

the age of 25 (from Graves disease) with a noticeable lump in his throat, and is convinced that "This unknown mechanic and insurance peddler" who prepared his work for publication knowing that death was near was "one of the most outstanding poets we have produced here."

He quotes in full the letter from Malley's "sister" Ethel, giving details of his life from birthday (March 14, 1918, at Liverpool) to cremation (July 23, 1943, at Rookwood), naming two Australian schools (Petersham and Summer Hill Intermediate High) responsible for her brother's education, and his employers after he left school (Palmer's Garage, Taverner's Hill, and National Mutual Insurance).

Then come the poems, collectively called "The Darkening Ecliptic," headed by a little motto—"Do not speak of secret matters in a field full of little hills—Old Proverb," and seven brief statements about poetry. (For example: "These poems are complete in themselves. They have a domestic economy of their own, and if they face outward to the reader that is because they have first faced inward to themselves. Every poem should be an autarchy").

There are 16 poems. It is difficult to believe that they could have been written in one afternoon in the manner described by two young men who did not believe in what they were doing. They are of the species of verse which can be called "Surrealist." They may be nonsense to most of our readers, but much thought lies behind some of them, and a vivid imagination. The rhyme schemes alone make it very difficult for anyone who has ever attempted the most irresponsible doggerel to believe that they were done in one afternoon.

Here is a "Sonnet for the Nova-chord":

*RISE from the wrist, o kestrel
Mind, to a clear expanse.
Perform your high dance
On the clouds of ancestral
Duty. Hawk at the wraith
Of remembered emotions.
Vindicate our high notions
Of a new and pitiless faith.
It is not without risk!
In a lofty attempt
The fool makes a brisk
Tumble. Rightly contempt
Rewards the cloud-foot unwary
Who falls to the prairie.*

By contrast, here is the first stanza from another poem called "Sybilline." In this case it is not so difficult to believe that it was written in a few minutes:

*THAT rabbit's foot I carried in my left
pocket
Has worn a haemorrhage in the lining
The bunch of keys I carry with it
Jingles like fate in my omphagic ear
And when I stepped clear of the solid basalt
The introverted obelisk of night
I seized upon this Traumdeutung as a sword
To hew a passage to my love.*

A good many of the poems show as much work in their rhyme schemes as the "Sonnet" reveals, and to affect that kind of writing and spread it over 27 pages would seem to be so much more difficult than to do it in all sincerity that not many literary people are likely to accept the story of the "hoax" exactly as it has been told. They may instead suspect that the poems were written, over a period, by one or more persons who took themselves seriously at the time, and for one reason or another hit on this way of drawing attention to their work.



How fresh and clean my mouth feels

when I use
**COLGATE RIBBON
DENTAL CREAM**

*"After every meal I brush my teeth
with Colgate Ribbon Dental Cream
to keep my teeth bright and clean and
my whole mouth fresh and sweet."*

Here's a lass who has found the way to
sparkling smiles. She knows that that active,
penetrating Colgate foam gets into the crevices
between the teeth, routing out the food particles
that may cause decay and bad breath. Follow her
example and brush with Colgate Ribbon Dental
Cream to make your teeth thoroughly clean and
your breath sweet.

PLAY SAFE!

Twice a day ... and before
every date ... use

It cleans
your breath
while it cleans
your teeth



LISTEN-IN to
the Colgate Ribbon
Dental Cream Radio
Programme, 7.30 p.m.
every Thursday & Saturday
—all ZB Stations.

COLGATE-PALMOLIVE LTD. PETONE.



BLONDES!

Bring back GOLDEN BEAUTY to your darkened fair hair

If your blonde hair is going dark and brownish, try
Stablond. You will make this amazing discovery ...
that only Stablond can bring back that natural golden
beauty to faded fair hair. Stablond prevents blonde hair
from darkening and keeps it bright and burnished
always. It is made specially
for blondes.

Fassett & Johnson Ltd. 147
Manners St., Wellington.

