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Calliope's Comments

News & Views of the Department of English,
Hollins College, Virginia, 24020

Vol. III, No. 2

May, 1967

PROFESSOR JOHN ALEXANDER ALLEN has been named Acting Chairman of the English Department beginning July 1. He will succeed Professor LOUIS D. RUBIN, JR., who has resigned after ten years at Hollins to become professor of English at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill.

Mr. Allen, whose promotion to full professor will be effective as of July 1, is a native of Chevy Chase, Md. He did his undergraduate work at Swarthmore College (B.A.), took the B.A. and the M.A. at Oxford University in England, and the Ph.D. at the University of North Carolina. He came to Hollins in 1955 after teaching at the University of Rochester. At Hollins he now teaches both a senior and an introductory course in Shakespeare, Beginning and Advanced Creative Writing, and Introduction to English Literature. For the past several years he has also taught Chaucer. A prolific poet, he publishes his poetry in such magazines as The New Yorker, The Atlantic, The Reporter, The Southern Review, etc. If you haven't already done so, be sure to read his article on teaching creative writing in the May issue of the Alumnae Magazine.

Mr. Rubin came to Hollins in 1957, succeeding MARY VINCENT LONG as chairman in 1959. He has been teaching American Literature, the Modern Novel, and Advanced Creative Writing. He counts it high among his many blessings that during the period of his chairmanship, the Hollins English Department has become one of the best in the country (the best, he thinks modestly.) He is gratified at being able to leave the Department in such good hands, and in such good shape.

#

GEORGE PALMER GARRETT, novelist, poet, critic, and teacher extraordinary, will join the English Department for the second term next year, commuting from Charlottesville to teach the Modern Novel course. Then, beginning in 1968-1969, he will move to Hollins and take up permanent duties as Director of the Department's Graduate Program and of its Creative Writing Sequence, as Professor of English. He will teach a full load of courses for one term each year, and take part in the Advanced Creative Writing seminar during the other.

He is author of numerous books of poetry and fiction, the most recent being his novel, Do Lord Remember Me (Doubleday and Co., 1966). A native of Orlando, Florida, he holds the B.A. and the M.A. from Princeton, and he has taught at Wesleyan University, Rice University, and, most recently, the University of Virginia, from whose English staff he resigned in January. He has held a Sewanee Review Fellowship,

the Prix de Rome of the American Academy, a Ford Foundation Fellowship, and--- currently---a fellowship from the National Foundation for the Arts and Humanities.

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SERVING AS ACTING DIRECTOR of the Master of Arts program in Literary Criticism, Creative Writing, and Contemporary Literature will be Assistant Professor RICHARD H.W. DILLARD. A native Roanoker, he is a graduate of Roanoke College and holds the doctorate from the University of Virginia. His first book of poems, The Day I Stopped Dreaming About Barbara Steele and Other Poems, was published by the University of North Carolina Press last fall. (We trust that most of you saw the extensive review of the book in a recent New York Times Book Review, complete with photograph of Dillard and his dog Oliver.)

#

FINALIST IN THE NATIONAL Book Award competition for poetry this year was The Tin Can and Other Poems, by WILLIAM JAY SMITH, 1965-1966 writer-in-residence who will come back to join us permanently in the fall as Professor of English. Mr. Smith will be teaching Humanities, two of the new freshman colloquia, and seminars in the Poetry of Symbolism and Dante.

#

WHAT WITH THE MESSRS. GARRETT AND SMITH joining us, we now have no less than six (6) publishing poets in our 12-man department! In addition to GARRETT, SMITH, ALLEN and DILLARD, we have JULIA RANDALL SAWYER, whose most recent book was The Puritan Carpenter (U.N.C. Press, 1965), and JEAN FARLEY WHITE, instructor in English this year, whose poems have been widely published of late (the most recent was in The New Yorker). "Sir," said Samuel Johnson about Pembroke College, Oxford, "we are a nest of singing birds." "Sir," we might reply, "the same goes for us."

#

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR JESSE ZELDIN takes on new responsibilities as chairman of the newly-created Russian Area Studies major at Hollins. He will supervise interdisciplinary work in various fields of Russian Studies, while continuing to offer his heavily-enrolled two-term course in the Russian and Soviet Novel.

He will also teach his course in the Renaissance (Eng. 314) as one of the core courses in the newly-created English-French Literature Major. This major, offered by the English and French departments in collaboration, will permit the student who is fluent in French as well as English to concentrate her major studies on the interrelationship of literature in English and French. It ought to be especially popular among returning Hollins Abroaders, since it will enable them to relate their work in France directly to their major studies at Hollins.

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MALCOLM COWLEY AND SHELBY FOOTE will be the writers-in-residence for 1967-1968, each for one term. Mr. Cowley, distinguished critic and poet, is one of the key

figures in 20th century American literary history. He went to Paris in the 1920s, wrote Exile's Return after his return to the country, edited the book reviews and wrote the weekly lead review for The New Republic all during the 1930s, and in the 1940s collected the work of William Faulkner into a Viking Portable edition, thereby touching off the Faulkner revival of the present day---almost all of Faulkner's novels were out of print at the time. Recently the Southern Illinois University Press brought out a collection of the most memorable of Mr. Cowley's New Republic pieces of the 1930s, entitled Think Back On Us.

