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THE FAULKNER NEWSLETTER

& Yoknapatawpha Review

Vol. V, No. 1

January-March 1985

A Checklist

MissQ's Annual Faulkner Issue Heads New List

These titles, reviews and articles on Faulkner make up FN's 18th Checklist:

Boozer, William. "Sound and Fury" Faulkner favorite." *Nashville Banner*. Dec. 8, 1984, A-5. Review of new, corrected edition of *The Sound and the Fury* and first trade edition of *Father Abraham*, both from Random House.

Boyer, Allen. "William Faulkner's Mississippi." *The Washington Post*, June 3, 1984, E-1,5. Travel article looks at Faulkner's Oxford today, finding that the town "has come to terms with Faulkner" but "remains divided on the cottage industry of Faulkneriana," welcoming the Faulkner-related trade of recent years, but not going in "for hard-sell tactics."

Brown, Fred. "Scholars 'shaking hands' with Faulkner." *The Commercial Appeal*, Memphis, Aug. 2, 1984, pp. 1, 11. Reports on 11th annual Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference at the University of Mississippi.

"Faulkner fan's birthday gift a treasure trove for Oxford." *The Commercial Appeal*, Memphis, July 14, 1984, A-3. Report by The Associated Press on the gift last December of 48 pages of unpublished Faulkner poems to the University of Mississippi by Leila Clark Wynn and Douglas C. Wynn of Greenville, Miss.

Friedman, Alan Warren. *William Faulkner*. New York: Frederick Ungar (published November 1984). \$15.50.

Kenner, Hugh. "Genius Came Later." *The New York Times Book Review*, Aug. 12, 1984, p. 26. Review of Faulkner's *Vision in Spring* and *The Origins of Faulkner's Art*, by Judith L. Sensibar (University of Texas Press).

McDowell, Edwin. "Books: Faulkner Scripts For Film on de Gaulle." *The New York Times*, Oct. 30, 1984, C-13. Reports on December 1984 publication by University Press of Mississippi of Faulkner's *The De Gaulle Story*, Vol. III of *Faulkner: A Comprehensive Guide to the Brodsky Collection*, edited by Louis Daniel Brodsky and Robert W. Hamblin.

"Publishing: A University Press Will Release Faulkner Poems." *The New York Times*, Aug. 17, 1984, p. 21. Reports on planned publication next spring by Gorgas Oak Press, an imprint of the Institute for the Book Arts at the University of Alabama, of the Faulkner poems given to the University of Mississippi by the Douglas C. Wynns of Greenville, Miss.

Meriwether, James B., editor. William Faulkner Special Issue, *The*

(Continued Page 4)

Where's the Tent?

My dear young friend:-----

Will you kindly have the kindness to kindly try to remember if you and I didnt carry Lee Baggett's tent out to his house in our white mule the same afternoon we taken mr eD daVIDidson'S tent back?

If we did, try to recall whom we returned it to, and if it warn't us, see Mr Bill Hume and ask him what he done with it. Seems to me I remember seeing that tent on top of his Ford that day----or maybe it was Bill Henry Hutchinson's face I seen.

I b3en P*acti)cln- on n7 Typxw3iter e'vever?y day andd 7 h(ve tpxen afwe lexxon? andd onw 7 a5 grtt7ng prtte p!rrrrk GOOD.

Remember me to the old lady, tell her weemet oncet in Omahaw or one of them Indian places. Maybe Indiana, and for she not to take no wooden knickles.

(Subscribed to and swore before me, a Noterary Publick for the countey of Lafayettette, this the b3yhb half past eight of March, r s v p 2519.

You can jest hand her the quarter. I already give her nine.

B-I

WAGGISH LETTER from Faulkner to younger brother Dean Falkner in March 1925 is strongly suggestive of the jocular rapport between the aspiring author and the sibling. The letter, having to do with the return of tents that they had borrowed for a camping trip, is believed to have been written on Faulkner's return to New Orleans after visits in Oxford and Memphis.

— Courtesy Dean Faulkner Wells Collection

Remembering Faulkner

Memories of Farming and Barbecues With a Good Samaritan Book Writer

By WILLIAM BOOZER

Willie Payne Wilson is 73 and has fond memories of a one-time landlord named William Faulkner.

