



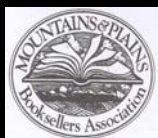
BOOKTALK



The bi-monthly Newsletter of

Sam Weller's Zion Bookstore

Salt Lake's Premiere Full-Service Bookstore since 1929



June – July, 2003

Book Talk

By Tony Weller

Everyday at Sam Weller's we describe books. These descriptions would be difficult without the terms book people use consistently to ensure clarity. Entire books have been written on the nomenclature of books: *ABC for Book Collectors* by John Carter, and *A New Introduction to Bibliography* by Philip Gaskell are two particularly well written works. What follows is a discussion of some of the most common descriptive book terms

Most of the books one encounters fall into one of two physical types: *hardcover* or *paperbound*. Most modern hardcovers are produced with a printed piece of paper wrapped around the book which is called a *dust jacket* or a *dust wrapper*, abbreviated as *dj* or *dw*. The main parts of a hardbound book are its *boards* and its *spine*. The part of the book you see when it is sitting on the shelf is commonly called the spine. Technically it is a *backstrip*; the spine is underneath. The covers of a hardbound book are referred to as *boards* because books were once bound with thin slabs of wood. When you open a hardcover, it is the *hinge* that enables you to do so. On opening a book, the first thing you see is a piece of paper twice the size of a page which, at least visually, attaches the pages of the book, known collectively as the *text block*, to the covers. This large sheet of paper is known as an *endsheet* or *endpaper*. The half of the endsheet which is glued down is the *pastedown* and the other half is the *free endsheet*. Since there is an endsheet in the back of the book too, we get *front and rear pastedowns*, and *front free endpage* (*ffep*) or *rear free endpage* (*rfep*).

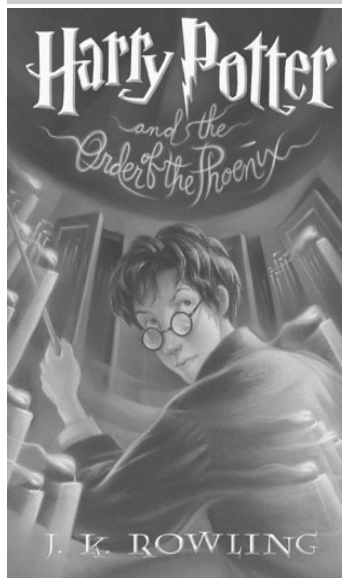
Paperbound books fall into two main categories: *mass market* and *trade paper*. The former are inexpensive and small, while the latter are larger, better made and cost a bit more. In the 1980's, some publicity alchemist semantically improved the trade paperback by redesignating it a *quality paperback*.

Continued on page 2

Bookstore Events

- June 12** KUED Program/Book Club; 7 PM
Butch Cassidy by Richard Patterson;
Moderator: John Howe.
- June 20th** Harry Potter New Release Party
8 PM; Public Library –209 East 500 South
- July 7 – 22** Chess on Main; Bookstore sponsored
chess tournament for all ages.
- July 9** KUED Program/Book Club; 7 PM
Perpetual War for Perpetual Peace by
Gore Vidal; Moderator: Tom Huckin.

Midnight Muggle Madness!



**Release Party
At the
Salt Lake City
Public Library
209 East 500
South
Salt Lake City**

**Friday, June 20th
8 PM – Midnight**

*Harry Potter
And the Order of
the Phoenix*

**20% off orders
placed and paid
for before June
19th at Sam
Weller's**

List Price: **\$29.99**

Discount Price: **\$23.99**

You Save: **\$6.00**

(Excludes sales taxes if applicable)

Coming to Weller's in late June Magazines and Newspapers

Local, all major US, international, foreign language, Scholastic journals!

