

# Peter Dale Wimbrow, Sr.

Author of

## "The Guy In The Glass"

### "The Guy in the Glass"

**W**hen you get what you want in  
your struggle for pelf,  
And the world makes you King for  
a day,  
Then go to the mirror and look  
at yourself,  
And see what that guy has to say.

For it isn't your father, or  
mother, or wife,  
Who judgment upon you  
must pass.  
The feller whose verdict counts  
most in your life  
Is the guy staring back from  
the glass.

He's the feller to please, never  
mind all the rest,  
For he's with you clear up to  
the end,  
And you've passed your  
most dangerous, difficult test  
If the guy in the glass is your friend.

You may be like Jack Horner  
and "chisel" a plum,  
And think you're a wonderful guy,  
But the guy in the glass says  
you're only a bum  
If you can't look him straight  
in the eye.

You can fool the whole world  
down the pathway of years,  
And get pats on the back as  
you pass,  
But your final reward will  
be heartaches and tears  
If you've cheated the guy in  
the glass.

Dale Wimbrow  
1934



1953 Dale Wimbrow playing his "Wimbrola"

**T**he original poem by Dale Wimbrow titled "*The Guy In The Glass*" was first published in *The American Magazine* in 1934. The magazine asked their readers to offer an answer to a

young man's question to the Editor of the magazine as to "Why he should be honest". The magazine offered a \$100 prize for the best response. The poem, "The Guy In The Glass" was the response by Dale Wimbrow.

The  
American Magazine

274724

25 Cents, \$2.50 a Year



VOLUME CXVII

January, 1934, through June, 1934

THE CROWELL PUBLISHING COMPANY  
250 Park Avenue  
NEW YORK

### *Why be honest?*

In 1934 a seventeen-year-old boy wrote a letter to the Editor of *The American Magazine*.

*"One good reason, please,"  
he asked, "why an ambitious  
young man should be honest."*

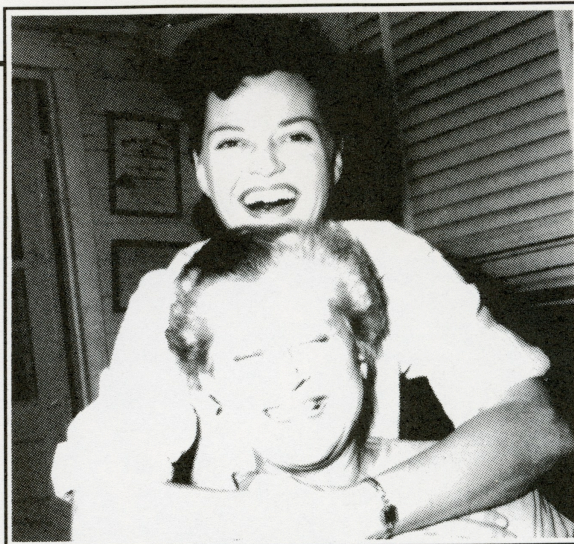
WR 88  
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Death Memorial (242)



# Keeping Posted (1957)

## The Guy in the Glass

**I**n the May 11, 1957, *Post* an article by Hal Lebovitz about Cleveland's baseball pitcher Herb Score said that Score carries in his wallet a clipping of a reprinted poem by an anonymous author, called *The Guy in the Glass*. Later a note by Miss Sallydale Wimbrow in the *Post's* Letters column explained that the poem, first printed in *The American Magazine* in 1934, was by her father, the late Dale Wimbrow, founder of the *Indian River News* of Sebastian, Fla., which is now published by Mrs. Wimbrow. Her daughter, who writes the *New's* editorials, quoted the poem's opening stanza in her letter: "When you get what you want in your struggle for pelf and the world makes you king for a day, go to the mirror and look at yourself and see what the guy has to say." For years the poem has had constant, mostly anonymous reprint circulation, but that *Post* letter brought a torrent of requests for copies from the U.S. and abroad. So, Miss Wimbrow had wallet-sized cards printed with a by-line. She has now distributed thousands of them, including allotments to service clubs, church congregations, conventions, etc., and to this day the requests are still coming! "It is so heartwarming to Mother and me," she says, "We only wish that Daddy were here to enjoy it too."