Shelby Foote has been at work for the past decade on a multi-volumed history of the Civil War, of which two volumes have thus far appeared---and have been generally recognized as among the finest work ever published on the Civil War. He is also a distinguished novelist; his books include Follow Me Down, Tournament, Shiloh, Jordan County, and Love In A Dry Season. He is a native of Mississippi, and lives in Memphis, Tennessee.

Both Messrs. Cowley and Foote will lecture in various courses during their stay with us, and will sit in on the Advanced Writing Seminar.

#

RETURNING TO HOLLINS after an absence of four years, three of them as director of the Hollins Abroad program in Paris and the last on leave of absence, will be Associate Professor STUART H.L. DEGGINGER. He will be teaching Humanities, Chaucer, Medieval Literature, and History of the English Language.

#

THE NEW MAJORS. Members of the rising junior class, the Class of 1969, have declared themselves English majors to the number of 43 (out of 244 future juniors), and three others of the class have elected the new English-French Literature major. They are:

English

Jo Ann Almy, Short Hills, N. J.	Gayle Johnson, Perrysburg, Ohio
Linda Anderson, Brooklyn, N. Y.	Edith Johnston, Montgomery, Ala.
Sally Baskin, Greenville, Miss. (H.A.)	Harriet Jones, Alexandria, Va. (H.A.)
Elise Berger, Charlottesville, Va.	Rachel Lavoie, South Portland, Maine
Jennifer Brown, Dallas, Texas	Marley Lott, Greenwood, Miss.
Chris Butler, Columbus, Ga.	Nancy McGlasson, Lynchburg, Va.
Mariya Butler, Asheville, N. C.	Mary Marston, Greenwich, Conn.
Sharon Coffin, Bethesda, Md.	Molly Massie, Richmond, Va.
Lynda L. Cole, Barbourville, Ky.	Ann Payne, Shreveport, La.
Susan Cook, Short Hills, N. J.	Ann Pfingst, Louisville, Ky.
Dorothy Conkling, Montpelier, Vt.	Paula Phillips, Huntsville, Tex.
Sharon Donovan, New York, N. Y.	Dulane Ponder, Atlanta, Ga.
Elizabeth Fentress, Villanova, Pa.	Catherine Powers, Poland, Ohio
Myra Ficklen (H.A.), Greenville, N. C.	Pamela Powers, Hollidayburg, Pa. (H.A.)
Mary Flinn, Richmond, Va.	Laura Robinson, Vero Beach, Va.
Claude Fouke, St. Louis, Mo.	Nancy Roosevelt, Far Hills, N. J. (H.A.)
Katherine Gibson, Shreveport, La.	Elizabeth Saunders, Lynchburg, Va. (H.A.)
Donna Harrington, Oxford, Miss.	Ana Torstenson, Moline, Ohio (H.A.)

Sarah Trott, Cincinnati, Ohio
Virginia Turnbull, New York, N. Y.
Janet Vanderpool, Monroe, La. (H.A.)
Elizabeth Volck, Port Washington, L.I., N.Y.

Florence White, New Orleans, La.
Nancy Wright, Barrington, Ohio
Sarah Yuille, Charlottesville, Va.

English-French Literature

Deborah L. DeBerry, Atlanta, Ga.
Katherine Martin, Alexandria, Va.
Carter Parsley, Coral Gables, Fla.

Six members of the class of 1970, who will be sophomores next fall, have already declared English as their major, and two more have elected the English-French major. They are:

English

Christine Costigan, Hartland, Wis.
Suzanne Garden, Wheeling, W. Va.
Anna Harbin, Rome, Ga.

Judith Hawkes, Memphis, Tenn.
Elizabeth Hines, Chestertown, Md.
Nancy Roper, Hagerstown, Md.

English-French Literature

Suzanne Pettit, New Orleans, La.
Marguerite Regis, Geneva, Switzerland

#

SOUTHERN WRITING IN THE SIXTIES POETRY appeared this spring from the Louisiana State University Press, edited by Miller Williams and John William Corrington. Among the 37 Southern poets featured therein were R.H.W. DILLARD and JEAN FARLEY WHITE of the Hollins faculty, 1963 graduate JANE GENTRY, and 1966 M.A. graduate HENRY S. TAYLOR.

#

THE NEW EDITORS. Editor of Hollins Columns since February and through next January is BLAIR BURNS, rising senior English major from Chevy Chase, Md. Her aides include Executive Editors VIRGINIA MANN, of Greensboro, N. C., and BETSY RAWLEIGH, of High Point, N. C.; Managing Editors RACHEL LAVOIE, of Portland, Maine, and FLORENCE WHITE, of New Orleans, Louisiana; and Make-Up Editor PAGE TROUT, of Roanoke. All are English majors, and they took over the Columns in February from another crew of English majors including NANCY HEAD BECKHAM, editor, of Durham, N. C., LUCINDA HARDWICK, of Milwaukee, Wis., ANNE BRADFORD, of Houston, Texas; JEANETTE PURRINGTON, of Franklin, Va., all of whom will graduate this year, and CATHERINE STRAUSE, of Richmond, Virginia, who has given up journalism for political office as vice-president of the student body. English majors BETH COLLOTY, of Middlebury, Conn., and SUSAN BERENTSON, of Barrington, Ill., will edit next year's Spinster, succeeding LEE MARSHALL SMITH, of Grundy, Va., and JOSEPHINE BERSON, of Nashville, Tenn. ROSANNE COGGESHALL, of Hartsville, S. C., will be the editor of Cargoes next year, replacing ANN DOAK DILLARD of Hollins and CINDY HARDWICK; they too are all English majors.

