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THE LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT REVIEW /1994-95

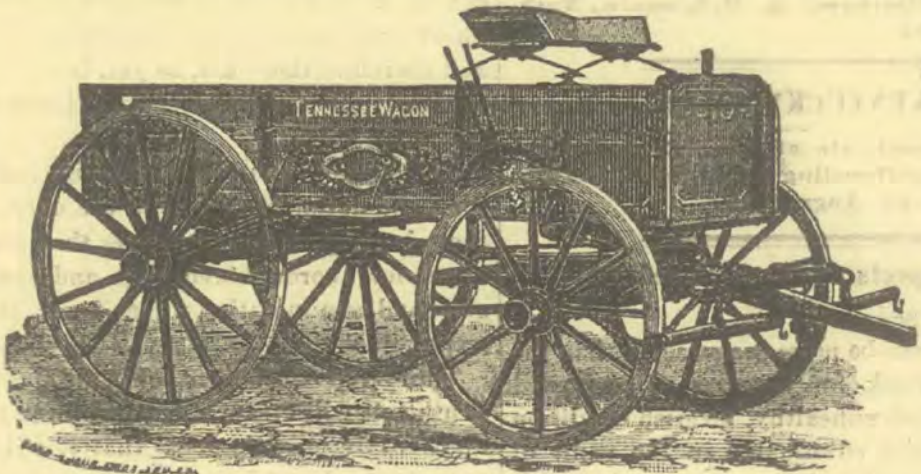
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE



“Be it enacted that the whole of the territory ceded to the United States by the State of North Carolina shall be one State... the state of Tennessee....Approved June 1, 1796,”

4th Congress, Second Session: 1796–1797

TENNESSEE WAGON
VALUE, \$80.00.



**IRON AXLE, OR TRIPLE SKEIN, AS
PREFERRED BY THE WINNER.**

Contributed by Cherry, O'Conner & Co., Nashville, Tenn. The justly celebrated and popular "Tennessee" Wagon, so favorably known throughout the Southern States, is made of carefully selected, and thoroughly seasoned timber, and best grades of Kentucky and Tennessee iron. Its distinguishing features are its exceeding LIGHTNESS OF DRAFT and DURABILITY. In appearance it is neat and attractive, and in style and finish is not excelled by any wagon in the market. We cannot give it a higher recommendation than to say we retain ALL our old customers, and are constantly making new ones. It is sold by the best dealers in every Southern State, and is fast finding its way to every farm where a good wagon is appreciated. In seven years we have increased its sale ten fold. Every wagon fully warranted. For price list address, CHERRY, O'CONNOR & CO., Nashville, Tenn.

Newspaper advertisements, especially illustrated ones such as this one from The Rural Sun (Nashville, June 12, 1879), can teach us what life was like at a particular time and place in history. (See article on p. 14.)

In 1994, the University Libraries observed a milestone with the addition of the two-millionth volume to its collection. Two million volumes in two hundred years marks a good time to pause and appreciate the value of our libraries—and what role they will play in the next century at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

At the two-millionth volume celebration, Chancellor Bill Snyder called the library system the nerve center of campus, and that's what it really is. It really does pulsate with people, with the ideas that are in the materials that we own or provide access to, and with the interactions between our faculty and staff and our users.

On the Cover

With this cover we celebrate Tennessee's two hundredth year of statehood. Bust of John Sevier by Jim Gray courtesy Marble Springs John Sevier Farm Home; portrait of William Blount by Sarah Ward Connelly and doll belonging to Blount family courtesy Blount Mansion Association; sixteen-stared flag courtesy John Dobson. (Photo by Stan McCleave; see article on p. 7.)

The wealth of knowledge that the University Libraries offers reaches far beyond the confines of the campus, however. There is a growing awareness that the UTK library system is a special resource to the people of East Tennessee.

There are fewer than 100 university research libraries in this country. Our library system supports the business community in economic development, social services, and thousands of individuals who seek information for personal growth, personal finances or recreation. It's certainly used by everyone from business people to high school students to community members who just want to find out more about something they're interested in.

The nature of a research library is continued growth. Our participation in the University-wide 21st Century Campaign gives us the opportunity to continue to strengthen our many resources and take the University Libraries into the next century and beyond.

Paula T. Kaufman
Dean of Libraries

THE LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT REVIEW

1994/95

Edited by James B. Lloyd
Associate Editor Laura C. Simic

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 2 A Word from Fred Stone**
- 3 Tennessee, Racism, and the New Right:
The Second Beckwith Collection**
by James B. Lloyd
- 6 Responding to the Information Revolution:
The 21st Century Campaign**
by Laura C. Simic
- 7 The Flag That Might Have Been, 1796**
by John Dobson
- 9 Drink, Death, and Politics: The Killing of
Senator Edward W. Carmack**
by William B. Eigelsbach and Jamie Sue Linder
- 13 Giving in Memory and in Generosity:
Mrs. Reba Q. Absher**
by Dana Bagwell
- 14 Rags to Riches: The Tennessee
Newspaper Project**
by K. Joslyn Quinn
- 16 Humanities Collection Enriched Through
Lindsay Young Fund**
by D. E. Perushek
- 17 The Survey is in—Satisfied Friends**
by Dana Bagwell and Laura C. Simic
- 18 WW II at Fifty**
by John McManus
- 20 Andrew Johnson Claims a Third Corner**
by Cathy Chase
- 21 Private Dollars, Public Treasures**
- 21 Investing in the Future**
- 21 Library Endowments**
- 22 Those Honored**
- 22 Those Memorialized**
- 22 The William G. McAdoo Society**
- 22 Library Friends**

My involvement with the University Libraries came about in a very unusual way. During my tenure at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, I admired, but rarely took advantage of, the facilities.

My father, Fred O. Stone, Sr. M.D., entrusted me with a varied collection of artifacts that he had collected from around the world during his twenty-odd years with the Army Medical Corps, among them being a velum psalter from 1536. After extensive research on my father's library, I was referred to UT's Special Collections Library.

Upon calling John Dobson, the director at that time, I received such a warm reception that it opened my eyes. It was like all the people who helped establish Tennessee were all gathered in the Hoskins Library, as represented by its collection, with the beautiful books and oriental rugs as a backdrop. Since my father loved East Tennessee, its people and the University beyond description, I knew right away that his priceless psalter had found a home.

After I donated the psalter, I began to realize that an enormous part of the University evolves directly from its libraries, and I became involved with the Library Friends.

The construction of the Hodges Library really got my adrenalin flowing. This architectural wonder and state of the art facility is something that the whole state and, for that matter, the nation can very well be proud of.

It is very easy for me to say that my involvement with the University Libraries has been a very rewarding and pleasant experience. My support shall continue in the future.

Fred O. Stone

Fred O. Stone, D.D.S.