Sallydale & Dorothy Wimbrow from  
*The Saturday Evening Post*-1957

FLORIDA TODAY, Thursday, September 26, 1985

## Poem gives valuable lesson

**Dear Abby**

by  
**Abigail Van Buren**



**DEAR ABBY:** You recently printed the poem "The Man in the Glass" with "Author Unknown." Abby, that poem has been on display in our real estate office for 15 years, and the author is Dale Wimbrow.

Jim Picci of Novato, Calif., who taught a real estate course in Clearwater, Fla., gave everyone in his class a copy of that poem, and at graduation time he recited it from memory. It was an inspiration to all.—RAY ESTES, VIRGINIA BEACH, VA.

**DEAR RAY:** Thanks for enabling me to give credit where credit is due. This letter just surfaced concerning that inspirational poem:

**DEAR ABBY:** This concerns the poem "The Man in the Glass." The actual title is "The Guy in the Glass." It was written by Dale Wimbrow and copyrighted in 1934.

It was sent to me by Sallydale Wimbrow, the author's daughter. Dale Wimbrow died in Sebastian, Fla., in 1954. I hope this sets the record straight. — PHYLLIS CLARKE, NEWPORT NEWS, VA.

## DALE WIMBROW

There is a creature on a planet of a star who runs filling stations, crawls to the aid of a buddy on Heartbreak Ridge in Korea, lambasts Mayors and Presidents, attends P.T.A. meetings, dishes out for the Jaycees and the Boy Scouts, aspires to a divinity little lower than the angels and makes a darned fool of himself with amazing regularity. He is Mr. and Mrs. U.S.A. and Junior.

Millions of words are written about him every day by thousands of men, but few have the awareness and insight, the deep feeling for America and humanity at large, to write from the human heart with sympathy and understanding. Dale Wimbrow, in one edition of his celebrated *Indian River News*, lets us share the pride of the hamburger chef at Joe & May's stand on the arrival of a son and heir and in a column alongside reminds our souls that the Lord God Almighty is weighing us in the balance, considerably disappointed, but still on our side.

Though it be humor to charm, poetic insight to awaken our spirits, or a crusading challenge to right a wrong, his is the gift to make the reader say: "That's how I feel, too." Honored by his fellow newspapermen as the master craftsman of them all in editorial expression, winner of the first and last Florida Press Association's Oscars, he is honored more by those friends who know his courage, integrity, capacity for friendship and ability to laugh. We are all richer that he has compiled this collection of editorials — and for knowing him.

1952 - Ernest Lyons,  
Editor Stuart News

*Syndicated  
National  
Columnists  
acknowledge  
and credit  
Dale Wimbrow,  
author of  
The Guy in  
the Glass*

4C The Miami Herald / Monday, Dec. 5, 1983

## Glass poem had at least 10 authors

**Dear Readers:** William K. Farrell Sr. of Upper Darby, Pa., has produced evidence that the author of *The man in the Glass* is Dale Wimbrow. Will Mr. Wimbrow please stand up — and the hundreds of others who claimed to be the author, please get lost.

**Ann Landers**





# Swamp Cabbage and Angel Wings

Reprinted from 1952...

## A Collection of Editorials

by Dale Wimbrow

The Editorials and Poems in this book were written by Dale Wimbrow, with the exception of "Fifteen sez to Fifty" written by his son Pete Jr. and "Father, Dear Father" written by his daughter Sallydale.

Dale Wimbrow, editor-publisher and owner of "The Indian River News", a weekly newspaper in Florida, wrote the poem "The Guy in the Glass" for a contest held by The American Magazine in answer to a seventeen year old boy's question whether it paid to be honest.

It states the Wimbrow philosophy. St. Joseph's Retreat at Malvern, Pennsylvania gave it as a parting souvenir to each visitor. It has been read twice into the Congressional Records.

The editorial "Bloody Highways" was awarded the first Florida Press Association Editorial "Oscar" (1949) in competition with all Florida newspapers. The editorial "Motor (R)age" was awarded the 1952 Florida Press Association Editorial "Oscar" in competition with all weekly, bi-weekly, tri-weekly and small daily newspapers.