So does Albert A. Smith, 76.

The two live about a mile from each other now, off State Route 15 between New Albany and Blue Mountain, Miss.

It was there, in Wilson's cabin on a Mississippi hill and Smith's new yellow brick bungalow, that they thought back in recent interviews with *The Faulkner Newsletter* to their days at Greenfield Farm when they knew William Faulkner and John Faulkner.

Albert Smith began working at Greenfield when Faulkner purchased the farm in 1938 and "worked there off and on" for several years, "mostly cutting ditch banks and things like that."

"I didn't live on the farm," Smith said. "I just worked there."

And what does he recall of that place and the Faulknors?

"Well, I remember the nice treatment we got at the store [the farm's commissary]. They operated that store on cash or credit, it didn't matter. And I remember the picnics and the barbeques out there. Real nice.

(Continued Page 2)

De Gaulle Story

Faulkner Free France Scripts Are Published

(Editor's Note — This feature by Jane E. Allen of the Jackson, Miss. Bureau of The Associated Press appeared recently in The Clarion Ledger—Jackson Daily News and other newspapers and is used here by permission. The De Gaulle Story is Volume III of Faulkner: A Comprehensive Guide to the Brodsky Collection, edited by Louis Daniel Brodsky and Robert W. Hamblin. It was published last month by University Press of Mississippi in cooperation with the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi.)

By JANE E. ALLEN

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — Louis Daniel Brodsky opened a hidden desk compartment in a California house last year and stumbled on 400 pages of original movie manuscripts by William Faulkner.

"I recognized instantly Faulkner's own minute idiosyncratic printing in the inclusions and deletions, arrows and strikeouts and shiftings and page numberings," said Brodsky, a poet, Faulkner scholar and owner of a private collection of the famed author's works. "I pulled back the wad of loose sheets, letting air and light fall around a script entitled 'The De Gaulle Story.' Below this script was a second one with the identical title, and below it a third in brown wrappers entitled 'Battle Cry,' [also] by Faulkner" he recently told Faulkner scholars meeting at the University of Mississippi.

Publication of *The De Gaulle Story* comes 40 years after Gen. Charles De Gaulle returned to help liberate his country from Vichy French and Nazi occupying troops.

The scripts were written in 1942 while Faulkner was under contract to Warner Bros. Pictures.

Although "The De Gaulle Story" never was filmed, the early drafts and accompanying documents reveal where Oxford's Nobel laureate directed his energies from 1942 to 1945.

Best known for such novels as *Absalom, Absalom!*, *The Sound and the Fury* and *As I Lay Dying*, the 1950 Nobel Prize winner also was a screenwriter. Faulkner wrote such war movies of the 1930s as "Today We Live" and "The Road to Glory."

During World War II, the writer expressed his patriotism by joining the battery of Hollywood war epic writers. At Warner Bros., Faulkner shared

(Continued Page 3)

Remembering Faulkner: A Good Samaritan Book Writer

(From Page 1)

"You ought to go out the road there and talk to Willie Wilson. He lived on the farm and worked there longer."

And so we did, accompanied by W.O. Rutledge Jr., retired editor and publisher of the *New Albany Gazette*.

The William Faulkner who Willie Wilson remembers was "a book writer," "a hunter," "a good Samaritan," and "a money maker."

Willie and his father, Payne Wilson, "came with" the 320-acre farm in Lafayette County's Beat Two, 17 miles northeast of Oxford, when Faulkner bought the place. Willie had married there six years before. The family lived "in the upper house, on the north side."

"To tell you the truth, I talked more with Mr. John than I did with Mr. William," Willie Wilson said early in the visit. "Mr. John has two fine sons. He ran that store there on the place, and I never knew him to dun anybody to pay a bill."

And yes, he knew Uncle Ned Barnett.

"Uncle Ned would stay there on the farm when Mr. William would have one of those sick spells. Mr. William would stay in that little house for a week of vacation occasionally.

"Mr. William was a good Samaritan. He gave a lot to the colored people. He would give to the poor folks, and he was a friend to the poor. He gave my daddy a lifetime home on that farm, and every Christmas he gave him a pint of whiskey.