Dr. Fred Stone graduated from the University of Tennessee, Memphis in 1960 with a degree in dentistry. He is a member of UT's Benefactor's Society, the Library Friends Executive Committee and the Libraries' William G. McAdoo Society. Dr. Stone is retired and lives in Oliver Springs with his wife, Helen.

THE REVIEW 1994/95

TENNESSEE, RACISM, AND THE NEW RIGHT: THE SECOND BECKWITH COLLECTION

By James B. Lloyd
Special Collections Librarian

The current attention that right wing survivalist and racist groups are receiving in the light of the bombing in Oklahoma makes the acquisition of the Byron De La Beckwith letters doubly important because it is only through original research into minds like his that these groups can be understood. Beckwith, who started out as a common, garden variety racist, evolved into an apostle of the Christian Identity Movement and became associated with such far right extremist organizations as Knoxville Buddy Tucker's *White Seed*, having been ordained a minister in Tucker's Temple Memorial Baptist Church in 1977 just before returning to Louisiana to serve his prison term for an attempted bombing. This evolution is made clear in *Portrait of a Racist*, by Reed Massengill, on which I draw liberally for the following article.

When Nick Wyman, the unit head for Special Collections who often writes for this publication, mentioned to me several years ago that he had met someone who was working on a biography of Byron De La Beckwith, I found it mildly interesting, since we had had Beckwith papers in Special Collections at the University of Mississippi when I worked there. Little did I think that I would now be in my office surrounded by Beckwith's letters and working on the *Library Development Review* again, yet here I am, thanks to the generosity of individuals such as you, gentle reader. This is how it happened.

The someone who was working on the Beckwith biography turned out to be Reed Massengill of Knoxville, Beckwith's nephew, who had quit his job in order to concentrate on it. Reed and Nick became friends, and Reed, as sometimes happens, became interested in the Special Collections Library. One thing led to another, and before long we were discussing the possibility of his donating the background research to his book once he had published. This was more than mildly interesting because one seldom uses more than fifteen or twenty percent of the information one collects for a publication, and because Beckwith, while not perhaps the most likable character one might imagine, is certainly important historically, and Reed's will likely not be the last book to touch on him.

Reed did, in fact, end up donating most of that research as well as suggesting several possible complimentary collections, some of which we have since obtained, like that of Tom Van Riper, who was an FBI agent on the case. The best material, however, he could not afford to give us. This was a collection of letters written from Beckwith to his wife, the former Mary Louise Williams of Knoxville, known to Reed as Aunt Mary and to Beckwith simply as Willie, mostly while he was in jail in 1963-64 awaiting his first trial for the murder of Medgar Evers. She had saved them and given them to Reed to assist with his book before she died in 1992.

This collection was offered at auction by R.M. Smythe and Company in April of 1995, and we were the successful bidder. Now it sits in one acid-free box in the middle of my office while I struggle to figure out how to tell about it. I am unable to quote more than snatches from the letters since we do not own the copyright, and I do not think the owner, Byron De La Beckwith, himself, is feeling too cooperative at the moment. But I have decided that that's all right, since I should leave the analysis of the letters to someone more qualified. If I can simply present a likeness of the man, you will have the flavor of the



Beckwith in the Church of the Nativity, late 1950s. During this period he had begun to write letters to the newspapers and was known to carry a gun in church. (Beckwith Collection.)

letters, and there is no better way to do that than to briefly paraphrase the account of Beckwith's life and times drawn by Reed Massengill in *Portrait of a Racist: The Man Who Killed Medgar Evers?*

On November 9, 1920, Byron De La

Beckwith, Jr., was born in Sacramento California to Byron De La Beckwith and Susie Yerger Beckwith. The elder Byron was the son of the first resident of Cousa, California, B.D. Beckwith, a leader in the movement to irrigate the Sacramento Valley. After a lengthy court battle, Byron had inherited a considerable sum from his father's efforts, and he and his wife of eight years were engaged in living the good life in rural California. Unfortunately, Byron also inherited a fondness for alcohol, which may have contributed to a series of unsuccessful business ventures, finally bringing the family to the brink of ruin and resulting in his death at the Joslin Sanitarium in Lincoln, California, on August 10, 1926. At that time Susie discovered that he had not paid their grocery bill since 1923 and that the family was virtually penniless.

Having little choice, Susie Yerger Beckwith returned to her native Greenwood, Mississippi, where she had been brought up a proper and aristocratic Southern lady on Glen Oak Plantation. The Yergers, the Southworths, and the Kimbroughs were all related and had long been prominent in the area (indeed, one can still find a substantial Kimbrough plantation outside Itta Bena near Greenwood). The plantation house had burned, and the family now lived in a big rambling house on George Street in downtown Greenwood. It was to this refuge that Susie and her young son, called Delay, returned in 1926. The house



The Yerger home on George Street in Greenwood after years of neglect, c. 1963. (Beckwith Collection.)



Beckwith practicing with one of his black powder rifles. (Beckwith Collection.)

was occupied by Susie's mother, Susan, and her brother, Will, and the tenor of the times was set by flamboyantly racist Mississippi politicians James K. Vardaman and Theodore Bilbo, who were at the time talking loudly about the "Negro Problem," otherwise known as the Back to Africa Movement.

Growing up, Beckwith was under the care of his eccentric bachelor Uncle Will and another relative, Hunter Holmes Southworth, an elegant Southern gentleman known as Uncle Holmes, who also moved into the house on George St. His mother, who was never strong, died when he was twelve. Beckwith was never a talented student, though his family tried to help by sending him to several private schools. He graduated from Greenwood High School, tried several colleges, and joined the armed services in 1942.

On November 20, 1943, Beckwith, a member of the 2nd Marine Division, was wounded while piloting a landing vehicle to the beach during the invasion of Tarawa. The wound was not serious, and he was sent to Millington Air Station outside of Memphis to work as an aviation mechanic while he recovered. It was here that he met Willie, who had joined the WAVEs over her family's protests. They were married in Hernando, Mississippi, on September 2, 1945, and Beckwith was discharged the following January after having unsuccessfully applied for admittance to Officers Candidate School.

Beckwith's Uncle Will had a job waiting for him as the ticket agent for the tiny Greenwood airport, and the couple moved

into the family home, much to Willie's dismay. On September 9, 1946, they had a son, Byron De La Beckwith, Jr., and they settled down to life in Greenwood. Unfortunately this included alcoholic binges, to which they were both likely to succumb, followed by a pattern of mutual domestic violence. In his career, if Beckwith did not do well, he at least did better. His exaggerated courtesy and southern gentlemanly bearing stood him in good stead. He sold candy and tobacco, then fertilizer for the Delta Liquid Plant Food Company.

