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University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations

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Walter Van Tilburg Clark, nationally known novelist and short story writer, will lecture and read manuscripts at the Montana State University writers' conference during the week of July 16-21, H. V. Larom, director, announced today.

Clark, who has taught creative writing at the University for the last three years, is the author of "The Ox Bow Incident" and "The Track of the Cat", both of which were made into motion pictures. He is also the author of "The City of Trembling Leaves" and a volume of short stories called "The Watchful Gods". He is the winner of an O. Henry award, and his short stories have been reprinted many times in anthologies. "Hook", the story of a desert hawk, was turned into a television show recently, Larom reported, and pictures and text from the program were featured in Life magazine.

"Perhaps even more important to Montanans," Larom said, "has been his tireless work with creative writing students here at the University. He has given many extra hours to youngsters with talent here on the campus, and their enthusiasm for him was shown in the dedication to him of the spring issue of the University magazine, Venture."

As Clark is moving to California this fall, this will be the last chance in some time for Montanans to get his advice on manuscripts and to hear him speak, Larom said. Those wishing to have manuscripts read by Clark or other members of the staff should send them to Larom at the University by July 11th, he added. Others who will be staff members include Louis Vaczek, novelist, and mystery story writer under the name of Peter Hardin; A. J. M. Smith, leading Canadian poet, editor and anthologist; Dorothy M. Johnson, nationally known author and secretary of the Montana Press Association, who will teach non-fiction; and Gladys Bond, of the Idaho Writers' League, a specialist in short stories for children.

As registration must be limited so that the staff can give thoughtful attention to manuscripts, those wishing to register should get in touch with Larom at the University, he said.