"My daddy was down with the dropsy. Died with it. Mr. William said man is not supposed to suffer if he lives right. Said he had written a book about that. He may have got that from Hezekiel, who prayed and God gave him 15 more years."

Willie Wilson remembers the goat and beef barbecues, and a William Faulkner who "was more interested in mules and other livestock than he was in growing crops." And he remembers the corn whiskey and the bonded kind.

"There were some hands on the farm there that would get drunk and get in jail. Mr. William would bail them out, but he wouldn't uphold them.

"Mr. William would take a drink himself, but he would go home and do it and stay there. He would never meet the folks when he wasn't right. He wouldn't get drunk like other people. He'd know you. He never did get out of his head."

"Why do you suppose he drank?"

"I guess to give his mind a rest," said Willie Wilson. "He was a smart man. And he was a money maker.

"He was a fine man. So was Mr. John."



Albert A. Smith (left) and Willie Payne Wilson

—Photo by W. Allen Stanford

Faulkner Journal to Premiere in September

A new biannual publication devoted to Faulkner Studies, *The Faulkner Journal*, will make its debut next September.

The scholarly journal will be published each academic year on September 15 and March 15, Managing Editor Charles M. Oliver reports.

Co-editors are James B. Carothers of the University of Kansas and John T. Matthews of Boston University. Making up an editorial board are Joseph

Blotner, University of Michigan; James Hinkle, San Diego State University; Thomas L. McHaney, Georgia State University, and Noel Polk, University of Southern Mississippi.

Subscriptions are \$9 a year for individuals in the United States, and may be made through Charles M. Oliver at Ohio Northern University, Ada, Ohio 45810. Annual library and foreign rates are \$15.

THE FAULKNER NEWSLETTER
& Yoknapatawpha Review

Lawrence Wells
Publisher

William Booser
Editor

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Thank You

WITH THIS ISSUE, *The Faulkner Newsletter* begins its fifth year. The editor and the publisher wish to thank the many readers who have made important contributions to the quarterly to date. Faulkner Studies and understanding and appreciation of the man and his work have been enriched by these contributions, from as far away as Paris and Yokohama and Moscow.

In thanking these contributors and our subscribers, we again invite all readers to share any materials and insights relating to our subject. Your notes, critical articles, features, reviews, inquiries, photographs, copies of documents, suggestions and (when we are in error, for which we strive for infrequency) your corrections are always welcome.