During the period from 1946 until 1954, Beckwith developed the patterns of behavior that would eventually propel him into notoriety. He developed a fondness for firearms, especially antique ones, and spent much of his free time shooting, trading, and repairing guns. He had always been a joiner, and he continued, giving vent to his religious enthusiasm in the Episcopal Church of the Nativity. He enjoyed snappy clothes, good liquor, and fine cigars. He sold his part of the plantation for \$13,000, and bought a house for Willie, furniture, and a new Ford convertible. And he and Willie continued their alcoholic and abusive behavior, often requiring the interference of the local police.

Then on May 17, 1954, known as Black Monday among Mississippi's segregationists, the Supreme Court ruled that separate but equal educational facilities were unconstitutional. This decision caused Robert B. Patterson to found the Citizens Council to attempt to prevent the implementation of the ruling, and here Beckwith found the cause for which he had been searching. He idolized Patterson and threw himself into the fight wholeheartedly. He spent most waking moments working for segregation, began writing letters to the editors of local papers, and became more passionate about his dislike of Blacks.

All this did not make him easier to live with, and the Beckwiths went through two divorces and remarriages. Each time Willie returned to promises that things would be different. This, however, generally turned out not to be the case, and the violence would escalate again. Things, both personally and nationally, began to reach a head in the fall of 1962, when the University of Mississippi was integrated. Beckwith attempted to join in the resulting fray, but was turned back by the police. The summer of



Beckwith and his son show off new ties. (Beckwith Collection.)

the next year saw demonstrations in Greenwood, itself. Beckwith and Willie split again. This time when he threw her possessions out the window of the house on George St., Willie moved to a hotel, thus rendering her unable to provide any evidence about the ensuing violence.

Just after midnight on the morning of June 12, 1963, Medgar Evers was shot from ambush as he walked to his house. He died immediately, and the rifle which was used was found the next day in a honeysuckle thicket 150 feet away. It was a perfectly pedestrian and untraceable army surplus 1916 Enfield 30.06, but that was not the case with the Golden Hawk telescopic sight mounted on it, which turned out to be the one Duck Goza traded to Byron De La Beckwith some months earlier. Furthermore, the weapon had Beckwith's fingerprint on it. This was enough for the FBI, who arrested him on June 22nd.

The arrest, of course, was just the start of a long complicated drama which has only



Beckwith at home on West Monroe with his son and one of his favorite rifles, c. 1953. (Beckwith Collection.)

recently ended. In the Hinds County jail Beckwith was treated royally. Governor Ross Barnett personally canvassed for funds for his defense, and whatever he needed appeared forthwith. Barnett's law partner, Hugh Cunningham, became his attorney, and the contributions rolled in to the White Citizens' Legal Defense Fund. The prosecution, led by William Waller, had a good case, but they had to try that case in Mississippi, where no white man had ever been convicted of killing a black one.

Beckwith was confident throughout the trial that this tradition would continue and was genuinely stunned when he was not immediately acquitted. Twice the juries could not reach a verdict, and by the summer of 1964, known as Freedom Summer, Beckwith



Beckwith apparently preparing to begin handing out *None Dare Call It Conspiracy*, the book found in numerous copies in his car when he was arrested outside New Orleans in 1973. (Beckwith Collection.)

was out on bond, back at work, and free to join the nascent Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi led by Sam Bowers of Meridian. After a brief reconciliation, Beckwith and Willie split permanently, this time with Beckwith filing for the divorce.

Beckwith threw himself into work for the Klan just as he had done earlier with the Citizens Council, but a change began to occur in his editorial rhetoric. Through Bowers he was introduced to Wesley Swift's Christian Identity Movement, which taught that Whites were the Lost Tribes of Israel and that Blacks and Jews were offspring of Satan. Now Jews were reviled along with Blacks, and Beckwith announced that he would be working full time for *The Southern Review*, the official organ of the Klan. The years 1964-67 were the heyday of Klan activity in Mississippi, with Bowers'

minions committing over three hundred documented acts of violence. This reign of terror ended only when Bowers, himself, was jailed for the Neshoba County murders of Andrew Goodman, James Chaney, and Michael Schwerner and the Klan fell under the scrutiny of a House committee investigation.

In the melee Beckwith conducted an unsuccessful run for Lt. Governor. When this failed in 1968, he returned to Greenwood to work for the Barrentine Manufacturing Company selling boats throughout the southeast. He appeared to live quietly for the next five years, though

he did put in an occasional appearance at a Klan rally. Then on September 26, 1973, Beckwith was apprehended outside New Orleans with a stolen tag on his car and a crude bomb on the floor, probably meant for A.I. Botnick, the regional director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith in New Orleans who had helped raise funds to reward informants during the investigation of the bombing of Temple Beth Israel in Meridian. This effort had resulted in the apprehension of Thomas Tarrants, one of Bowers' disciples, in the act and earned the enmity of the Klan. Also in the car were twenty copies of *None Dare Call It Conspiracy* by Gary Allen published by the John Birch Society, which

Beckwith believed contained irrefutable proof of a coalition between Jews, Blacks, and what he called "sorry white folks."

And it was this coalition, of course, on which Beckwith blamed his subsequent conviction and sentence to five years imprisonment in the state penitentiary at Angola. Here, since he had to be held in restricted quarters to ensure his safety, he would have plenty of time to read his Bible, study Wesley Swift's teachings, and make numerous other contacts among the new right, like his friend J. B. Stoner's National States Rights Party, James K. Warner's New Christian Crusade Church, Buddy Tucker's National Emancipation of the White Seed, and Richard G. Butler's Aryan Nations movement.

He emerged from prison in 1980 more bitter than ever and retreated to a parcel of



Beckwith and his son at home in Greenwood, c. 1957. (Beckwith Collection.)

land he had bought in rural Carroll County Mississippi, where he hoped to set up a movement of his own. Then his friend Pauline Mackey introduced him to the widowed Thelma Neff, of Chattanooga, who shared his political views. The pair were quickly married, and Beckwith retired to Signal Mountain, which he called "the outskirts of Heaven."

This quiet period ended abruptly in 1989 when prosecutors in Mississippi reopened the Evers case. Jerry Mitchell, a reporter for the Jackson

Clarion-Ledger, uncovered evidence that Mississippi's state Sovereignty Commission, a segregationist organization, had provided background information on prospective jurors to Beckwith's defense team during the second trial. The NAACP called for a new investigation, and the Jackson City Council authorized the state attorney general to reopen the case. Beckwith was arrested on December 31, 1990, spent seven months in the Hamilton County jail fighting extradition, and another ten incarcerated in Hinds County fighting against the trial.

Then on December 16, 1992, the Supreme Court of Mississippi by a close vote ruled that Byron De La Beckwith would once more have to stand trial for the murder of Medgar Evers. Reed's biography ends here, but there is, of course, an epilogue. This time the trial's outcome was not so favorable to Beckwith. In February of 1994 he was convicted and immediately sentenced to life in prison, where he presently remains, doubtless immersing himself in whatever manifestations of the new right have taken his fancy and blaming his conviction on what he calls "Jewish prudence."