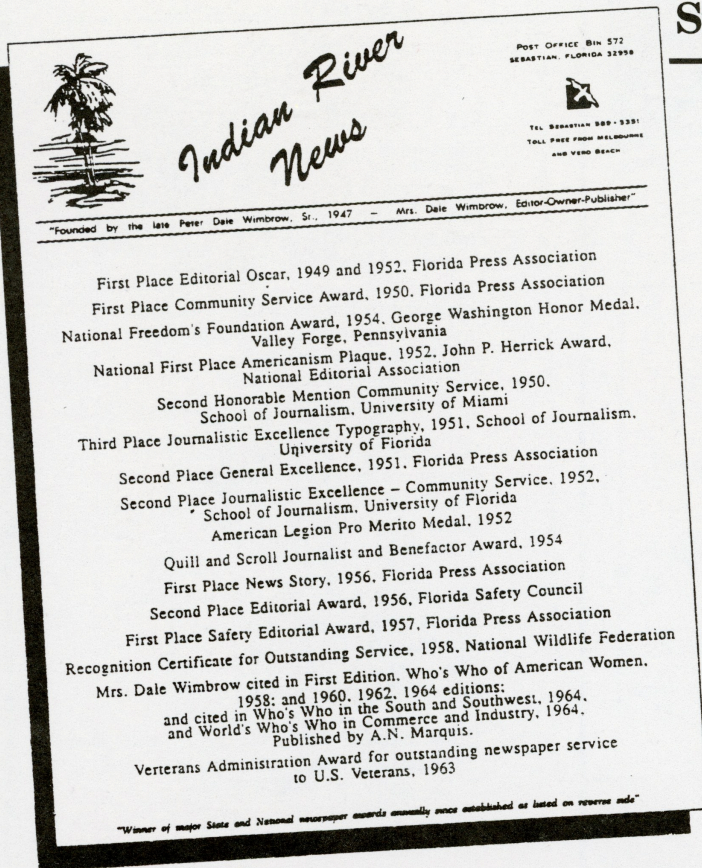
The *Indian River News* was presented with the bronze plaque by the Florida Press Association for the year 1951 as first place award in the State of Florida for "Community Service."

"Our Song of Shame" was read into the Congressional Records in Washington by Florida's Representative Dwight Rogers, and a copy of the poem was presented to each of the Legislators in the Florida Legislature by State Representative Alex MacWilliam.

Dale's editorials and poems have been reprinted and broadcast in many parts of the United States including *The Christian Science Sentinel*, *The Mill Valley (California) Newspaper*, *The Florida Suntime Magazine*, and Radio Stations KFI, Los Angeles, WCAU Philadelphia, and WJZ New York.

The editorials "Don't Have Children-Unless" and "Letter To A Son" were broadcast over KFI by Burritt Wheeler, who received over 600 requests for copies.

Over 11,000 reprints of recent editorials have been sent throughout the country. This collection was printed to supply the steadily increasing requests for additional copies of the editorials and poems.



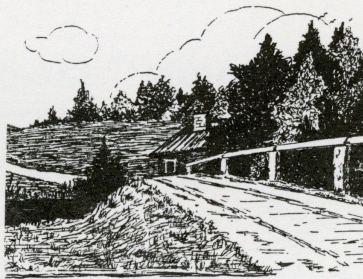
## Diamonds and Glass

by Dale Wimbrow

Oh, many a little chunk of glass  
a-lyin on the groun'  
Has thought itself a diamond while  
the sun was shinin down;  
But when the sun had gone to rest  
and night had cast its shade,  
The flashing colors vanished and  
the light began to fade.  
And many a mortal hunk of clay  
has thought himself sublime  
When luck had turned her fickle  
smile upon him for a time,  
But when she wearied of the mood  
and backed him to the wall,  
He found his hunk of clay was  
only mortal after all.  
For it isn't how we glitter and  
it isn't how we gleam,  
The thing that counts, of course,  
is what we ARE, not what  
we seem.  
Good fortune never made a heart  
of gold from shiny brass,  
And dancing sunbeams never  
made a diamond out of glass.



Circa 1926



*The flowers we  
gave  
When the feller  
was dead  
Neither sweetened  
the grave  
Nor softened the  
bed.*

A SARDINE AND A CRACKER

### *My Religion* MY CHURCH, AND MY CREED

You ask me "what is my religion"?  
Now what if I say I have *None*?  
You'll be wrongly impressed,  
And unduly distressed  
So wait—I have only begun.