Thank you.
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

CALL FOR PAPERS

THE TWELFTH ANNUAL FAULKNER AND YOKNAPATAWPHA CONFERENCE

The University of Mississippi

July 28 - August 2, 1985

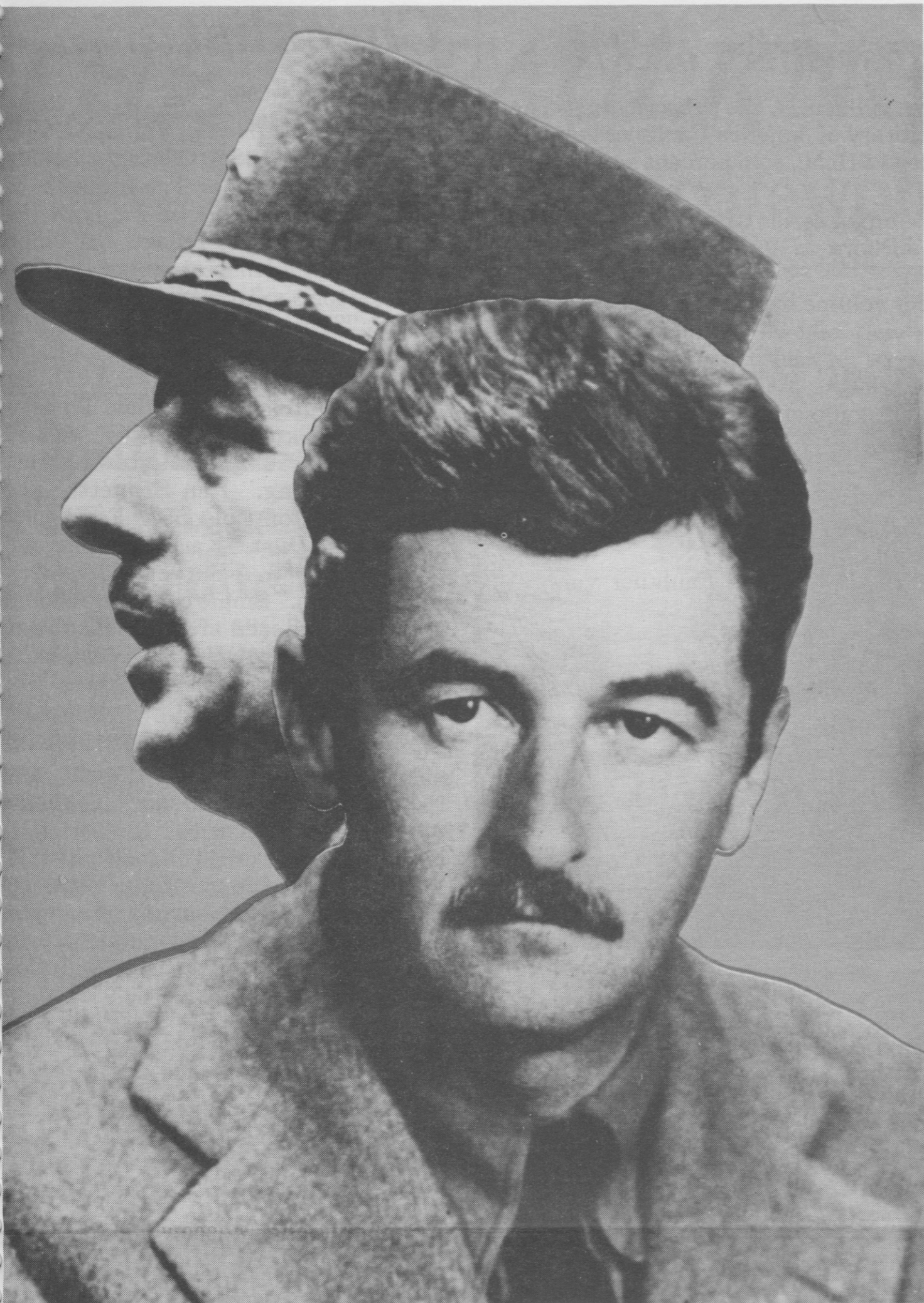
"Faulkner and Women" is the topic of the Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference to be held on the Oxford campus of the University of Mississippi July 28 through August 2, 1985. The Department of English is issuing a call for papers on any aspect of this topic. We encourage wide-ranging and diverse interpretations of the conference topic. Such interpretations might include Faulkner's characterization of women, his attitude toward women, male-female relationships in the fiction, sexual identity in Faulkner's works, and feminist criticism of Faulkner.

Authors whose papers are selected for presentation at the conference will receive (1) a waiver of the conference registration fee, (2) lodging in the University Alumni House from July 28 through August 2, and (3) reimbursement of travel expenses (20¢ per mile by automobile or tourist-class air fare). Papers presented at the conference will be published by the University Press of Mississippi.

Manuscripts (3000-5000 words) must be submitted by January 15, 1985. Notification of selection will be made by March 1, 1985. Manuscripts and inquiries about papers should be addressed to Professor Doreen Fowler, Department of English, The University of Mississippi, University, MS 38677. Telephone: 601/232-7684.

Other inquiries about the conference should be addressed to Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha, Center for the Study of Southern Culture, The University of Mississippi, University, MS 38677. Telephone: 601/232-5993.





DUST JACKET ART depicts Faulkner and Charles De Gaulle for *The De Gaulle Story*. The 400-page volume includes "Journey Toward Dawn," Faulkner's story outline, his story and revised story treatments, the first complete screenplay, the revised screenplay, and related documents. The work is available from University Press of Mississippi at the address shown below, at \$35 clothbound and \$14.95 in paperback.