Beckwith and his second wife, Thelma Louise Neff, in 1986 at a KKK rally in Pulaski, Tennessee, birthplace of the Klan. (Beckwith Collection.)

RESPONDING TO THE INFORMATION REVOLUTION: THE 21ST CENTURY CAMPAIGN

By Laura C. Simic
Director of Development

In October 1994, the University of Tennessee publicly kicked off the 21st Century Campaign, a drive to raise \$250 million to support the University's tri-fold mission of teaching, research and public service. The campaign, the most ambitious single initiative ever undertaken by the University, will help the University shape its mission to meet the challenges and opportunities of the next century.

The University Libraries is participating in the 21st Century Campaign by raising \$5 million to enhance collections and services.

The University Libraries is first and foremost people—a group of experts who provide information to users at the point and moment of need, and by the method the user prefers. New information tools, in the form of new technologies, are emerging to help connect the thought and knowledge expressed in traditional books and non-print formats such as microforms, video tapes, audio cassettes, laser discs and computer databases. The technology of the next several years holds significant opportunities and significant risks.

"Libraries are going to have to operate many different technologies at the same time," says Dean of Libraries Paula Kaufman. "Nineteenth century print systems and twenty-first century electronic systems will co-exist for many years."

The University Libraries' faculty and staff is the key to the success of the libraries. They are much more than gatekeepers to stacks of books. The challenge of the next century will be to balance the demand for personalized services with the libraries' strongly-held commitment to its mission to instruct users of the UTK libraries in ways to best find, retrieve, use and manage the information resources they need. The libraries' ability to provide these tools will determine their success.

"We spend more and more time every year on instructional functions," says the dean. "The amount of resources that we put into instruction is enormous



compared to what we used to do. It's everything from going into a graduate seminar and teaching to developing computer-based instruction packages for undergraduates."

The University Libraries not only connects library users with information resources located around the globe, but serves as a keeper of the records of our civilization. Throughout history, new technology has not necessarily replaced old technology. Television has not replaced radio; computers have not replaced pens. The preservation of both the intellectual content and the physical form of information is a central part of the libraries role.

"Advancements in paper making, rising out of the industrial age, created a new set of problems for preservation," says Dean Kaufman. "We went from papers made with rags and cloth to paper made from wood pulp which is highly acidic. The chemicals used to make the paper are literally burning the books from the inside out."

For 150 years, between 1850 and the year 2000, many domestically printed books were not, and will not be, printed on acid-free paper.

Libraries link minds of the past, present and future. The success of the 21st Century Campaign today will determine the quality of the University Libraries' role as the nerve center of the campus and the community tomorrow. The campaign's success will begin a new epoch, a turning point for the libraries that will accelerate the information revolution that is already taking place.

The onset of the information revolution requires a specific strategy and immediate action. Four fund raising priorities have been identified.

Acquisitions Endowment

Providing physical collections of print, microform, audiovisual and electronic materials, supplemented by access to information not held on site, enables minds of the past, present, and future to connect and interact. Without access to the wide spectrum of information that is available, today's scholars and researchers cannot make new discoveries. The University Libraries is committed to making available and preserving for future generations a body of shared resources.

The Library of Congress' collection grows an average of five percent per year. This is an important standard by which to measure the growth of the UT Libraries' collection. With the current collection consisting of 2 million volumes, it is our goal to expand our collection by approximately 100,000 volumes, in addition to information in other formats, per year.

The combination of the escalating amount of information being published and inflation—books cost 40 percent more and journals 100 percent more than they did just five years ago—stretches the libraries resources tighter and tighter each year.

An endowment for the purchase of library materials supplements the state's allocations to better respond to the information needs of our faculty, students and the region. It also allows the purchase of special materials, such as the papers of author Alex Haley or our first governor, John Sevier, or documents tracing the history of the State of Tennessee.



The John C. Hodges Library.

Technology Endowment

With more and more information being produced in electronic formats, the libraries must not only purchase the information itself, but the equipment to provide access to it. The libraries' on-line catalog and more than 400 computer workstations provide information from around the globe at the touch of a button. But rapidly advancing technology also creates an expense that did not exist 20 years ago. An endowment to support technology would provide funds each year for the purchase and maintenance of state-of-the-art tools to obtain information available anywhere in the world.

Preservation Endowment

In only a matter of hours, a newspaper that has been left out in the sun turns yellow and brittle. It crumbles at the touch of a hand. Materials including books published after the mid-1800s, films, audio and video tapes are suffering the same effect at varying rates.

Libraries have the unique charge of preserving the original records of the human enterprise while moving toward the future. About one-fourth of the University Libraries' present collection is in the process of disintegrating and in need of preservation treatment to protect it from day-to-day handling, environmental conditions, insects and other contaminants. Such techniques include creating protective enclosures for books; encapsulating maps, sheet music and other print materials in mylar; microfilming newspapers to protect the originals from handling; and digitizing information for use in electronic formats.

The knowledge, ideas and discoveries of the past must not be lost. An endowment for preserving the existing collection means extending the life of our materials for use by generations to come.

Faculty Support

Endowed librarian positions have become the hallmark of the nation's most prestigious libraries. Among these are Stanford University with the Frances and Charles Field Curator of Special Collections, the University of California, Berkeley with the James D. Hart Director of the Bancroft Library, Yale University with the Rose Beinecke Research Librarian and

Harvard University with the Richard F. French Chair of Librarianship.

An endowment for faculty support would provide salary supplements for three named librarian positions to attract and retain the talented library professionals needed to carry out the libraries' services. The endowed librarian positions at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville Libraries would be equal in stature to those in other great libraries and enhance the important role the libraries plays in the intellectual enrichment of the region.

The University Libraries is at a critical point in the information revolution, and must evaluate issues of preservation, acquisition, distribution, instruction and technology.

"We must be able to support the work of our research faculty and students as well as the information needs all of the people of the region," says the dean. "A barometer of the quality of any academic program is the strength of the library collection which supports it. After all, no one could graduate

without the library."

"We've made notable accomplishments, but we must keep moving forward," the dean continues. "Faculty, students, and our community members need books and journals here on site, and they need to have access to those that

we don't own here. That means building on the collection we own by purchasing books. That means having the technology we need in order to take advantage of things held elsewhere in print or electronic form. Additionally, we have interrelationships between the new and the old. We have an obligation to preserve those things that are important."

The University revolves around access to information. Without that, everything stops. Education at all levels—graduate and undergraduate—terminates. Teaching ends. Research dries up.

When that happens, life itself is threatened. Progress is denied. Enlightenment is spurned. Medicine is powerless. Tolerance is disregarded.

What the future holds depends on the holdings of the libraries. With the 21st Century Campaign, the University Libraries has an opportunity to be instrumental in the revolution that is already at hand. There is no worthier effort than making life itself better, and information is the key.



Audio-Visual Services in the Hodges Library.

