

And today, at noon,
her neighbor waved to her
from a stationwagon in the street,
smiling, to say hello.
Nonetheless, and trees
and grass and firehydrants
and fences and Fords
notwithstanding,
she could no longer see.

-- Robert Onopa

Honolulu, Hawaii

Words Words Words

Daily we discuss the front
page news, the war,
the weather,
spilling idle comments
on inflation, sport
and crime.

Which all adds up,
let's face it,
to astonishingly little
more than actually
babbling while
assassinating time.

How It Was

She said her name
was Catherine the Great

and volunteered to prove it
for the proper quid pro quo.

Which wasn't at all
what the doctor had ordered

or anything even
like it.

Besides I was already late
and had only enough for cabfare home.

Not Always for Kissing

Lips are not
always for kissing
nor hands for
holding hands.

Which may account
for certain words
causing some good
hard slaps.

Disaster

You,
invitingly,
that night
flung open wide
your door

while the un-
oiled hinges
creaked and I,
being well-oiled,
fell down stairs.

-- Charles Shaw

New York, New York