My *creed* in the sense that you mean it,  
Has no *single* symbol, or sign.  
Big, impressive, or small,  
There is good in them all,  
So perhaps *Your* religion is mine.

My *doctrine* is any that stands for  
The honor and virtue of men.  
For whatever we preach,  
We're all striving to reach  
A mutual goal in the end.

My *church* is the one that is nearest  
Wherever I happen to be.  
The place where men go  
Their devotion to show,  
Is *good*—and sufficient for me.

What matters the *Name* on the mile posts  
That stand by the path you have trod?  
If the pathway leads UP  
Then at last you shall sup  
With the infinite army of God.

*Dale Wimbrow*

### *"Mending"*

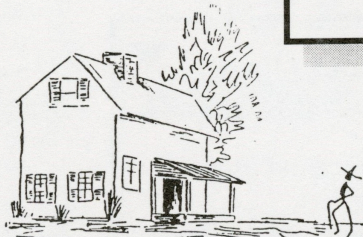
He said his heart was busted, in a thousand mil-  
lion parts.  
His eyes were big with unfamiliar pain.  
And I could not convince him, that these things  
we call our hearts,  
Are pretty tough, and always mend again.

He thot his life was ruined, and his future was in  
doubt.  
"SHE" was the only one he'd ever found.  
And I could not convince him, he was merely find-  
ing out  
The force that makes the universe go round.

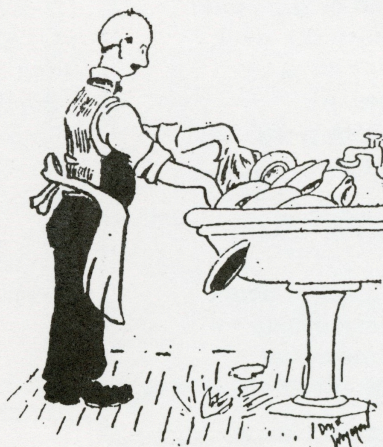
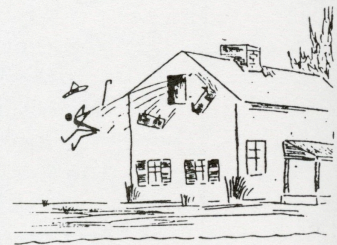
There's few of us, if any, who have lived upon this  
earth,  
Who love but once, and never love again.  
The only way of finding out just what our love is  
worth,  
Is by spending it on someone else—in vain.

For first—you've got to BREAK a heart, to find  
out what's inside.  
To value pride, of pride you must be shorn  
Then midst the wreck of shattered dreams, and  
hopes and wounded pride  
A Better—Finer—Stronger love is born.

*Dale Wimbrow*



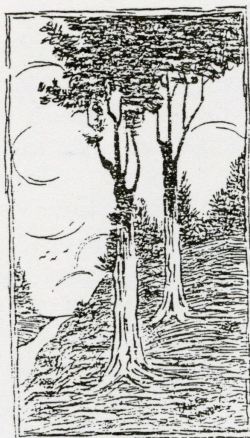
A feller named Tosti from Frye  
Went to see a man's wife on the slye  
But her husband gosh dern!  
Come home outa tern  
An' that was *that* Tosti's :Good-bye."



Yeah -- we usta brag about  
what we were "Goin' to be"--  
Now we brag about what we  
"Usta be"



Life will have its 'ups' and 'downs'  
 Wife o' mine  
 But with smiles where there were frowns  
 Wife o' mine  
 All the dim past, dead and gone,  
 Lies a-mouldering in the dawn,  
 Of the future,—BRING IT ON!"  
 Wife o' mine



Never say to a feller  
 "Hey! Whadda you think I am?"--  
 His opinion an' yours may vary  
 A trifle.

In passing thru a field where grows a  
 bit of everything,  
 Where weed, and sweetest bloom  
 together blows,  
 Suppose that in the mingled growth,  
 a nettle plant should sting,  
 Should I forget the fragrance of the rose?