Book Talk ... continued

Basic bibliographic information about a book, can be found in three places. First, on the *title page* - prominently placed at the beginning of the book on the right hand side or *recto*. The title page will typically include the author's name, the city of publication, the name of the publisher, the title, and often the printing date of the book. Second, the *copyright page* on the back of the title page which will be on the left hand side or *verso*, tells when the rights to the work were established, gives the library of congress number, and sometimes lists a printing history. Third, important information about the book may be contained in a *colophon*. The colophon is an old custom happily seeing a resurgence, mostly in art or children's books. If included, it is at the end of the book and tells about the production of the book including details as to how many books were printed, the designer, the type of paper and font used and other information the printer or publisher thought important. The information contained on title, copyright or colophon pages is not consistent from book to book.

Some new book terms are *front list*, *BIP*, *TOS* and *OP*. Front list is a term used to describe brand new books which have the publisher's greatest confidence. Books which are new and for which the publisher has more moderate faith are referred to as *midlist*. *Back list* is used to describe books that are already available. BIP is simply the acronym for *Books in Print*, which is a standard reference for available books. No database of the magnitude of BIP can be absolutely accurate and sometimes we order an apparently available book only to learn that it is TOS or OP. Neither is good news as books which are *Temporarily Out of Stock* are often on their way to becoming *Out of Print*. Either way, if you want one of these titles, it is time for you to visit our second hand department.

When dealing with used and rare books, some other terms occur. *Edition* is one of the most confusing and misused of all. First, one must understand that publishers use the term quite differently than booksellers or collectors. Publishers may run off several *printings* of a book without stopping the presses or changing any substantial portion of its content. They legitimately refer to the various printings as the same edition. But when collectors say, "*first edition*" the experienced bookseller hears "*first printing or impression*." We know that the collector is unlikely to be interested in, say, the 12th printing of the first edition of Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone. On the internet, novices and outright scammers will often present late printings as first editions. While technically correct, their thinking does not align itself with the interests or expectations of buyers. The definition and uses of *edition* are further complicated by the incursions of terms such as *states* and *issues* combined with printings and impressions and the difficulties in recognizing all of them.

Another puzzling term you may encounter in the used or rare book world is *wraps* or *wrappers*. These are simply the terms applied to what are commonly known as paperbacks. These are older terms we retain out of custom or maybe in order to feel better about expensive paperbacks. And then there is the term *ex-libris*. It should be followed by the name of some impressive person unless the user has confused it with the term *ex-library*. Etymologically, the terms are the same, but in use they are not. While "ex-libris Brigham Young" means it was once his and can be counted as an attribute, "ex-library" means that the book was once in a public library and is therefore probably in poor condition and damaged.

Anent damage, we should discuss *foxing*, *rolled*, *slanted*, *skewed*, and the incomplete sounding *gerund*, *starting*. Foxing refers to brown spots on pages which are caused by metallic impurities in the paper reacting slowly over time with atmospheric moisture. Sometimes they almost look like dirty little flowers. A book that is described as being rolled or *skewed* is one that has been badly stored with its spine up such that the binding's boards no longer sit in alignment. If a book is rolled it has one board that sticks out further than the other while remaining parallel. The spine will be *slanted*. If it is *skewed*, it's as though the boards have been rotated slightly in opposite directions so that the edges of the two boards are no longer parallel. In either case, it is likely that the hinges will be broken or *starting*, which means starting to break.

A few other types of book people, besides the booksellers, are *book scouts*, *bibliophiles* and *bibliomaniacs*. A book scout is a person who buys books wherever he or she can with the intention of selling them at a profit to a bookseller. Good book scouts are few but valuable to booksellers. Bad book scouts are common and cause themselves and the booksellers who disappoint them much frustration. As a lover of books I have saved bibliophile and bibliomaniac for the end of this small attempt at the vocabulary of the book. Both are crazy about books but the distinction is best presented thus: a bibliophile loves and accumulates books but remains in rational control of his or her library and his or her life. The bib-