#

PHI BETA KAPPA. Joining ANNE GOODWYN JONES, English major from Chapel Hill, N. C., who was elected to Phi Beta Kappa in her junior year, were the following senior English majors: ANNE BRADFORD; ELIZABETH ROSE, of Birmingham, Ala.; ANN DILLARD; CINDY HARDWICK; and LYNN TYACK CONNER, of Fincastle, Va. The five new members were installed into Iota of Virginia chapter in February.

#

EVERYONE AT HOLLINS, the English Department included, is getting set for the advent of the New Curriculum, which will take effect for the 1967-1968 school year. Foremost among its innovations will be a four-course rather than a five-course student load each term; a short, four-week term in January and early February during which all students will be engaged in special independent study projects of their own choosing; and a college-wide program of departmental Honors. The Humanities requirement has been cut to one term; the second term will be optional. A series of freshmen Colloquia will be offered during both terms by most of the departments in the college; enrollment will be limited to 15 students, and the topic of each Colloquium will be chosen by the teacher.

The English Department has had an unofficial 'Honors' program for the past five years, of course; now it becomes official, and majors with a 2.0 grade average and 2.3 in English can undertake full-fledged Honors work if they so choose. Each department in the college offering honors work is setting its own specifications; the English Honors program will consist of an extensive independent study project and paper, to be undertaken during the entire senior year, including the four-week term.

Doubtless there will be adjustments necessary as the New Curriculum is worked out, but the chief provisions seem to have won the plaudits of students and faculty both. Everyone likes the new emphasis on independent study, and the four-course plan will enable students to concentrate their energies more efficiently than in the past.

Two English Department members were deeply involved in the deliberations and planning of the faculty committee which drew up the New Curriculum: JOHN ALEXANDER ALLEN and JULIA RANDALL SAWYER.

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ALL THE REPORTS from seniors planning to attend graduate school are not yet in, but as of now it would appear that ANNE GOODWYN JONES of Chapel Hill, N. C., CINDY HARDWICK of Milwaukee, Wis., and ELIZABETH ROSE of Birmingham, Ala., will be going to the University of North Carolina, ANNE BRADFORD of Houston, Tex., to Johns Hopkins, BONNIE MOON of Charleston, S. C., to Vanderbilt or Indiana, MARIETTA ALLISON of Lynchburg, Va., to Duke, and CHRISTINE EDWARDS of Manassas, Va., to Iowa. There will doubtless be others, and some of the above may have changes in plans. But as of May 13, that is it.

#

THE SCIENCE BUILDING, now so handsomely nearing completion on the campus, will be ready for occupancy by the college's scientific folk by late summer. This means that the present science building, Pleasants Hall, will be renovated for general classroom and office use. In turn this means that the offices in Bradley Hall (the Old Chapel) will probably be exclusively devoted to the English Department. Hurrah, therefore, for science! (Personally we like being in Bradley; it's the coolest building on the campus in spring, summer, and fall, and it has Character. Now we expect to have it all to ourselves, with the single classroom in it converted into a departmental seminar room, with sofas, easy chairs, magazines, a coffee pot, curtains, etc., etc.---or so we hope, anyway.)

#

Excerpt from Alma B's Last Memoirs,
or
I'm Sorry I Promised You a Rose Garden

Been skidding lately, been
smashing on the ice--eyeballs first
--there's tires in my head--
tires of a stalled truck spinning and
spinning and
grating against the ice.

All the lovely people and freaks I have to be.

It's this trip--been hiking
a long time, following the god,
His loping bootprints a crooked mile through the snow. . .

been tripping a lot.
Those blows on the eyeballs--
Skidding you got to expect--
But there's some way to take the falls,
like a dancer,
and that's one thing Apollo up there ahead
won't tell you--

Sunshine-Boy up there,
He NEVERNEVER falls,
He just melts His crooked mile of bootprints
from the big blue popsickle SKY!

If you believe in Him, clap your frostbitten hands (crack!)

. . .But there's some way to take the falls,
like a dancer;
tough when you've messed up your spine and
then your legs and
then your face
and you're learning this dance less and less. . .

(con't)

Been tripped out a lot, been
following the god
many crooked miles in my wheelchair through the snow.

All the kings and queens and pigs I have to be.

And then I flashed my sceptre and
adjusted my ermine earmuffs and I said:
"If the pigs have no garbage,
Why, then let them eat cake."
The god looked back at me and He said "Oink."

"Oink! I replied: and the god damned abomination
stopped in His tracks,
stood up full height out of the stuff He's made of,
turned slowly,
and hurled me some icicles,
gems he'd plucked off his crown
which got me square between the eyeballs.

