of his size and substance, Chandler Ranch personnel maintain.

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