✦ The De Gaulle Story By William Faulkner

Never before published, an original screenplay Faulkner wrote for Warner Bros. in 1942. Volume three of *Faulkner: A Comprehensive Guide to the Brodsky Collection*, edited by Louis Daniel Brodsky and Robert W. Hamblin. \$35.00

✦ Faulkner: International Perspectives Edited by Doreen Fowler and Ann J. Abadie

Papers assessing the international reputation and pervasive influence of William Faulkner upon world literature. *Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Series*, 1982. \$22.50 cloth, \$12.95 paper

✦ New Directions in Faulkner Studies Edited by Doreen Fowler and Ann J. Abadie

Southern traditionalist? Primitive? Romantic realist? Realist with a moral message? These old classifications for Faulkner and his fiction are set aside, as leading Faulknerians show his aesthetic dimensions and modernism. *Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Series*, 1983. \$25.00 cloth, \$14.95 paper

☛ University Press of Mississippi
3825 Ridgewood Road/Jackson, MS 39211

The De Gaulle Story . . .

(From Page 1)

credit for "The Life and Death of a Bomber," "Battle Cry" and "To Have and Have Not."

According to Robert Buckner, the producer of the De Gaulle project, President Roosevelt suggested the movie idea to studio head Jack Warner as a way to enhance the public image of De Gaulle, a prospective ally against Adolph Hitler.



Brodsky

On July 27, 1942, Warner Bros. hired Faulkner to write a screenplay based on De Gaulle's life.

In many ways, it was a labor of love for the southerner. Faulkner adored France. He read French poetry and had visited the country in 1925.

In his own abstract of the script, Faulkner wrote: "This is the story of Free France, told in the simple terms of a Breton village: the collapse of France and the hopes of and struggle for rejuvenation as seen through the eyes of villagers, told by means of village characters who are themselves the common denominator of France...It is a thesis that lust and greed and force can never conquer the human spirit."

Robert W. Hamblin, a professor at Southeast Missouri State University and co-editor of the Brodsky series, said Faulkner's admiration of the courageous Free French fight against the Nazis "contributed significantly to Faulkner's faith in man's capacity to endure and prevail."

Hamblin said the manuscript "provides an important, previously missing

link between the work of Faulkner's middle and later years."

Brodsky contends that Faulkner's scripts will "dispel the myth he was a crappy screenwriter," and was creatively fallow while living in California.

"The De Gaulle Story" is very special because it appears to be the only original full-length script which Faulkner wrote without compositional collaboration," Brodsky added.

In editing their book, Hamblin and Brodsky tried to determine why the film was never produced. They say the disenchantment of Roosevelt and Winston Churchill with De Gaulle was one hindrance, along with the difficulty of finding an actor to portray the French leader.

The studio turned its back on Faulkner's script, which resurfaced more than 35 years later in the rare book market.

Brodsky first acquired more than 2,500 pages of Faulkner materials that escaped a 1977 purge of Warner Bros. archives. The Missouri collector paid a California dealer about \$120,000 in 1983 for the lot, which included a full-length typed film script of "The De Gaulle Story."

Soon after his purchase, Brodsky received a telephone call from a Hollywood scriptwriter, Albert I. Bezzerides, who had provided Faulkner with a place to live in 1944-45 when both were under contract to Warner Bros.

During a visit to Bezzerides' home in Woodland Hills, Calif., Brodsky found the hand-corrected manuscript, as well as background materials that had spent years in mildewed boxes "stacked from floor to ceiling."

"All at once," Brodsky recalled, "I realized the monumentality of what I was holding."

These Six "Dirty" Books Had Problems in Philly, Elsewhere

Toby Holtzman of Southfield, Mich. shares the following entry in *Banned Books: Informal Notes on Some Books Banned for Various Reasons at Various Times and in Various Places*, by Anne Lyon Haight, New York: R.R. Bowker Co., 1955, second edition. The author, like so many, found a different spelling for *Soldiers' Pay*:

FAULKNER, WILLIAM. (1897-) *Soldier's Pay*, 1926.
Mosquitoes, 1927.
Sanctuary, 1931.
Pylon, 1935.
The Wild Palms, 1939.
The Hamlet, 1940.