Been feeling dizzy lately, stumbling
off the crooked mile. . .soft
white blankets taste cool and
don't ask you nothing as they fall and fall and
take the falls like dancers.

--CHRIS EDWARDS

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN editor SHANNON RAVENEL reports that 1963 M.A. student SLYVIA WILKINSON's second novel, A Killing Frost, will be out late this summer. Sylvia's first novel, Moss On The North Side, was in its fourth printing at last report. We were among those on hand in New York in late December to see Sylvia honored by Mademoiselle as one of that magazine's four Young Women Of The Year. Sylvia has been teaching at William and Mary, but will go back home to Durham, N. C., after the school year is done, where she will work on a third novel and teach a course in creative writing at the University of North Carolina in nearby Chapel Hill.

#

THE HOLLINS SYMPOSIUM, Vol. II, No. 1, appeared in early May, with English majors as usual prominent in its operations. There were essays on Proust by JOSEPHINE BERSON; Emily Dickinson by ANNIE DILLARD; Longfellow by RACHEL LAVOIE; Proust and D. H. Lawrence by BONNIE MOON; and Shakespeare's Much Ado About Nothing by ELIZABETH ROSE. ANNE GOODWYN JONES was one of two co-chairmen of the student editorial board, and ANNE BRADFORD was on the board. Ten student essays were selected from among 43 recommended for consideration by members of the Hollins faculty.

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TWO HOLLINS SOPHOMORES, FLORENCE WHITE of New Orleans, and DULANE PONDER of Atlanta, recently published poems in Plume and Sword, a literary magazine published at the University of Virginia. Both are English majors, and members of Assistant Professor R.H.W. DILLARD's intermediate creative writing course.

#

THERE WERE IRISHMEN all over the place. The occasion was the annual Irish Studies Conference of the American Committee for Irish Studies, held this year on the Hollins campus, with Assistant Professor FRANK O'BRIEN and Associate Professor JOHN REES MOORE in charge of local arrangements. Events included sessions on "The Family in Ireland," "The Consolidation of the Revolution," "Modern Irish Writing," and "Jonathan Swift," and a harp concert by Gráinne Yeats, daughter-in-law of the poet William Butler Yeats, who had once before sung at Hollins during the Yeats Centennial Festival of 1965. Among the speakers were THOMAS KINSELLA, Hollins' 1964-1965 writer-in-residence, BENEDICT KIELY, SEAN WHITE, ROBIN SKELTON, DENIS JOHNSTON and THOMAS FLANAGAN. Guests included the Hon. FRANK FAY, Ambassador of the Republic of Ireland to the United States, and MICHAEL YEATS, the poet's son.

Hollins, by the way, is headquarters of the ACIS, what with Assistant Professor O'Brien being secretary of the organization and editor of its Newsletter.

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AS USUAL, WE ASKED THE DEPARTMENT faculty members to advise on what they've written, published, etc., lately, what's new with them, and what they plan to do this summer. Herewith the replies, in their own deathless prose whenever possible:

JOHN ALEXANDER ALLEN: "Business has been a bit slow in recent months, but the following poems, a small nosegay of news from the Muse, have made their way into print: "Admiral," in The New Yorker, December 10, 1966; "The Button" and "The Death of Uncle Dan," in Poetry Northwest, Autumn issue; "A Long Farewell to Mrs. Milliken," in The Reporter, February 9; and "Voice from a Drop of Hay Infusion, Drying," in Epos, Spring issue. The last-mentioned, which demonstrates my notorious preoccupation with the sciences, may be the only love-poem ever written from the point of view of a paramecium. . . My biological interests are also demonstrated, in a way, by an article in the Spring issue of the Alumnae Magazine: "An Ant's-Eye View of the Poetry Boom at Hollins." . . .Our readers might be interested to know of the appearance of two new literary quarterlies: Occident, published at Berkeley; and Athanor, published in NYC. Thanks to my alert underground informants, I have cached away a poem or two in forthcoming issues of these infant mags.

"Josephine and I will be at Brewster on the Cape, as usual, this summer. There, besides perhaps writing a poem or two, I will pursue my long-time interest in Shakespearian comedy, together with meditating on a couple of relatively new ones: Christian themes in Shakespeare, and the relationship in manner and matter between Shakespeare and Chaucer. Every time I re-read Chaucer (as I have had the pleasure of doing, with students, during the past three years), I am again impressed by evidence (largely ignored by scholarship) of Shakespeare's debt to a poet whom he had clearly read with loving care. I am hoping that students will continue to join me in working out certain aspects of these matters."

JOHN REES MOORE: "I have returned galleys on "Some Night Thoughts on Beckett," which will appear in The Massachusetts Review. It's an attempt to see patterns and isolate essential relationships in the drama of Samuel Beckett. Galleys have also gone back on another piece, "Donleavy's Season of Discontent," a review of the Ginger Man's latest novel for Critique. Galleys have not yet arrived of my piece on Robert Penn Warren (though I've had my check from The Southern Review since last summer). But no more of galleys lest we get seasick. The only thing actually printed since November is a short review of Sean O'Casey's Blasts and Benedictions for the Newsletter of the American Committee for Irish Studies. I plan to review Sean O'Faolain's The Heat of the Sun for the next issue.