Respectfully,

*Hale Kimbrow*

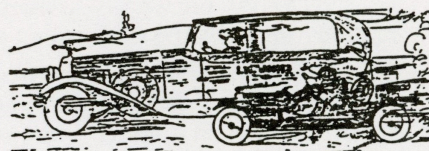
## A SARDINE AND A CRACKER



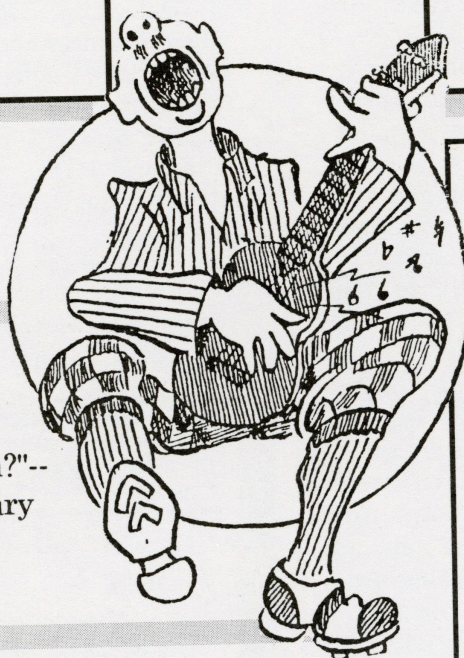
Truth, just like Democracy,  
 And Santa Claus, and Liberty,  
 Is just a name; we read it, and we spell it.  
 It doesn't really mean a thing,  
 Save that it packs a husky sting  
 The minute we begin to try to tell it.

It's all a Waste  
 O' Time

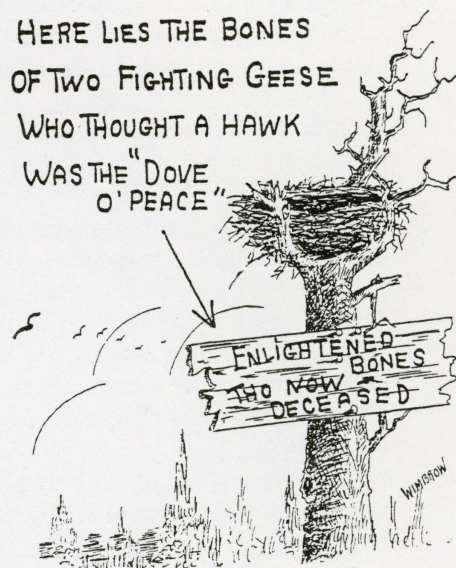
"Trying to keep up with the Jones'es"—  
 It's the curse of cities and towns.  
 You try to keep up with the Jones'es,  
 And the Jones'es up with the Browns.



Don't try to keep up with the Jones'es.  
 You'll just find out if you do,  
 That the Smiths, and the Browns, and the Jones'es  
 Are tryin' to keep up with you.



HERE LIES THE BONES  
 OF TWO FIGHTING GEESE  
 WHO THOUGHT A HAWK  
 WAS THE "DOVE  
 O' PEACE"





## Dale Wimbrow

# A Bear of a Man

by Wanda Hamilton

**H**e was a bear of a man; red-haired, with a hint of gray. He used to come to the soda fountain where I worked after school and weekends. Over the mingled whine of milkshake machines, croon of the jukebox and the buzz of friendly chatter, he made his presence known.

Dale Wimbrow, after a short stopover in Miami, brought his family here in the 40's. He had tasted success; Columbia Records vocal artist, songwriter, nationally-known radio personality, writer philosopher. But the effects of his exposure to chemical gases in France during WWI eventually reduced his voice to a hoarse croak. Added to a shattered broadcasting and singing career, doctors gave him only six months to live. But did he come to Florida to give up?

Not him. Before you could turn around, the long time camera hobbyist had snapped up a job as a photographer at the Naval Air Station in Vero Beach.

Later he opened Wimbrow's Photography. His studio sat catty-cornered across Main Street from the drugstore. Between portrait appointments he would bluster his way over to the soda fountain, grab a cup of coffee, exchange small talk with patrons and fountain employees and entertain them with his good natured humor.

Sometimes, he brought his family in. The soda fountain was a gathering place for the Saturday night, after-the-movie crowd. They came in for ice cream sodas, sundaes or rootbeer floats and to enjoy small town comraderie.