1948 United States-Philadelphia: After a complaint from a Fundamentalist minister that obscene books were being sold, the Chief Inspector of the Vice Squad assigned a patrolman to investigate. He bought about twenty-five books and marked the so-called improper words and passages—thus becom-

ing the judge of what the people of Philadelphia should read. A raid without warrant followed on fifty-four bookshops and approximately 2,000 alleged obscene books were seized including *Mosquitoes*, *Sanctuary* and *The Wild Palms*. While action was pending the police obtained warrants for the arrest of five booksellers and indictments against nine books.

1949 Judge Bok dismissed the indictments against the booksellers and said that the books "were an obvious effort to show life as it was."

1950 Sweden-Stockholm: Faulkner was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature.

1954 *Sanctuary*, *Pylon* and *Soldier's Pay* on the disapproved list of the National Organization of Decent Literature, and were also condemned by many local censorship boards throughout the country.

Ireland: Most of the author's writings banned.

Library of America To Launch Faulkner Series This Spring

The first volume in a projected Collected Works of Faulkner in uniform hardcover editions has been announced by The Library of America for this spring.

Coming on April 1 will be *Novels 1930-1935*, edited by Joseph Blotner. As the title suggests, the volume will consist of *As I Lay Dying*, *Sanctuary*, *Light in August* and *Pylon*.

It will be the 25th volume in the LOA series, and the first of a 20th Century writer.

Cheryl Hurley, executive director of LOA, has reported that contents for subsequent volumes of Faulkner have not been finalized, "but we do plan to publish something close to a complete Faulkner eventually."

This would amount to six or eight volumes in the Library's format, Ms. Hurley told *The Faulkner Newsletter*.

(A discount on the Faulkner volumes to subscribers of *FN* is offered by LOA with the accompanying order form. The discounted price of \$16.50 is a 40 percent savings off the retail price of \$27.50.)

"We have tentatively scheduled a second Faulkner volume for spring 1987," Ms. Hurley said. "This might be a volume of the early novels, 1926-1929," pending the necessary rights. "Otherwise, we will compile a volume of novels beginning with *Absalom, Absalom!*"

LOA planners of the series hope after the first Faulkner volume to offer his remaining works essentially in chronological order of their original publication. A volume devoted to short stories is also projected.

Novels 1930-1935 will have about 1,100 pages in the LOA's attractive format, on acid-free paper.

The LOA is a non-profit publishing program supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Ford Foundation. The series is distributed to bookstores by The Viking Press and is available by subscrip-

Rowan Oak Pictorial History is Planned

A pictorial history of Rowan Oak is in preparation by William Boozer, editor of *FN*, for 1986 publication by University Press of Mississippi.

Seetha Srinivasan, executive editor of UPM, said the book will be issued in stiff wrappers similar in format to *The Heritage of Longwood* by William L. Whitwell, published by UPM in 1975 and now in third printing.

Planned for the general reader and moderately priced, the volume will be illustrated with color and black-and-white photographs. It will trace the history of the property since the house was built in the 1840s, with emphasis on Faulkner's ownership and improvements as well as renovations by the University of Mississippi, the present owner, since Faulkner's death in 1962.

Persons having photographs or pertinent documents, or who may be interested in contributing to the volume in other ways, are asked to contact Boozer at 739 Clematis Drive, Nashville, Tenn. 37205, telephone 615-356-5150.

Special Offer to Subscribers of *FN*

Through a special arrangement with the publishers, the subscribers to *The Faulkner Newsletter* may purchase the Library of America Faulkner volume, *Novels 1930-1935*, at the discounted price of \$16.50, a 40 percent savings off the retail price of \$27.50.

The Library of America is the award-winning series that presents the collected works of America's foremost authors in uniform, authoritative editions.

Edited by Joseph Blotner, the Faulkner volume brings together *As I Lay Dying*, *Sanctuary*, *Light in August* and *Pylon*. Like all volumes in the series, it will be beautifully printed in legible type on acid-free paper, with sewn imported cloth bindings and a ribbon marker.

To take advantage of this special offer, complete this coupon and mail it with your check to the address provided.

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tion through Time-Life Books.

Volumes purchased in bookstores have dust jackets, while those purchased through Time-Life Books are in slipcases.