THE FLAG THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN, 1796

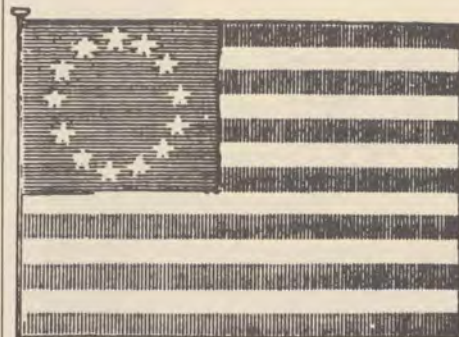
By John Dobson
Special Collections Librarian Emeritus

There have been thirteen star flags, fifteen star flags, twenty star flags, but no sixteen star flags. Why?

Among duplicates from the Tennessee Historical Society that recently came into the possession of the University Libraries was an interesting old report concerning changes to the flag of the nation. This was the Report of the Select Committee appointed on the 12th of December, 1816, to inquire into the expediency of altering the flag of the United States.

New designs for the flag were considered appropriate because a number of new states had been added to the Union. As every school child knows the original flag adopted in 1777, the one made by Betsy Ross, displayed thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, and thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation. The thirteen stripes and thirteen stars also represented the original English colonies from which thirteen independent and united states evolved. The flag, as thus created, remained unchanged for about eighteen years. During this time two more states—Vermont in 1791 and Kentucky in 1792—had been admitted to the Union and desired representation on the flag. In recognition of the new states, Congress in 1794 enacted: "that, from and after the first day of May, 1795, the flag of the United States be fifteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be fifteen stars, white in a blue field."

This was the flag used in the second war with England in 1812, the flag that



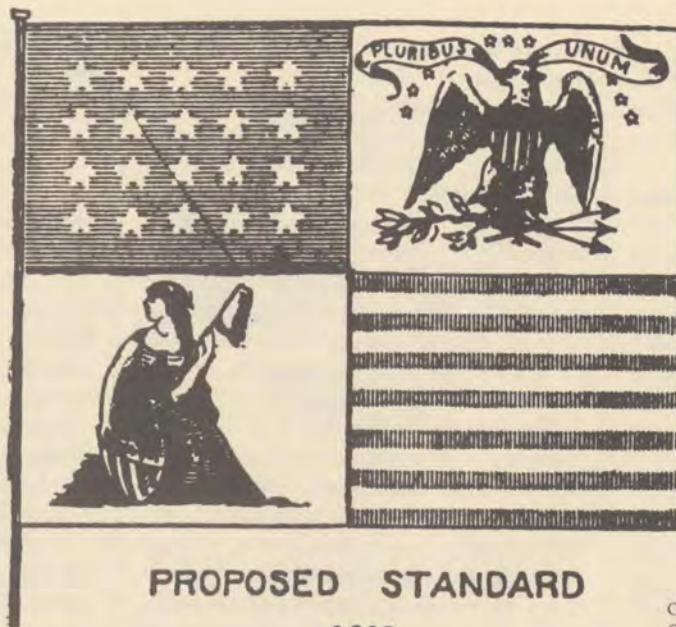
1777

13 STARS 13 STRIPES

While the number of stars and stripes and their relative arrangement was fixed in 1777, the form of the stars on the blue field was not, from Preble, George H., History of the Flag of the United States of America: 1882. (Boston: James R. Osgood and Co., p. 248.)

inspired Francis Scott Key to write "The Star Spangled Banner." This flag, without further changes, remained the national emblem for about twenty-three years.

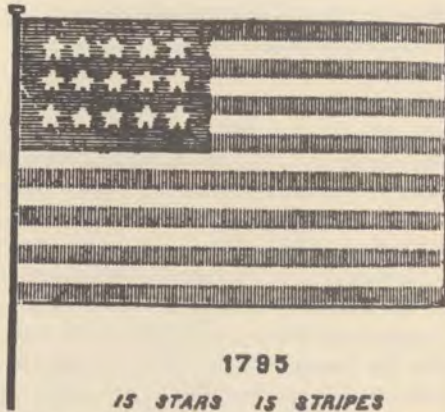
Tennessee was admitted to the Union on June 1, 1796, as the sixteenth state, the last to be added in the 18th century. Although no other state was accepted until the end of 1802, Congress failed to authorize a change in the flag to honor Tennessee. It was not until 1818, when four more states had joined the Union—Ohio in 1802, Louisiana in 1812, Indiana in 1816, and Mississippi in 1817—that the flag was altered to reflect the change. The alteration produced a twenty star flag.



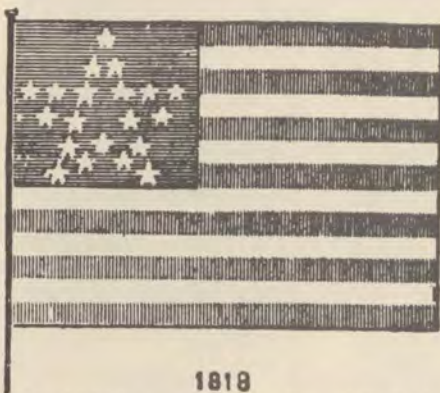
**PROPOSED STANDARD
1818**

From Preble, George H., History of the Flag of the United States of America: 1882. (Boston: James R. Osgood and Co., p. 248.)

alteration could be made, more emblematical of our origin and present existence, as composed of a number of independent and united States, than to reduce the stripes to the original thirteen, representing the number of States then contending for, and happily achieving, their independence—and to increase the stars to correspond with the number of States now in the Union—and hereafter to add one star to the flag whenever a new State shall be fully admitted.



The flag with stars and bars for Vermont and Kentucky, from Preble, George H., History of the Flag of the United States of America: 1882. (Boston: James R. Osgood and Co., p. 248.)



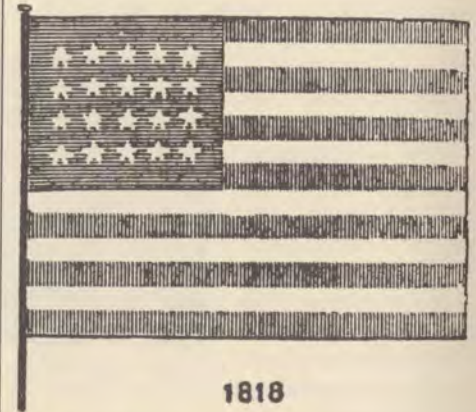
This 1818 flag made by Mrs. Samuel C. Reid was to be flown over fortresses. The Navy flag traditionally had parallel stars, from Preble, George H., History of the Flag of the United States of America: 1882. (Boston: James R. Osgood and Co., p. 248.)

This change was made as a result of the work of the Select Committee who reported as follows:

That they [were]...well aware that any proposition essentially to alter the flag of the United States, either in its general form or in the distribution of its parts, would be as unacceptable to the Legislature and to the people, as it would be incongenial with the views of the committee....