So there I got to know Dale Wimbrow's son, daughter, and wife Dorothy. He and his wife were a study in contrasts; she demure, smiling and he backslapping, chortling, enjoying the moment with gusto. They complemented each other. And you sensed their shared strength.

A strength shared when, earlier, the Wimbrows bought land in a hammock setting south of Sebastian, cleared a space and built a log style house of thick railroad timbers. A sturdy house where their daughter now operates a real estate office.

And there in '47, utilizing talents from his days as the "Mississippi Minstrel" on a New York based program this writer, philosopher and master of the common touch launched a newspaper business.

As editor-publisher of *Indian River News*, his hard hitting editorials soon garnered the paper



Mother & son- Dorothy Wimbrow  
& Peter Dale Wimbrow, Jr.-1953

several first-place awards from the Florida Press Association. Competing with all other Florida newspapers, it grabbed the Association's first ever "Oscar" for a piece called "*Bloody Highways*" in 1949.

Both his editorials and poems have been widely reprinted. Two of his poems were read into the Congressional Record in Washington. One, "*The Guy in The Glass*", reflects the Wimbrow philosophy. First published in *The American Magazine* in 1934, it has since appeared countless times in the print media. Often anonymously.

Dale Wimbrow exemplified the indomitable spirit. He cared about people, community betterment and doing things that count. He busied himself until his death in 1954 with proving it.

We paid tribute with the naming of Dale Wimbrow Park... It's a good place to go, to reflect... and to remember this man who passed our way.

*Sebastian Sun Week of September 28, 1988*

Editor's note: Wanda Hamilton is a local writer whose experience and sensitivity make interesting insights into the history of our area.

## Do You Remember?

### 50 Years Ago

*Vero Beach Press Journal, Sunday, Oct. 11, 1992*

**1942-** Vero Beach musician and poet Dale Wimbrow had composed a new song, "We'll Have to Put It Over Over Here To Put it Over Over There," in honor of the war effort. The song was to be presented on a variety show at radio station WIOD. It was later introduced by Fred Waring.

*Vero Beach Press Journal, Sunday, May 9, 1993*

**1943-** "Le Studio Glammer," opened again by Dale Wimbrow, promised to make all men look like "lamour Pants Gable and all the wimmen like Glamour Puss Garbo."



## My New Friend

I've found the kind o' friend Diogenese was out to find.

The kind that never dares to criticise.

The kind that's always truthful, day or night, or rain or shine.

The kind that never fools a man, or lies.

My friend will never argue, give advice or anything.

My friend can't get despondent, low, or blue, Nor get the least impatient when I raise my voice to sing;

And when I smile, my friend is smiling too.

My friend is not affected by pretense, or gilded sham.

Somehow I know we'll always get along.

And I don't seem to mind it when I'm told just "what" I am

For this new friend o' mine is never wrong.

Yes—I've found the kind o' friend that *everybody* tries to find,

That's faithful winter, summer, spring an' fall.

An' now I'll just explain that this new PERFECT FRIEND o' mine

Is a lookin' glass, that's hangin' on my wall.

## Capsule Biographies

**WIMBROW**, Peter Dale, Sr., editor, pub., artist; b. Whaleyville, MD., June 6, 1895; s. Nutter Jerome and Sallie Mary (Dale) W.; Student Western Md. Coll., 1913; m. Dorothy Comley Livezey, May 30, 1925; children—Sallydale, Peter Dale. Sales mgr. Black & Decker Balt., Southwestern br., 1921-23; dir., writer, composer, singer, actor, announcer, mgr. comm. program, WJZ, WEA, NBC, CBS, WXYZ, Mich. Network, 1925-36; free lance writer, photographer for newspaper, mag., 1936-38; editor, pub., owner Indian River News, Sebastian, FL 1945—Exhbs: Water Colors, Fred Weber & Co., Phila., 1937; portrait Baptist Ch., Miami, 1940. Designer, originals six stringed instrument. Wimbrola, 1929, wood carving, hand carved ivory batons for leading orchestra leaders N.Y.C. Med adv. bd. A.P. Cooke meml. Fund for Cancer Research, Recipient oscars, First Fla. Press Assn. Editorial, 1949, 52; first place community service FL Press Assn. award, 1951, John P. Herrick Nat. Editorial Assn., 1953; citation, Fla. So. Coll., 1953; U. Fla., 1951. Served as Cpl. 115 inf., A.U.S. 1917-19. Mem. FL Press assn., Nat. Editorial Assn. FL Outdoor Writers Assn., Vets Fgn. Wars, Am. Legion (medal 1953), Disabled Am. Vets. Mem. Baptist Ch. Lion. Author: Sardine and a Cracker, 1930; Swamp Cabbage & Angel Wings, 1953, Address: R.1, Indian River County, FL.; Drawer 232, Sebastian, FL.

