

Trail Book Section 10/21/13

# Paperbacks



By Clarence Petersen

## Some ammunition for the war against the astro-freaks

Where is it written that you must use a book strictly as its author intended? Nowhere.

*The Case for Astrology*, by John Anthony West and Jan Gerhard Toonder (Penguin, \$1.65), can be equally useful in making a case against those astrology buffs who are forever bothering you with character analyses based on "your sign."

West and Toonder are very cool, rational, and scholarly, and they have no patience at all with pop astrology.

They assert that there is "an accumulation of direct and indirect evidence substantiating the fundamental premise of celestial/terrestrial correlation, and there is some evidence that suggests that such astrological principles as aspects, houses, and meanings assigned to the planets can no longer be regarded as arbitrary."

"In its purest, symbolic sense," they go on, "far removed from the astrology of the marketplace, the astrological doctrine may be seen as the expression or affirmation of the harmony pervading the universe, and as a guide to understanding its laws."

Try that on the blonde on the next barstool who says: "You're a Leo? I knew it! I knew it!"

the development of H. R. Haldeman's White House power elite and continues thru the late-summer Senate recess. The prose is swift and rhythmic, the character sketches vivid and earthy. The best Watergate book to date, it untangles the complex testimony and reads like a thriller.

*The Case of the Fenced-In Woman and The Case of theirate Witness*, by Erle Stanley Gardner (Pocket Books, 95 cents each), are heralded on the cover as "New." The late Mr. Gardner did not, however, write them from beyond the pale. They are new only as paperbacks. Are they worth reading? Sure, if you liked the other 73 Perry Masons. Gardner, self-described as a "fiction factory" and as "the Henry Ford of detective novelists," was never one to tamper with a hit.

*The Making of the Happy Hooker*, by Robin Moore (Signet, \$1.50), is yet another book about the life and times of Xaviera Hollander by one of her two collaborators on the first best seller. This one has to do with the Knapp Commission investigation and its satellite characters, who first put Hollander on the map. There is lots of sex, of course. Pretty soon Hollander will have had more books in her life than men.

*Watergate*, by Lewis Chester, Cal McCrystal, Stephen Aris, and William Shawcross (Ballantine, \$1.50), is the story of the scandal and the principals as reconstructed from the first phase of the Senate hearings by a team of *Sunday Times* of London reporters. It begins with

---

TRADE NEWS

Editor:

Mildred Solá Neely

---

PW 11/12/73

✓ **MORE ON WATERGATE:  
BUT ARE THEY SELLING?**

Are Watergate books selling? There are signs the public is not rushing out to buy them—for two obvious reasons: each week brings startling new developments, and the newspapers, radio and TV are providing just about all the material anyone can absorb.

Still, the Watergate books continue to come. The *New York Times* has now followed its opus on Watergate, "The Watergate Hearings," published by Bantam, with a book of cartoons, "Ni (X) on Rated Cartoons" by syndicated columnist Ranan R. Lurie. Senator Lowell Weicker (R., Connecticut), member of the Ervin subcommittee, hosted a pre-publication reception for Lurie in the Senate caucus room.

The newly created *Washington Post* writers group will publish its first book, "Year of Scandal" (\$3.95), November 22 with distribution by Dell. The 120-page paperback, with photos and Herblock cartoons, was to have been a "Watergate" book, but was renamed in order to include the Agnew and Cox stories.

"Watergate Close-Up," a collection of photographs by NBC photographer Stanley Tretick, with an accompanying 25,000-word text by William V. Shannon of the *New York Times*, will be published by Macmillan in February, 1974. According to Macmillan, the book will provide a view of the proceedings, through over 100 previously unpublished photos of the Senate Watergate committee, its witnesses and observers. | —