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www.LatterDaySaintBooks.Com

**Open for business each day except Sunday,
10 AM to 8 PM**

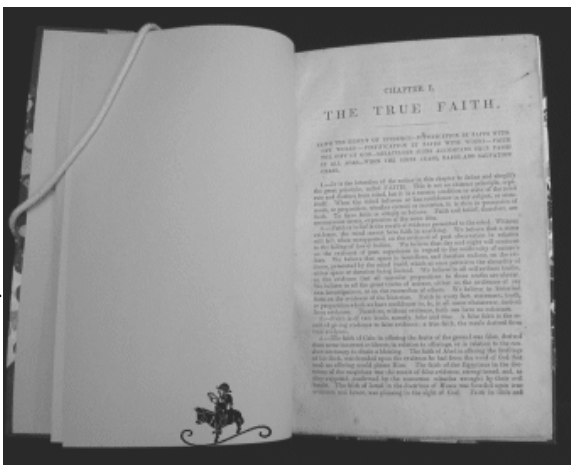
Recent and Marvelous Rare Book Acquisitions

A signed copy of the 1st edition of *Desert Images* written by **Edward Abbey** with photographs by **David Muench**. This folio volume is bound in heavy buff colored cloth with a matching slipcase. It was signed by Edward Abbey in 1982. It bears a Christmas inscription from 1983. \$350

A Perfect copy of the signed limited edition of 250 of *Saddlemaker to the Stars: The Leather and Silver Art of Edward H. Bohlin*. This large quarto, bound in black leather with silver and gilt stamped titles, contains numerous photos of western Hollywood stars and the fine ornate leather and silver saddles, belts and holsters of Bohlin. \$450

A copy of the historic *Extra from the Deseret News* on September 14th, 1852, printing the minutes of the special conference in which the LDS church announced its practice of polygamy. This famous sermon was delivered by **Orson Pratt**, in the Salt Lake Tabernacle about two weeks prior. This copy was once bound into a larger volume and has been later removed. It is housed in a very handsome 1/4 black morocco slipcase with raised bands and gilt titles, rules and rolls. Rare and important. \$10,000

A volume of the very rare Mormon Australian periodical called *Zion's Watchman*, edited by **A. Farnham** in Sydney during the years of 1853 through 1856, in two volumes with numbered issues. Ours is volume 1, comprising the first 33 issues ending at April, 1855. They are bound contemporarily in 3/4 leather with marbled boards. The binding is quite worn but very stable. It is housed in an elegant 1/4 morocco clam shell box with raised bands and gilt stamped title. \$15,000



A gorgeously bound collection of tracts, which in book form are known simply as **Orson Pratt's Works**. Printed in 1851, they are bound in 3/4 black morocco with raised bands, decoratively gilt stamped spine, marbled boards with a gilded top edge. \$600

A copy of the remarkably rare 1st edition of **Ethan Smith's View of the Hebrews** published in 1823. It's been many years since a copy of this has been offered. \$4000

The 1868 1st edition of **William Walters' Life Among the Mormons**. Seldom seen at all, quite rare in the condition of our copy which sells for \$850

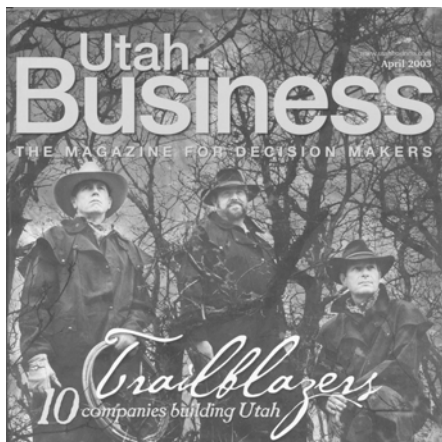
A really sharp looking copy of the 1909 golf book entitled *Fore!: The Call of the Links* by **W. Hastings**

Webling. \$325

The two volumes on the Hoover Dam, printed by the United States Government Printing Office in 1933 in beautiful condition complete with foldout maps and diagrams. One volume is *The Construction of the Hoover Dam: Preliminary Investigations, Design of the Dam, and Progress of Construction*. The other is *The Hoover Dam Power and Water Contracts and Related Data*. They were edited by **Ray Lyman Wilbur, Elwood Mead and Northcutt Ely**. \$375 for the pair.