**WIMBROW**, Mrs. Peter Dale, Sr. (Dorothy L. Wimbrow), newspaperwoman; b. Phila., Jan. 28, 1901; d. Frank William and Nellie (McGloughnan) Livezey; student Pearces' Bus. Coll., 1919-21; m. Peter Dale Wimbrow, May 30, 1925 (dec Jan. 1954); children - Sallydale, Peter Dale. Radio writer, singer, actress, Mich. network, NBC, N.Y.C., 1925-36, also free-lance writer, producer's asso. editor Indian River News, Sebastian, Fla., 1948-54, owner, editor, pub. 1954; editor Pelican Post. Sebastian Highlands Chairman of home service com. Indian River County Chpt. A.R.C., 1946-; mem. Indian River County Adv. Council on Civil Defense; Com.

## ASSIGNMENT OF COPYRIGHT

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

July, 1903-3-8000

VOL. 559 PAGE 19

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that for a valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, THE CROWELL PUBLISHING COMPANY, a Delaware Corporation, does hereby sell, assign, transfer and convey to Dale Wimbrow all its right, title and interest in the copyright accrued by it on the work entitled "The Guy in the Glass" by Dale Wimbrow and published in the hereinafter mentioned issue of THE AMERICAN MAGAZINE, as follows:

| Date of Publication | Date of Copyright | Entry No.    |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| May, 1934           | April 20, 1934    | E No. 223578 |

excepting and reserving, however (other than in the United Kingdom), first serial publication rights in the English language, and in all renewals and extensions of said copyright that may be secured under the laws, now, or hereafter in force and effect in the United States.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said THE CROWELL PUBLISHING COMPANY has caused this instrument to be signed in its corporate name by DENIS O'SULLIVAN, its SECRETARY, and its corporate seal to be hereunto affixed, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of January, 1945

THE CROWELL PUBLISHING COMPANY

By

STATE OF NEW YORK)

ss:

COUNTY OF NEW YORK)

On the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January, in the year 1945, before me personally came DENIS O'SULLIVAN, to me known, who, being by me duly sworn, did depose and say, that he resides at No. 7 Washington Square, New York, N. Y.; that he is the Secretary of THE CROWELL PUBLISHING COMPANY, the Corporation described in and which executed the above instrument; that he knows the seal of said Corporation; that the seal affixed to said instrument is such corporate seal; that it was so affixed by order of the Board of Directors of said Corporation and that he signed his name thereto by like order.

NOTARY PUBLIC, NEW YORK COUNTY  
NEW YORK COUNTY CLERK'S NO. 29  
NEW YORK CO. REGISTER'S NO. 61-W-5  
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES MARCH 30, 1947

