PONS BY

WORDS FOR DENVER AND OTHER POEMS

by THOMAS HORNSBY FERRIL With a Foreword by Robert F. Richards

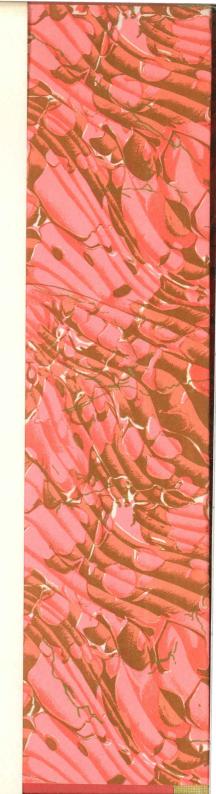
Words For Denver And Other Poems is the first volume of poetry by Thomas Hornsby Ferril to appear in fourteen years — but it is not this lapse of time alone which makes its publication a literary event. "Words For Denver," the long sequence of fourteen sections, and the thirty shorter poems which follow are finely wrought, intensely evocative works of a mature poet whose work is a major contribution to American letters.

Ferril has won many honors and awards, including the Yale Competition for Younger Poets; *The Nation*'s poetry prize; the Oscar Blumenthal prize of *Poetry*; a Mitchell Kennerley award; a *Forum* award; awards by The Academy

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Jacket by Harsh-Finegold

WILLIAM MORROW & CO., INC.



Words For Denver

AND OTHER POEMS

To Thomas Menton
Sincerly
Thomas Homoby Ferril
Plecember 28

Words For Denver

And Other Poems

by Thomas Hornsby Ferril

WILLIAM MORROW & COMPANY, INC.

NEW YORK

1966

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Published simultaneously in Canada by George J. McLeod Limited, Toronto.

Printed in the United States of America.

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number 66-29269

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THOMAS HORNSBY FERRIL

was born in Denver in 1896. He was graduated from Colorado College and served as an officer in the Air Service in World War I. Since 1926 he has combined a literary career with full-time industrial work with The Great Western Sugar Company, editing agricultural publications and making documentary films. He is a former staff member of Harper's Magazine. Mr. Ferril and his wife, Helen R. Ferril, publish The Rocky Mountain Herald in Denver—Colorado's oldest weekly, founded in 1860. The Ferrils have recently edited The Rocky Mountain Herald Reader (Morrow, 1966), a collection of readings from the paper. A book of Mr. Ferril's prose essays, I Hate Thursday, was published in 1946 (Harper).

Words For Denver And Other Poems is Thomas Hornsby Ferril's fifth book of poetry. His previous volumes are: High Passage (Yale University Press, 1926), Westering (Yale, 1934), Trial By Time (Harper, 1944), and New And Selected Poems (Harper, 1952). Mr. Ferril has won many honors and awards for his poems, among them the Yale Competition for Younger Poets; the \$1,000 Robert Frost award; The Nation's poetry prize; the Oscar Blumenthal prize; a Mitchell Kennerley award; a Forum award; Borestone Mountain awards; and

awards of The Academy of American Poets and Poetry Society of America. In national competition, he won the \$10,000 prize for his verse play "... and Perhaps Happiness," produced at Central City, Colorado in 1958. Mr. Ferril has been associated with several writers' conferences, has lectured at the Aspen (Colorado) Institute of Humanistic Studies, and has recorded many of his poems for the Library of Congress and for The Voice of America. He holds honorary degrees from several western universities,

The body of this book is set in Linotype Janson and the display type used is Craw Modern.



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of American Poets and Poetry Society of
America; Borestone Mountain awards;
and the \$1,000 Robert Frost award.

Ferril's personal environment and heritage — the Rocky Mountain West — are an integral part of his poetry. He is a true poet, deeply rooted in his environment, yet concerned with its universal implications. To quote Dr. Richards' excellent foreword: "... these are unmistakably Denver poems and Ferril poems. They employ the familiar indigenous symbols by which the poet continues to express, as in his previous work, his sense of time, transitoriness and luminous apprehensions of life."

Philosophically, the poems in this volume run deep, and aesthetically they touch and move. Ferril's mastery of language is complete; he can reveal the wine and ashes of man's spirit with a simplicity unequalled by any other poet writing today. The poetic voice of Thomas Hornsby Ferril is clear, masculine and, as Words For Denver And Other Poems so forcefully demonstrates, completely and exaltedly his own.

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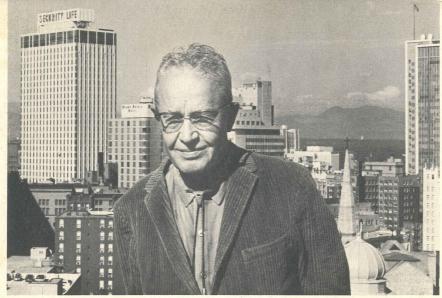


Photo by Pat Coffey

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