A nearly perfect copy of the first edition of *The Diary of the Washburn Expedition to the Yellowstone and Firehole Rivers in the Year 1870*. This book written by **Nathaniel Pitt Langford** was published in 1905. It is bound in navy blue cloth, with an orange stamped vignette and gilt stamped titles which read "*The Discovery of Yellowstone Park: 1870.*" If this isn't grand enough, our copy is inscribed by Langford on the endsheet and includes a one page holograph letter signed from him to same. I can hardly bear it!

Sam Weller's Zion Bookstore cited as a Utah top 10 Trailblazing Company



Readers who did not see the April 2003 Edition of *Utah Business Magazine* will have missed the cover story entitled "Trailblazers, 10 Companies Building Utah" by William W.

Slaughter. The Trailblazer awards were sponsored by Utah Business Magazine, the Utah Small Business Development Center, and Salt Lake Community College. Tony Weller and Sam Weller's Zion Bookstore were named in the article as one of *Utah Business Magazine's* top 10 companies which "share a tradition of excellence, service and innovation while promoting a positive image of Utah."

Other Utah business awarded the Trailblazer honor were America First Credit Union; Associated Foods; Arctic Circle; Jones, Waldo, Holbrook & McDonough; RC Willey, KSL; Sweet Candy Company; and the Workers Compensation Fund of Utah.

The article summarizes the awards by saying: "In word and in deed, each of the 10 knows they are really in the people business - no matter what their product may be. Like Utah's early trailblazers, these companies have survived change and time, not merely by adapting, but by always leading the way with integrity and innovation."



Sam Weller's Zion Bookstore

254 South Main Street
Salt Lake City UT 84101

LatterDaySaintBooks.Com Inaugurated by Weller's!

We at Sam Weller's Zion Bookstore are pleased to inform our readers of the April 4th, 2003 inauguration of an important new on-line service for readers and collectors of new, used, out of print and rare LDS and Mormon related books and bibliographic materials - www.LatterdaySaintBooks.Com.

At its launch, LatterDaySaintBooks.Com contained an on-line inventory of about 30,000 items! This, however, is only a portion of the bookstore's massive inventory of well over a million volumes. We are uploading new titles onto LatterDaySaintBooks.Com at the rate of about 2,000 a week.

LatterDaySaintBooks.Com was created by Sam Weller's Zion Bookstore to serve its growing internet clientele who are interested in LDS and Mormon books and printed materials. It is a natural extension of the bookstore's extensive collections of Western Americana and what in the book trade is called "Mormoniana." This includes all the books and materials by and about the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, its theology and Mormonism in general. Included are pamphlets, tracts, periodicals, newspapers, documents and journals, autographs, holographs, priesthood and auxiliary lesson manuals, doctrinal discussions; histories of specific Church units - Stakes, Wards, Branches, Missions; genealogies and family histories; as well as histories of the towns, states, regions and the eras in which Mormonism has existed. The collection also includes these same kinds of bibliographic materials from churches and religious groups

which have broken away from the LDS Church. To this array of books have been added books which in the bookstore's 74 years of experience are of interest to LDS readers: bible commentaries by non-LDS editors and authors, histories from authors such as Josephus to Alfred Edersheim to Fredreick Farrar to Paul Johnson, and philosophical works by such thinkers as C.S. Lewis and James Allen.

The introduction of LatterDaySaintBooks.Com is the natural culmination of our years in the book business. Founder, Gustav Weller, followed his LDS faith from Germany to Utah in 1925. The impetus for the creation of Zions Bookstore in 1929 was the acquisition by Gus of a collection of used LDS books. In the intervening years, the bookstore has been an important dealer in Mormoniana and we have amassed a very large collection - we think the largest commercial collection anywhere. The new web-site will allow us to make these materials more available to our customers. The inventory listed on the new web-site is only a subset of the inventory available on our main web-site, and can be ordered from either site.

As part and parcel of the service on LatterDaySaintBooks.Com we are offering a discount on all new LDS books - all the time. Additionally, we provide same day shipping world-wide and offer free shipping in the continental US on orders which exceed \$30.

If you haven't done so already, please take time to browse the new LatterDaySaintBooks.Com

Dennis Evans – *General Manager*