"I'm leaving the summer unplanned, hoping for pleasant surprises. Certainly I'll be writing something (I hope). And we might get as far south as Mexico or as far north as Canada. Dogs, cats, gardens, and other more intangible things (such as money) may present obstacles. Oh well, happiness isn't everything, as the rich man confided to his friendly Internal Revenue investigator."

FRANK O'BRIEN: "Of late (how is that for formality) I have had two articles (one a modified version of the other) published in New York University's Arts and Sciences and Eire-Ireland. They (or it) had to do with the modern poetry in Irish. One of the poets resented my renderings of her verse with such passion that it has put a stoop in my shadow. A poet-critic friend, whose taste and acumen I admire, has compared my re-workings to Pope's homage to Homer. And so, with each critique balanced on a shoulder, my shadow continues to bend--but with some equanimity.

"It is with some reluctance that I have decided to leave off reforming the college this year. Instead, I continue to edit the American Committee for Irish Studies Newsletter. Present subscription list has grown to four hundred. Recently we added a book review section to the Newsletter. A great deal of time is devoted to correcting the English of social scientists.

"By the time that the mutterings of the mellifluous muse have sounded, the ACIS will have had its annual Irish Studies Conference. John Moore and I are directing the conference, and we expect scholars from twenty states as well as from Canada, England, and Ireland. Several Californians have also applied for visas.

"This summer, for certain, my wife and I will install a more sophisticated plumbing system in the Maine "A" frame cottage. It is possible also that we may find water somewhere on the property--if the hazel twig is not coddling me. Somehow and some time between fixing intimate connections between grease traps and sink elbows, I will finish the near-finished scrip on a reading from the works of Joe. Addison and re-edit an essay on George Moore."

ELLINGTON WHITE: "Publications since November, 1966--"The Hant Watchers," Southern Review, Winter, 1967; "Iago and the Tired Red Moor," Southern Fiction in the Sixties, LSU Press; "Homecoming in the Bay," Sports Illustrated Magazine, Oct. 10, 1966.

"To be published this spring or summer: "Race to Mexico," Sports Illustrated Magazine; "The Losers Way of Doing It," Diplomat Magazine.

"With the exception of doing one story in June for Sports Illustrated, which money will be used to feed one horse, one dog, two cats, one poet, and three children, I expect to spend the summer writing on my novel.

"What have I been doing this year beside teaching? I have written in the neighborhood of 100 pages on my novel."

R.H.W. DILLARD: "I have had poems in Transatlantic Review #22 and #23. Also two in Southern Writing in the Sixties/Poetry. All were also in the book. Nothing else new published.

"Before the press of papers &c. I succeeded in finishing a short novel, "The Road: A Story of Social Significance," which should arouse hatred among such varied groups as SNCC, the KKK and racial moderates of all color. One more short story, now underway, and my book will be finished, although publishers want books of short stories like they want boxes of your baby curls. And, much to my surprise, I counted up and found that I have about one-third to one-half of a new book of poems done, so I thought up a title (News of the Nile). This summer however the artist must surrender to the somber critic, for I have no choice but to finish the book on the Poe tradition in the Southern short story which I have been promising for so long. Annie and Oliver endure."

JESSE ZELDIN: "Most of this past year has been devoted to a re-adjustment attempt, from Hong Kong to the United States, with occasional excursions into the academic: chairman of a panel on Soviet Literature for the Southern Slavic Conference, member of the nominating committee for South Atlantic Modern Language Association, and the inaugural lecture for a series sponsored by the Department of Slavic Languages and the Curriculum of Comparative Literature of U.N.C. at Chapel Hill, on The Brothers Karamazov. Also, at long last, I've finished my translation of Gogol's non-fiction (I'll be spending the summer on trying to get it into final shape for submission to the publisher). Otherwise, I've been asked to do a book on "The Russian Literary Idea," and what time is left this summer I'll be spending on trying to outline it. This summer, in other words, the Zeldins stay put at Hollins bent over the typewriter, except for a few weeks vacation in June and maybe one week in early September--so if anybody should happen to come through Hollins, give us a ring; the break will be welcome."

PHILIP COOPER, JR.: "I've been encouraged to launch my thesis as a book but first I have to defend it as a thesis. The defense is scheduled for week after next. After that I have to find another place to live, a new launching pad. The old one is all used up. If Calliope mother of Orpheus knows of a house I hope she will phone me."

JULIA RANDALL SAWYER: "Two poems in Fall, 1966, Southern Poetry Review; Adam's Dream (Tinker Press); poetry reading at Garrison Forest School, Baltimore, in January. Have not been doing anything, do not plan to do anything." [Editor's Note: do not believe the last sentence; Mrs. Sawyer has been (1) revising poems, (2) writing poems, and (3) complaining, and she has done a great deal of all three.]

JEAN FARLEY WHITE: Poem in February 18, 1967, number of The New Yorker; poems in Southern Writing in the 1960s/Poetry; poems accepted by Southern Review and Sewanee Review.