The original flag of the United States was composed of thirteen stripes and thirteen stars, and was adopted by a resolution of the continental Congress, on the 14th of June, 1777. On the 13th of January, 1794, after two new States had been admitted into the Union, the national Legislature passed an act that the stripes and stars should, on a day fixed, be increased to fifteen each, to comport with the then number of independent States. The accession of new States since that alteration, and the certain prospect that at no distant period the number of States will be considerably multiplied, render it, in the opinion of the committee, highly inexpedient to increase the number of stripes,....

The national flag being in general use by vessels of almost every description, it appears to the committee of considerable importance to adopt some arrangement calculated to prevent, in future, great or expensive alterations. Under these impressions, they are led to believe no



The Navy flag, from Preble, George H., History of the Flag of the United States of America: 1882. (Boston: James R. Osgood and Co., p. 248.)



From Preble, George H., History of the Flag of the United States of America: 1882. (Boston: James R. Osgood and Co., p. 248.)

These slight alterations will, in the opinion of the committee, meet the general approbation as well of those who may have regretted a former departure from the original flag, and such as are solicitous to see in it a representation of every State in the Union.

The committee cannot believe that in retaining only thirteen stripes, it necessarily follows they should be distinctly considered in reference to certain individual States, inasmuch as nearly all the new States were a component part of, and represented in, the original States; and inasmuch, also, as the flag is intended to signify numbers, and not local and particular sections of the union.

Because of the above report the following law was passed. "Be it enacted, that from and after the fourth of July, next, the flag of the United States shall be thirteen horizontal stripes, alternate red and white, and that the Union be twenty stars, white in a blue field, and that, on the admission of a new state into the Union, one star be added to the union of the flag; and that such addition shall take effect on the fourth of July, next, succeeding such admission. Approved April 4, 1818."

The return to the thirteen stripes of the 1777 flag was due, in a measure, to a reverence for the standard of the Revolution; but it was also due, as the Select Committee observed, to the fact that continued increases in the number of stripes would make the width of the flag out of proportion to the length, unless the stripes were narrowed, and this would impair distinctness when viewed from a distance. No act has since been passed by Congress altering the features of the flag, and it is the same as originally adopted, except as to the number of stars in the Union. Thus the 1818 flag was the first to include a star representing Tennessee.

It might have been unwise to attempt a flag with sixteen stripes, but one with sixteen stars seems made to order. And made to order is just what is required if a flag to honor Tennessee's entry into the Union be desired. With the 200th anniversary of statehood quickly approaching, the sixteen star flag seems an appropriate symbol to celebrate the bicentennial observance. If the Select Committee to inquire into the expediency of altering the flag had been appointed twenty years earlier, the sixteen stars to recognize Tennessee could have been a reality. In any case, for your consideration, the flag that never was may be seen on the covers of this publication.

DRINK, DEATH, AND POLITICS: THE KILLING OF SENATOR EDWARD W. CARMACK

By William B. Eigelsbach
and
Jamie Sue Linder

The 1908 killing of Edward W.

Carmack, editor of The Nashville Tennessean and a former United States senator, and its aftermath provide Tennessee with one of the greatest scandals in the state's history. Thanks to the generosity of donors, we were fortunate this year to purchase a series of letters written by citizens to Jeff McCarn, lead prosecuting attorney of Carmack's killers. These letters and other materials available at the University of Tennessee Special Collections, such as the papers of Senator James B. Frazier and Judge John K. Shields, form the basis for the following article.

It was a cloudy, smoky day in November as former senator Edward W. Carmack walked home from the editorial offices of *The Tennessean*. As was editor Carmack's custom, he smoked a cigar while he strolled, often stopping to talk to friends and acquaintances. This particular evening, however, Carmack was carrying a gun.

Over the last two days the newspaper editor had been getting death threats from Duncan Cooper, the power behind the administration of Governor Malcom R. Patterson. Cooper and Carmack had once been close, even working together at the *Nashville American*. In fact, as head of the *American Col.* Cooper had given Carmack his first job in the newspaper business. Despite this former friendship Carmack had written two successive editorials criticizing Cooper's role in Patterson's administration. Although these relatively mild editorials titled "Across the Muddy Chasm," and "The Great Diplomat of the Political Zweibund," did not, in the words of later governor Ben Hooper, "justify even an altercation," they propelled Cooper into a murderous fury.

Meanwhile, Carmack nearing the governor's mansion chanced upon his neighbor Mrs. Charles H. Eastman and stopped to talk. A loud, angry voice interrupted their conversation. "We've got you all right, sir; we've got the drop on you." It was a threatening Duncan Cooper. Carmack simultaneously attempted to move clear of Mrs. Eastman and pull out his gun. Cooper then shouted, "You dastardly coward, you are hiding behind a woman, are you?" Robin Cooper, Duncan's son, entered the scene. A volley of shots was fired. Shortly Carmack lay dead in the gutter, having been hit three times. Any of his wounds, particularly the one through the back of his neck, would have been fatal. Of his assailants only Robin Cooper received any sort of wound and his was minor. Mrs. Eastman recovered from her shock and denounced the elder Cooper. As she told *The Tennessean*, "I cried out to him that I would a thousand times rather be the dead man in the gutter than to be him, after such a deed."

"Mr. Carmack...was about six feet tall and well proportioned, red-headed, with a red mustache....He had a remarkable personality....He was high minded. He feared no man. He played no favorites." (Quote: McKellar, Senator Kenneth, Tennessee Senators, Southern Publishers, Kingsport, 1942, p.472. Picture: Jeff McCarn Collection.)



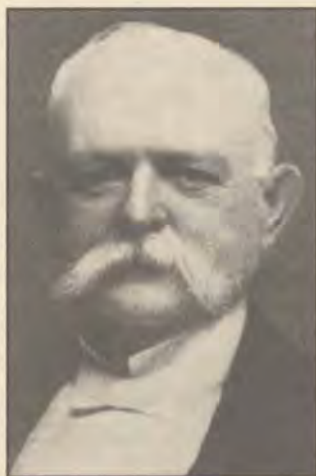
Later Dr. McPheeters Glasgow, who had been summoned to the shooting, gave the following detailed account of the scene to *The Tennessean*:

Senator Carmack was lying huddled up in the gutter with his head up the hill. His right arm was folded under his head, and there was a pistol lying just beyond his right hand. In his left hand there was the stump of a cigar, and a copy of the evening paper was lying near him. His head was in a pool of blood, which had run from his mouth. There was a bullet lying just under his mouth. This bullet had come from the back of his neck, and had loosened his front teeth so that they were hanging.

Various factors led to that fatal day of 8 November 1908. Distant in time were those arising out of Carmack's first campaign for public office. In a bitter battle, Carmack had challenged and defeated the incumbent Memphis congressman Josiah Patterson, father of Malcolm Patterson. In the process Carmack earned the enmity of the Patterson family. Nearer in time and more significant were Carmack's unsuccessful reelection campaign for the U.S. Senate in 1906 and his unsuccessful 1908 bid for the Democratic nomination for governor against Malcolm Patterson.