Previously published by LOA have been volumes of Henry Adams, Emerson, Hawthorne, William Dean Howells, Washington Irving, Henry James, Jack London, Melville, Francis Parkman,

Harriet Beecher Stowe, Mark Twain, Walt Whitman, Stephen Crane, Thomas Jefferson and Edgar Allan Poe. On the spring 1985 publication schedule with Faulkner are James Fenimore Cooper and Henry David Thoreau. Coming this fall will be volumes of Benjamin Franklin and Edith Wharton and additional works of Emerson and Henry James.

These Swann Auctions Included Faulkner

First printings of 14 Faulkner titles or items were sold at auctions at Swann Galleries in New York in May and September 1984.

On May 24, a copy of *Notes on a Horsethief* brought \$350. First trade editions, in chipped dust jackets, of *Go Down, Moses* and *Pylon* were sold at \$60 and \$45, respectively.

The items listed below brought these prices at a sale on September 20:

Notes on a Horsethief, \$540; *Light in August* (excellent copy), \$425; *Mirrors of Chartres Street* (owner's signature

and notation on front free endpaper), \$140; *Intruder in the Dust* (defective) and *Big Woods*, together, \$120; *Requiem for a Nun*, \$90; *Go Down, Moses*, (frayed dust jacket), \$70; *The Wild Palms* (minor stains on pastedowns and minimal dj wear), \$70; *Contempo*, Vol. 1, No. 17 (Feb. 1, 1932) and Vol. II, No. 2 (May 25, 1932), together, \$35, and *The Town*, \$25.

(See *FN*, Vol. IV, No. 3 [July-September 1984], for report on five Faulkner titles sold at auction at Swann Galleries on Jan. 12, 1984.)

Checklist. . .

(From Page 1)

Mississippi Quarterly, Vol. XXXVII, No. 3 (Summer 1984). Contents include "Balzac and Faulkner: The Influence of *La Comédie humaine* on *Flags in the Dust* and the Snopes Trilogy," by Philip Cohen; "Moral Housecleaning' and Colonel Sartoris's Dream," Nancy Dew Taylor; "Truth and Justice in *Knight's Gambit*," W.E. Schlepper; "The Later Faulkner, Bergson, and God," Mick Gidley; "Dutch and Belgian Translations of Faulkner: A Checklist," Petra M. Gallert; "Faulkner's Borrowing from a Popular Song," Ken Bennett; "The Joan Heppleton Episode in Faulkner's *Flags in the Dust*," Karl F. Knight, and "Faulkner 1983: A Survey of Research and Criticism." Single copies are \$3 and may be ordered from *MissQ* at Mississippi State University, Box 5272, Mississippi State, Miss. 39762.

"Mr. Faulkner's Oxford." *Southern Living*, Vol. 19, No. 8 (August 1984), pp. 46, 47. Brief look at Oxford today, and the annual Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference.

Mydans, C. 8 x 11 3/4 inch photo of Faulkner by Mydans (*Life*, 1962) appears with December in *American Writers '85*, calendar published by Pomegranate Artbooks, Box 980, Corte Madera, Calif. 94925. \$7.95.

Oates, Stephen B. "In Pursuit of William Faulkner." *Contact* (March-April, 1984), pp. 25-29. The book "treatment," or prospectus, for a projected biography of Faulkner, which won for Oates a contract with Harper & Row.

Silver, James W. *Running Scared: Silver in Mississippi*. Numerous references to Faulkner. Appendix includes "Faulkner and the Teaching of History," a paper read at the Southern Historical Association meeting in Miami Beach in 1972 and in 1973 at a ODK-Mortar Board forum at the University of Mississippi. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, Published Aug. 15, 1984. xiii+238 pp. \$14.95.

Williamson, Joel. *The Crucible of Race: Black-White Relations in the American South Since Emancipation*. Several references to Faulkner, including treatment of his "usual unflinching instinct for truth about the South." New York: Oxford University Press, 1984. xviii+561 pp. \$25.

Yoshizaki, Yasuhiro. *Faulkner's Theme of Nature*. Kyoto: Yamaguchi Shoten. iii + 163 pp. \$15. (To order, send foreign postal order to Yamaguchi Shoten, 72 Tsukudacho, Ichijoji, Sakyoku, Kyoto 606, Japan; add \$6.50 for air mail charge.)

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