LOUIS D. RUBIN, JR.: "Essay in The South and the Sectional Image, Harper and Row; review in Kenyon Review for winter 1966; essay "The Curious Death of the Novel" has appeared in Non Dam (Forum of Thought), in Korean translation; Tematy: Perspectives in Culture, in Polish translation; Comentario (Montevideo, Uruguay) in Spanish; and Intellectual Review (Cairo), in Arabic. Have been reading proof on two new books to come out in fall; writing a 35,000-word history of Hollins since 1942 to come out in the fall as part of the 125th anniversary celebration, printing away on The Tinker Press, and preparing to move to Chapel Hill at the end of June. My golf game is not operative; haven't played all spring. I dream, in a nightmarish sort of way, of packing books, many books....."

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FOR THE THIRD YEAR IN A ROW, a Hollins English major has been selected to receive the English Speaking Union's scholarship for a summer of study in England. This year it will be BLAIR BURNS, of Chevy Chase, Maryland, a rising senior and editor of Hollins Columns. Last summer it was CINDY HARDWICK, and the summer before MARGARET FERGUSON GIBSON.

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HIS DISSERTATION COMPLETED and approved, Assistant Professor Philip Cooper, Jr., expects to receive his Ph.D. degree from the University of Rochester in June. His thesis topic was a study of the poetry of Yeats and Robert Lowell. He plans to revise it for book publication during the coming year.

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WHAT ARE THEY DOING? News notes of various recent English graduates: FRANCES SHINNICK (1966) is working as an editor on a magazine entitled Southern Engineering, of all things, published in Atlanta. . . . BETTY KELLY (1964) is doing editorial work for Holt, Rinehart and Winston in New York. . . . SUZANNE VICTOR TRAZOFF (1963) is doing the same for Bantam Books. . . . JEAN SIMPSON (1962) is teaching at Washington University, St. Louis. . . . JANE GENTRY (1963) is teaching at Georgetown College, Kentucky. . . . JILL ABBOTT (1965) is completing her master's work at the University of North Carolina, where FONTAINE BELFORD (1962) is working toward the doctorate in Comparative Literature. . . . TERRY HERRIN ANDREWS (1962) and husband WALLY (M.A., 1962) wrote recently from some remote outpost in Southeast Asia, where they were vacationing; they have been in Japan these past several years, with Terry doing newspaper work while Wally fulfills his military obligations, and are due back here sometime this summer, I believe. . . . LAURA JOHNSON (1962) is an editor at Bobbs-Merrill. . . . LINDA GIBBS BELVEAL (1963) is teaching high school in Tampa, Florida. . . . JUDY TREADWAY (1963) is working in Paris. . . . SANDY HELMS (1964) is in Africa with the Peace Corps. . . . SUSAN LEAKE (1964) edits a quarterly magazine for the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond. . . . LORAIN REED (1964) is well along the way to the Ph.D. in English at Indiana University. . . . FRANCES HARRISON CRONENBURG (1964) and husband ALLEN are in Germany, where Allen is undertaking doctoral research in history at Munich (they paid the Rubins a visit last summer when we were in Santa Barbara, California). . . . PEGGY MACDONNELL TREADWELL (1964) is working for Redbook in New York. . . . CAROL KINSEY (1962) continues editing at Seventeen magazine. . . . GAIL WILLIAMS (1963) works as a systems analyst for American Airlines in New York. . . . KATHY HERSHEY (1966) is editing at the Louisiana State University Press in Baton Rouge. . . .

MARY POE (1966) is doing graduate work at the University of North Carolina. . . . RICHARD BENVENUTO (M.A., 1962) is finishing up his doctorate at Ohio State University. . . . SYLVIA DOUGHTY (1965) is getting ready to select a topic and begin her dissertation in history at Johns Hopkins. . . . JONI RAFFELD (1966) is doing graduate work in the Writing Seminars there. . . . KATHY RAVENEL WOODS (1965) has been teaching, along with her husband HENDRIK, at the American School in Switzerland. . . . MARGARET FERGUSON GIBSON (1966), finishing up her M.A. at the University of Virginia this spring, will be teaching English at Madison College in Harrisonburg next year. . . . KAREN BOLDING (1966) works for Davidson's in Atlanta. . . . BEVERLY HOLMES (1966) is with the trade department of Houghton Mifflin, as is SHANNON RAVENEL (1960). . . . ELLEN HAINLINE (1966) is with Harper and Row in New York. . . . JEAN RUDD (1966) is at the University of Chicago. . . . MARILYN CURLEY HEAVENER (1966) is working in the registrar's office of the University of Virginia while her husband MICHAEL is completing a master's degree there. . . . OWIE EASTON (1966) is assistant to the director of the Institute for Psychology at the University of Munich, in Germany. . . . JULIA BLAKE (1964) works for the Stowe Area Association in Vermont. . . . LYNN TUACH (1964) is with the Reader's Digest in Pleasantville, N. Y. . . . FLORENCE WIMBLE RICHTER (1964) is working as an insurance claims examiner in Nurnburg, Germany. . . . MIMI RIDENHOUR (1963) is with Vogue in New York. . . . PAT HENDRICKSON (1963) is doing newspaper reporting at Salisbury, Maryland. . . . KATIE LETCHER LYLE (1959) is teaching English at Southern Seminary in Buena Vista; she and her husband ROYSTER have recently moved from a place in the countryside into Lexington; Royster is secretary of the George C. Marshall Library in Lexington. . . . AMANDA CHASE (1966) is in graduate school at Western Reserve University. . . . PAM FISH (1966) is working for Random House in New York. . . . MARIAN HINES (1965) is in graduate school at the University of Chicago. . . . ANNA LOGAN LAWSON (1965) will begin work for the Office of Press Relations at Hollins this summer. . . . MARGARET DAVIS MINIS (1966) has received an assistantship in the Graduate School of the University of Georgia. . . . Well, that's all we can think of, just now, and we won't begin to get into all the marriages and births and so on. PLEASE KEEP CALLIOPE'S COMMENTS POSTED ON WHAT YOU'RE DOING.

