Vignettes

The red drapes had impressed me more than once . . . . Their deep, rich tones of burgundy reminded me of aged wine. They blended harmoniously with the thick cream walls. The velvet of which they were made was as soft as a babe's skin and as mellow as candlelight. How stately they hung; how suggestive of aristocracy. They were created for admiration.

from The Red Drapes
Mary Fekete.

After a close study, her eyes suddenly gave the index to her inner thoughts. They were bright and amber colored, but sometimes her character would slip through for a moment . . . . She was most of all a brilliant, clever woman. All her efforts were centered on proving that the world was willing to be led around by the nose. Thus far, no one had disproved her theory.

from The Club Woman
Patricia Jowitt.

The water glistens from the sun's rays as it slothfully feels its way along. Like a mirror it reflects on its clear, smooth surface the life along its sandy bank, speckled with the white, gray, and red of the rocks which have been lost by the stream.

from The Willows
Catherine M. Bruner.

... The sun slants pleasantly and not too warmly through the trees at the county fairground. The dust has not yet risen, and the paths are not well worn. There is dew on the long grass. Tarpau-

- lins cover the machinery of the ferris wheel, the chair-o-plane, the Lindy loop—all the machines that will upset one's equilibrium. The shabby canvas signs of the freak exhibits, of the scientific displays flap unnoticed in the breeze. There is the sound of hammering, carrying a long way across the Barkerless grounds, and the deeper, steadier clock-clock of great stakes being driven into the grounds for the tent ropes.

from The County Fair
William J. Davey.

Beautiful, pathetically beautiful is the empty grandstand after the football game, with perhaps one pennant still floating proudly, the goalposts standing majestically at either end of the field. These towering sentries stand and stare with arms folded and feet wide apart, mortal enemies who will never do battle.

The shadows of darkness creep over the stadium, and from the benches lining the sides of the field the heroes of yesterday's game run out to play as they did years ago while the stands reverberate with the silent cheers from the ghostly crowd assembled to witness this game played in an empty stadium.

from Football
W. L. Pittman.

Jewels, sparkling, glistening in rays of light, casting reflections of red, blue, purple, yellow, over the walls of the room. Thousands of dollars' worth of jewels in one showcase. Rubies, red as blood; diamonds, glistening like the rain on steel plating; emeralds, as green as the deepest sea; pearls, in warm blue and pink; opals,
sparkling like dew drops on the grass as
the sun strikes them; sapphires, as blue
as a spring sky—a rainbow made of
jewels.

from *A Jeweler's Showcase*
Mary K. Breedlove.

... Below you is the green, soft,
velvety valley, and above you is the
majestic peak and soft baby blue sky.
Even the wind in this higher heaven is
alluringly different. It is light and fluffy
so that you can almost touch it, and its
song is one of celestial beauty. At last
you reach the summit. Glancing around,
you are aware of proud figures of stone
reaching toward the blue heavens. You
are truly beholding one of nature's most

The rows of marigolds and patches of
zinnias, flanked by golden-gleam nastur-
tiums and callendula are now but faded
ghosts of the pageant of color that was
once theirs. The naked, dried vines of
the morning glory that covered the fence
bear little resemblance to the sky-blue
daintiness of the blossoms in summer.
Only a few roses, persistent bloomers,
add a touch of color to the tans and the
browns of death.

from *The Garden*
Patricia Jowitt.