

Tidbits

Two firsts for a first time publisher: on August 30, Gordon's Books, a wholesaler based in Denver, placed an order for *The Pelican in the Desert*, and on September 2, *Publisher's Weekly* reviewed *Pelican* in its Forecasts department under Fiction Originals.

On Saturday, June 4, 1988, poet/author/artist Ted Kooser received a Governor's Arts Award in a ceremony at the Joslyn Art Museum in Omaha. The awards, administered by the Nebraska Arts Council, recognize individuals and organizations that have made significant cultural contributions to the state of Nebraska. Kooser has published several volumes of his poetry, and his work has appeared in many publications, including *The New Yorker*, *North American Review*, and *American Poetry Review*. His short story "Dogs," originally published in 1984 by *Prairie Schooner*, appears in *The Pelican in the Desert* (1988), K&A's anthology of farm stories.

Walgreen Co. has agreed to test market *The Pelican in the Desert* in its five Lincoln, Nebraska, drugstores. If sales go well, Walgreen's may place copies in several of its stores throughout the Midwest.

On Sunday Sept. 18, about twenty people crowded into the Common Woman Bookstore, a small Lincoln bookstore specializing in works by women writers, to listen to readings from *The Pelican in the Desert*. It was the first of several readings K&A has planned for this anthology of short stories about farm life. Susan Strayer Deal, Marjorie Saiser, and Valerie Vierk read from their stories and afterward took part in a discussion and signing. The readers were well-received by an enthusiastic audience.

The New Kid In Town

Make room on the bench fellows, there's a new kid in town. In April, 1988, Kubicek & Associates became the newest of only a handful of book publishers in Nebraska.

"We're especially interested in fiction," editor/publisher David Kubicek said. "There aren't many companies in this region that publish fiction. We saw a need and filled it."

But K&A won't limit itself to fiction. "We'll consider non-fiction that interests us," Kubicek said.

That could cover a broad range of subjects. Kubicek, a writer himself, gets excited about many things. He's written science fiction, fantasy, mystery, literary, and mainstream fiction, and his articles have ranged from human interest to political reporting. His work has appeared in several national and regional publications. According to Kubicek, who is currently Treasurer of the Nebraska Writers Guild, being a writer is a plus for a publisher:

"You're familiar with the creative process, with how books are constructed, with what a book may need to make it publishable, and you can edit an author's manuscript more deeply (than basic copy-editing) without editing the soul out of it."

K&A is a member of the newly-formed Mid-America Publishers Association and will be listed in the *International Directory of Little Magazines and Small Presses* and in *Fiction Writers Market*. Kubicek's goal is to "publish



David Kubicek

books that look good, that are well-written, and that people will enjoy reading."

All of K&A's books, starting with *The Pelican in the Desert*, will be barcoded for easy ordering and inventory control.

In This Issue

The Pelican in the Desert: and Other Stories of the Family Farm. ISBN 0-945881-00-2; paper; 129 pp; 5.5" x 8.5"; \$8.95 retail. Order from Gordon's Books, Baker and Taylor, or from Kubicek & Associates.

The Forgotten Pilgrimage of Jesus: Sojourn in the Land of the Wise Men, Compiled by James F. Forcucci from the writings of Nicholas Notovitch and Virchand R. Gandhi. ISBN 0-945881-01-0; paper; approx. 96 pp; illustrated; 5.5" x 8.5"; \$5.95, expected retail price.

Dealer discounts for single or mixed titles: 1-4 copies = 20%; 5 or more = 40%; 10 or more copies purchased on a non-returnable basis = 50%. Large quantity discounts available. Call or write for details.