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THE FOURTH ANNUAL NANCY THORP POETRY award competition for women high school seniors east of the Mississippi was held last fall, and there were a record number of entries. The winners, chosen by the faculty and students of the Department's Advanced Creative Writing courses, were: first prize, ELLEN EPSTEIN, of Columbus, Ohio; and second prizes, ELAINE COHEN, of Gloverville, N. Y., and MARY PARDO, of Winchester-Thurston School, Pittsburgh, Pa. Miss Epstein visited Hollins in December, the expenses for the trip and a \$50 prize being the stipend for the top award.

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THE HOLLINS CRITIC continues to win friends and new subscribers. Joining the editorial board this year is WILLIAM JAY SMITH, who wrote the review essay on the last books of the poet Louis MacNeice for the April issue. The February number contained poet DANIEL HOFFMAN's review of the latest book by Robert Lowell. GEORGE GARRETT will write the June issue essay, on the new novel by Wright Morris. RICHARD H.W. DILLARD is scheduled to do the October number. Each issue of The Hollins Critic will contain an essay review of the latest work of an important

contemporary writer, together with a consideration of his previous writings; and a checklist of his books and a biographical sketch as well. One or more poems also appears in each issue. A year's subscription---five numbers---costs \$1.00. Incidentally, the fearsome mix-up in subscription records has now been straightened out entirely by the Department's efficient secretary, Mrs. FAYE IVANHOE, who is now, thank goodness, handling all the Critic's circulation arrangements.

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GRAPHEON. President of the College's literary society next year will be TUNSTALL COLLINS, rising senior English major from Lynchburg, Va. She succeeds ANNE BRADFORD. Grapheon and the Department are as usual planning an ambitious program of events for 1967-1968, with guest speakers from elsewhere, the annual Literary Festival, and faculty and student poetry readings and lectures.

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ENGLISH 250: THE SHORT POEM: A Course Description

The Short Poem is a study of how poetry makes itself felt, how the parts of a poem move against each other. This movement and its effect are demonstrated in terms of Rilke's Duino Elegies, which serve as a kind of core for the semester's work. The translation of the Elegies by J. B. Leishman and Stephen Spender is very good, and can be had in paperback from W. W. Norton. Homer, Villon, Baude- laire and Rimbaud are read in Robert Lowell's Imitations (Noonday paperback), and some of the poems of García Lorca, translated by Spender and Gili, W. S. Merwin, and others, in the New Directions Selected Poems. But the bulk of the semester's reading consists of lyrics by British and American poets, with each poet represented by a separate volume: Shakespeare, The Sonnets (Signet); Marvell (Dell); Selected Poems of Thomas Hardy (Collier); Yeats, Selected Poems (Macmillan); Stevens, Poems (Vintage); D. H. Lawrence, Selected Poems (Compass); Robert Lowell, Life Studies (Vintage); and Anne Sexton, Live or Die (Houghton Mifflin paperback). An average of a week is devoted to each of the poets. From these examples the student is encouraged to develop a theory of poetry and a method of reading. The theory implicit and explicit in the Duino Elegies provides a foundation; the method illustrated throughout the series of readings provides a model.

--PHILIP COOPER

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ELIZABETH HOPKINS, who will receive her M.A. in English Writing at Hollins this month, has received a scholarship to attend the Star Lake Writing Conference in Potsdam, New York, beginning June 5, where she will have an opportunity to work with James Dickey and Paul Engle. She has also received a work scholarship at the Bread Loaf School of English, Middlebury College, Vt., beginning June 28. There, she will work with John Frederick Nims, among others. As the Star Lake Conference lasts through June 30, Elizabeth will be called upon, for a three-day period, to demonstrate the omnipresence which is to be expected of all good poets.

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SOUTHEASTERN NEWSPAPERS---eight of them---and the staff of Hollins Columns co-operated again this spring in conducting the third annual Southeastern college and university newspaper competition. Outgoing Columns Editor NANCY HEAD BECKHAM, a senior English major, directed this year's competition, distributing the entry forms, receiving the entries, dispatching them to the individual newspapers for judging, announcing the results and then setting up the banquet. At the banquet columnist JAMES JACKSON KILPATRICK, for many years editor of the Richmond News Leader, spoke on the art of writing. A good time was, as usual, had by all.

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WANT AD

Editor, Calliope's Comments:

We need to rent a house with four bedrooms, not too far from Hollins. If readers of Calliope's Comments know of any, I hope they will call us.