Political dynamics of the 1906 campaign—along with geography—carried Patterson and Carmack into conflict. Incumbent Senator Carmack was challenged for renomination by popular, former governor Robert Love Taylor. Then-congressman Patterson was himself challenging incumbent Governor John I. Cox and defeating Cox would not assure Patterson's victory in the fall. Dissident Democrats, allied with Republicans, could carry the election. In order to win, Patterson had to split Republican-dominated East Tennessee. He needed running with him on the ticket, not fellow West Tennessean Carmack, but East Tennessee's Robert Taylor. This led Patterson and his campaign manager, Duncan Cooper, to work to foil—successfully—Carmack's renomination. In the fall, the ticket of Patterson and Taylor carried the state. It was a bitter defeat for Carmack, and he blamed Patterson. "Patterson put the knife to me," Carmack wrote in a letter to Senator James B. Frazier.

Even before the defeated Carmack left



Col. Duncan Cooper, guerrilla and conscription agent in the Civil War, was the power behind the scenes in the Patterson Administration. His anger over Carmack's editorials led to the editor's death. (*The Literary Digest*, Vol. 60, Jan.–June 1910, p. 860.)

office, he was being urged to run for governor in 1908 against Patterson. Carmack's colleague Senator Frazier encouraged such a course, further pointing out that once Carmack returned home to Columbia the idea would be irresistible. Subsequently, Frazier was proven correct when in September of 1907 Carmack announced his candidacy.

Two primary focuses of Carmack's campaign would be prohibition and Governor Patterson's abuse of pardons. The Patterson political machine was dependant upon whiskey money, Carmack believed, and by abolishing whiskey, the powerful influence of money would be diminished.

In his initial speech of the gubernatorial campaign Carmack assessed, "in the first year of his administration Patterson pardoned 380 convicts, nearly five times as many persons as Governor McMillin for a like period, nearly three times as many as Governor Frazier, and twice as many as did Governor Cox." All totaled, Patterson pardoned sixty-one murderers, forty-six bootleggers, and fifty-eight pistol carriers. Ironically, in light of what was to be his own fate, Carmack asserted:

Violence and murder stalked through the land because crime has lost its fear of justice. We are the most homicidal nation upon the face of the earth. There are more men killed by other men in the City of Memphis and the City of Nashville than in the great City of London with its teeming millions of people. When mercy takes from the criminal his fear of the law it whets the knife and then loads the pistol for another victim.

Carmack's support for statewide prohibition severely hampered fund-raising efforts for his campaign. First, his stance alienated the whiskey industry, a major source of candidate funds. Due to the industry's dissatisfaction with Patterson's inability to keep his promises, Carmack might have been able to successfully raise funds from whiskey

manufacturers. Second, many of those with money who had urged Carmack to challenge Patterson eventually turned against him because of his prohibition stand.

Just how desperate Carmack's money situation was can be seen in numerous letters written by various correspondents to Sen. Frazier during the course of the campaign. Typical of these was a letter written by Frazier's political secretary and newspaper editor Rutledge Smith after a meeting with George Armistead, Carmack's campaign manager. "Their position is obviously pitiful and alarming. He [Armistead] had to make a note for \$100.00 to get through the week, and said the hundred you sent was like a Godsend."

If the Carmack campaign was short of funds the Patterson campaign was quite the opposite. However, Carmack thought his opponent's excess finances would rebound to his advantage. A point Carmack emphasized in a letter to his friend Sen. Frazier.

It is evident, however, that the whiskey men are actively organizing and that the enemy will be supplied with a big slush fund for campaign purposes. I do not feel much apprehension, however, on this account because they have already about all the votes they could buy and when it becomes known, as it will be, that they are amply supplied with money, every bum, crook, and grafter in their ranks will be after it and will get mad and sullen if he does not get his share.

Carmack erred in his optimism. Tennesseans cast their votes, the majority went with the money, electing Patterson to his second term. Carmack had lost yet another political battle but was determined to win the war for prohibition. Carmack would no longer carry on this war as an active politician. He would do so as the editor of Luke Lea's new Nashville paper, *The Tennessean*. It was this pursuit of prohibition that led



While in office Gov. Malcom Patterson served the "whiskey power," but later, after his son was institutionalized for insanity induced by excessive drink and he himself was arrested drunk in a Nashville brothel, Patterson became as ardent a prohibitionist as Carmack had been. (Stephen B. Ash, *Messages of the Governors of Tennessee 1907–1921*, Nashville: Tennessee Historical Commission, 1990, before p. 7.)



Carmack to publish the editorials that so angered Col. Cooper with such fatal results.

After the slaying of Senator Carmack, the Coopers left the scene of the crime to secure medical treatment for the slightly-wounded Robin Cooper. As a crowd gathered around Dr. Rufus Fort's infirmary, Col. Duncan Cooper paced before the fireplace and said, "Doctor, I don't want anybody in here unless it is the officer; I don't want to shoot another man." Soon Sergeant Robert Vaughn and Patrolman Lee Sanders arrived to take the Coopers into custody.

The elder Cooper was taken to jail and held in the officers' chamber where he was joined by future governor Austin Peay, chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee, Michael Savage, and others. Here Col. Cooper was charged with accessory to murder and carrying a pistol; his son was charged with murder while being held in custody at the Baptist Hospital. Soon John Sharp, who had been with the Coopers just before the shooting, was also arrested and similarly charged. Eventually all three would be held in a large, single room. Only when the prosecution protested that this arrangement would give the defendants time to coordinate their stories were the prisoners separated.

While the prisoners were being held the press coverage damned the Coopers as "assassins." No publication was louder in denouncing the Coopers than Carmack's own newspaper, *The Tennessean*, carrying such headlines as "Murder Premeditated,

Deliberately Planned and Executed in a Cold-Blooded Style," and leads as "Because he dared to oppose the might of the saloons in Tennessee, Edward Ward Carmack lies cold in death, three gaping wounds cry out for vengeance on his murderers, Col. Duncan B. Cooper and his son, Robin Cooper." While some papers tried to take a more balanced approach, only the *Nashville American* attempted to put as good a face as possible on the Coopers' deeds. According to James Summerville in his book, *The Carmack-Cooper Shooting, Tennessee Politics Turns Violent*, on the day after Carmack's funeral, some Nashville citizens disrupted the paper's distribution by kicking piles of the *Nashville American* into the gutter and setting them afire.