Notary Public

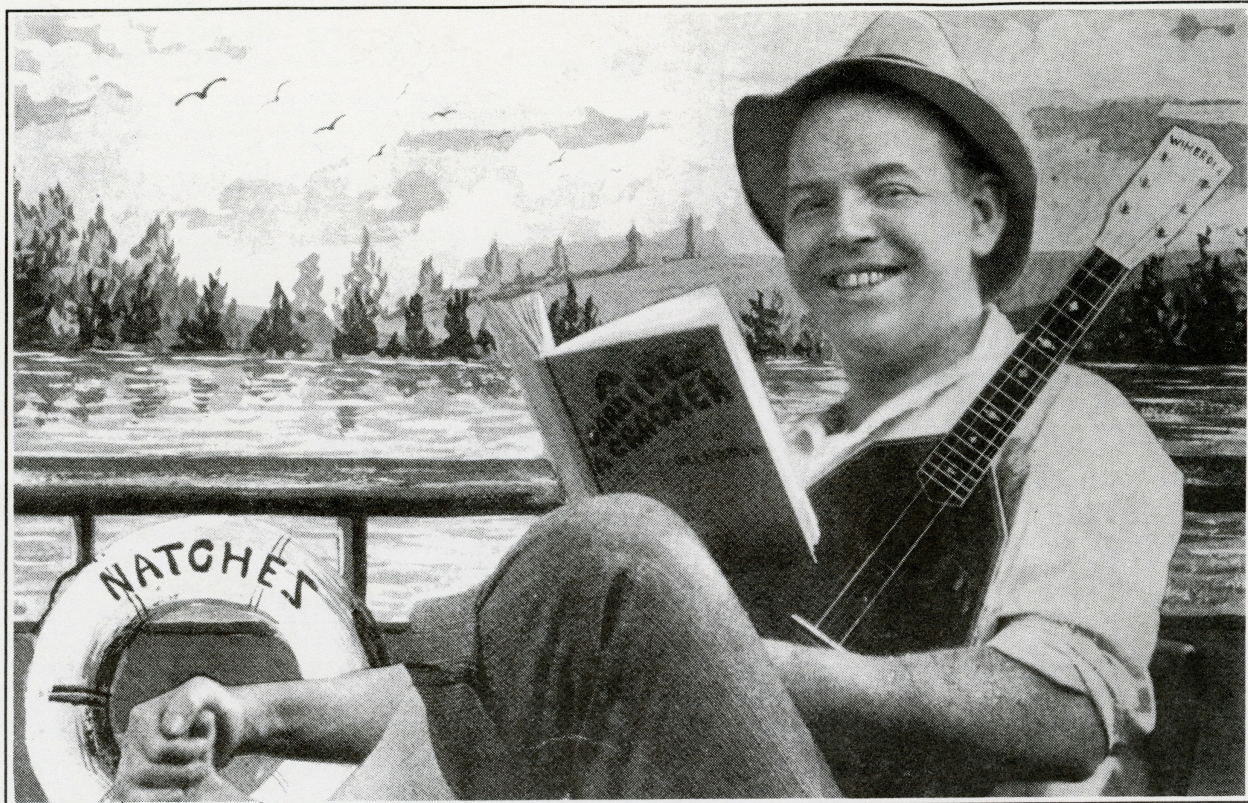
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THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS - WASHINGTON

The foregoing assignment of copyright, dated January 10, 1945, and received for record in the Copyright Office on January 26, 1945, has been recorded in the Copyright Office, Book 559, Page 19, in conformity with the laws of the United States respecting copyrights.

In Witness Whereof, the seal of this Office has been hereunto affixed this sixteenth day of February, 1945.

Bd. Dirs., Indian River Blood Bank, Inc., Indian River County Health and Tb Assn., Indian River County Mental Health Assn.; bd. govs. U. Melbourne, FL 1955-. Recipient Quill and Scroll Journalism and Benefactor award Vero Beach, FL 1954; bronze plaque for best safety editorial FL Press Assn., 1957, Hortense K. Wells Legislative trophy Bus. and Prof. Women's Club 1959; named Woman of the Yr., Bus and Prof. Women's Club, Indian River County, 1961. Mem. Nat. Fedn. Bus. Prof. Women's Club (hon.; v.p. Vero Beach, legislative chmn. 1957-60), FL Vero Beach-Indian River County (mem. congl. action com. 1957-8), Sebastian River Area (mem. bd. dirs. 1957-60), chambers commerce, FL Outdoor Writer Assn., FL Press Assn., FL Women of Press, Vero Beach Little Theatre Guild (v.p.), Nat. League Am. Pen Women Ladies Auxiliary Vets. Fgn. Wars FL legislative chmn. 1953-59, nat. legislative chmn. 1959-60), Inst. Am. Genealogy, Livezey Assn. Episcopalian. Club: Pilot (hon.; pres. Indian River County). Home: Rambling Acres, U.S. Route 1, Indian River County, FL Office: Indian River News, Sebastian, FL.





Peter Dale Wimbrow Sr. 1895 - 1954

*The "Mississippi Minstrel"*

Poet, author, singer, song-writer, humorist,  
philosopher, wood carver, illustrator,  
editor, artist, WWI Veteran

and  
my father.

*Sallydale Wimbrow*

*For More Information*  
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(407)-589-4561