/s/ PHILIP COOPER, JR.
Assistant Professor of English
Telephone 992-1910

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VISITORS FROM ALL OVER Virginia and surrounding areas converged on Hollins for the seventh annual Literary Festival the first weekend in March. No wonder: the fiction speaker was JOHN BARTH, author of Giles Goat-Boy, the season's most talked-about novel; and then reading poems at the afternoon session was JAMES DICKEY, consultant in poetry at the Library of Congress and the most talked-about poet of the season. Joining Dickey in discussing student poetry in the afternoon session were HENRY TAYLOR, poet, Hollins M.A. (1966), presently on the Roanoke College faculty, and JAMES SEAY, of the V.M.I. faculty. Once again there was the premiere of a new play by the Drama Department Friday night preceding the Festival; this time it was "New World Beasts," by Assistant Professor of Drama THOMAS R. ATKINS.

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THE MIND PARASITES, 1966-1967 writer-in-residence COLIN WILSON's newest novel, has been earning extraordinarily good reviews in England, where it recently appeared. Hilary Corke, in The Listener, compared Wilson with "the best of (H.G.) Wells," discussed his highly controversial literary career in general, and declared that neglect of him by the British cultural establishment was "our loss, and it's time we forgot and forgave and began to do both him and ourselves justice again." Kay Dick in The Sunday Times found the new book "tremendously exciting, excellently paced in suspense, packed with inventive facts concocted from Mr. Wilson's encyclopaedic notebooks." Robert Nye wrote in The Manchester Guardian that "a time is approaching when someone will have to admit that for all his faults he is one of the more earnest and interesting writers of his generation" and declared that "at the time of reading. . .(The Mind Parasites) got me absolutely in its grip."

Meanwhile more Wilson books have appeared for the first time in the United States. Houghton Mifflin has brought out Introduction to the New Existentialism and Random House The Glass Cage, while Delta Books has produced a new edition of Wilson's first book The Outsider, which when it first appeared more than a decade ago caused so much furore in English and American literary circles.

Wilson and family have been resident at Hollins throughout the past year, and have been very much a part of the local scene. His two courses, "Existentialism in Literature" in the first term and "George Bernard Shaw" in the second, have been widely popular. He has also made frequent speaking trips, ranging as far as Florida, California, and Connecticut.

The Wilsons plan to return to their home in Cornwall, and to spend the summer there, returning from England to the United States in late summer for a drive across the continent to Seattle, where Mr. Wilson will be teaching at the University of Washington next fall.

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SPEAKING OF THE WILSONS, we especially like this anecdote. Their older child, SALLY, has been enrolled in the nearby Burlington School, along with most of the other faculty children. COLIN went over to make the arrangements and was given a form to fill out. Father's Education, the form said. "High school drop-out," Colin wrote. Father's Occupation, the form said. "College professor," wrote Colin.

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HOWARD NEMEROV, 1962-1963 writer-in-residence and now professor of English at Brandeis University, put in what has happily come to be his annual appearance at Hollins in April, when he read from his poems to a sizeable audience in the Main Drawing Room. A new book of his poems, The Blue Swallows, will be published by the University of Chicago Press in the fall.

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GULLS OVER MEMPHIS. Graduate Student MICHAEL CRONYN MINTON's story, "Gulls Over Memphis; Or, The Glorious Demise of Mrs. Alice Laramore," which appeared in the fall number of Cargoes, was also submitted for the Emily Clark Balch Prize awarded each year by the Virginia Quarterly Review. Result: second prize, and a check for \$500. Mr. Minton will be teaching creative writing at Trinity College near Washington, D. C., in the fall.

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AS AN AFTERMATH to the publication last fall of his first book of poems, Assistant Professor R.H.W. DILLARD has been invited to give poetry readings at a number of colleges and universities, to wit: Roanoke College, Princeton, Beloit, University of Wisconsin, Loyola of New Orleans, Coker College, and Virginia Union University.

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FINALLY, A PERSONAL NOTE. During the ten years that I have been at Hollins, I have taught many fine students, made many good friends, and enjoyed many kindnesses from many people. I am moving on, not from any lack of continuing appreciation for the many advantages of Hollins, but because in the next few years I want to work on a book that can best be done while teaching advanced graduate students at a university. I hope that in leaving I shall not be losing all touch with former students and friends; and I hope that if any of you find yourselves in the vicinity of Chapel Hill, you will come by to see us. We will be moving down there in late June, and our address will be 702 Gimghoul Road. The next issue of Calliope's Comments will be composed by Acting Chairman John A. Allen; I am thus leaving the Department in good hands, and its future appears very bright to me. I cannot of course write to all of my friends, so I take this opportunity to say thanks to everyone.

L.D.R.
5/15/67

LATE NEWS FLASH: LEE MARSHALL SMITH, 1967 graduating major, has just been informed that she has won one of the coveted Book-of-the-Month-Club Fellowships, awarded this year for the first time. Her work was entered in a nationwide competition for potential young writers, and she had known since late April that she was one of 32 national finalists. On May 18 a telegram announced she was one of the eight national winners. The work she had entered in the competition included the manuscript of a first novel, as well as a number of short stories, all written while at Hollins.