Three months later on 20 January 1909 the trial of the three accused men opened before Judge William Hart. Appearing for the defense were prominent members of the bar William Henry Washington, a former attorney general, and John M. Anderson, a former judge. Leading for the prosecution was attorney general Jeff McCarn. McCarn, a Vanderbilt graduate, was a fervent prohibitionist and an ardent admirer of Carmack. His principal assistant was Carmack's friend Guston Fitzhugh of Memphis. These two legal teams were to try the case before a mostly rural jury. Press reporting had been so intense that only in the rural areas could men be found whose opinion had not already been formed—or at least influenced—by the newspapers.

The issue of The Nashville Tennessean announcing the killing of the paper's editor. (MS-788, James B. Frazier Papers.)

The theory of the prosecution was basically that of *The Tennessean*—a deliberate act of murder. The defense argued that Col. Cooper's approach to Carmack, albeit misconceived, had not been violent in intent. Carmack had been the one who had pulled a gun first and first fired; Robin Cooper had killed him in self defense.

While the widow of the slain editor huddled in grief behind the defense team, with her orphaned child near at hand, the witnesses were called to testify. Of these, two were particularly damaging to the defense. The first was called by the prosecution, Mrs. Eastman, and the second by the defense, Col. Cooper himself.

As the nearest eye witness, Mrs. Eastman's testimony was incompatible with the defense's argument about Col. Cooper's peaceable intentions. Nor did she think it likely that Carmack had fired the first shot. Mrs. Eastman testified as she turned to seek shelter in a nearby archway, Carmack was holding his gun by the barrel. So soon after she turned was the first shot fired that Mrs. Eastman felt it could not be Carmack who started the shooting.

As to Col. Cooper, a few quotes will impart the tenor of his testimony. Under prosecution questioning Cooper made such statements as "Well, I have always believed that a man who kept a fighting tongue should keep a fighting body," and "I was not on a peaceable mission, I was on a mission to stop this attack on me." By the time Cooper left the stand the defense strategy had suffered severe damage.

After conclusion of witness testimony and presentations by lawyers and the judge, the jury retired to their deliberations. A day later the jury reported John Sharp innocent but declared themselves deadlocked in regard to the Coopers. Judge Hart ordered deliberations be resumed. The next morning—exactly two months after the trial started—the jury declared the Coopers, father and son, both guilty of second degree murder. The sentence was twenty years each in prison.

With the guilty verdict secured, prosecutor McCarn welcomed letters of praise from across the South and the state.

The verdict should have read "hanging by the neck until dead" for "that 27 yr old boy" (?) & life for debauched, egotistical, detestable, old remnant of "southern gentle man of the old school" & ten years for Sharp..."

W.T. Miller
Porum, Okla.

"Ha, ha, ha; Jeff McCarn, Ha, ha, ha; Jeff McCarn; Men may lie, thieves may steal, Hogs may howl, pigs may squeal, But while old Jeff McCarn doth live, They will all be beat."

Pastor George H. Thompson
Hattiesburg, Miss.

Since the assassination of our beloved leader and strenuous effort in certain circles to condone the crime that justice may not be meted out to those who carried the plot into execution, much has been said as to the high standing and immaculate character of Col. D. Cooper. I have no desire to pluck one star from the glory of his past nor add one inch to the depths of his present disgrace. But I send you here with a clipping from the Bakersville Review of Nov. 19 in which I find this language: "We heard an Old Confederate Soldier, who was a strong Patterson supporter, and who was raised within three miles of Col. Cooper and well acquainted with his war record, say that Cooper was a Guerilla Captain during the Civil War."

A.B. Simpson
Waverly, Tenn.

You have "made good". We are not a bloodthirsty people but we feel that we have a right to rejoice in the fact that the law is still a living force in Tennessee, notwithstanding the contempt in which it seems to be held by some who are high,—too high in authority. The result in this case is a distinct triumph for law and order and decency against heavy odds, and will stand as a monument to the skill, ability and fidelity of yourself and those who assisted you.

S.M. Young
Dixon Springs, Tenn.

Inevitably, the guilty verdict was appealed to the Tennessee Supreme Court. While the judges were in the process of deciding the case, Gov. Patterson visited Chief Justice Beard. His message was that the Democratic Central Committee had suspended the normal renomination procedure for election to the Supreme Court. The Cooper case would have to be decided before the committee made its decision on renomination. Implicit within this was the threat that should the judges decide against the governor's wishes they would not be renominated. Led by Associate Justice John K. Shields of Knoxville, the court as politicians revolted against the governor's threat to their independence as judges, refused to accept party nomination,



Carmack playing with his son in front of the family home in Columbia, Tennessee. The son, Edward Jr., was to follow in his father's steps by becoming an editor and a politician. (Harper's Weekly, Vol. 51, 1907, p. 942.)

and created an independent slate for the election. This was the start of the alliance between the dissident slate and Republicans that would destroy the Patterson machine.

On 13 April 1910 the Supreme Court met to announce its decision. Reading the Court's massive opinion was Judge Shields. In essence the decision was that Col. Cooper's threat and actions in approaching Carmack were such that Carmack could only have a reasonable belief that his life was in danger. Cooper's actions constituted assault; Carmack's actions were legitimate self-defense. Therefore the Court sustained the conviction of Duncan Cooper. In regard to Robin Cooper, the Court ruled that even if his father had provoked the incident the trial court erred in not allowing the younger Cooper to put forth a plea of self-defense. Therefore Robin Cooper's case was remanded back for retrial. (Effectively this trial of the younger Cooper never occurred because a new attorney general connived with the defense to have a Patterson appointed judge order a directed verdict of innocent by nonprosecution.)

Even before Judge Shields finished reading the Court's opinion, Gov. Patterson issued a pardon for his friend Duncan Cooper. Patterson explained his actions: "It took the Supreme Court 72 days to decide this case and it decided it the wrong way. It took 72 minutes and I decided it the right way."

Condemnation of Cooper's pardon was national in scope. The *Literary Digest* started its article on the pardon with, "It has been reserved for Governor Patterson, of Tennessee, to demonstrate that a pardon may arouse even more reprobation than a lynching." Other national papers were equally scathing. The *Tennessean* spoke for the local press when the newspaper proclaimed, "We are not ruled by murders, only their friends." By this *The*

Tennessean and other papers simply reflected public opinion.

When the press and public speak, politicians listen. Despite the public uproar over the pardon, Gov. Patterson retained enough power to secure the Democratic Party's official nomination for reelection. With hopeless defeat seemingly inevitable, Patterson soon withdrew. Sen. Taylor was prevailed upon to run instead. But even "Fighting Bob's" popularity was not enough. Young Newport lawyer and Spanish-American War veteran Capt. Ben Hooper, running with the Republican nomination and that of the independent Democrats, carried the day. Enough independent Democrats and Republicans also won gaining dominance in the state legislature. In 1911 the legislature proceeded to elect Luke Lea, Carmack's publisher, to succeed Frazier in the Senate. And in 1913 after the death of Sen. Taylor and an interim appointment of Republican Newell Sanders, the legislature elected Judge Shields to Carmack's old seat. Thus, the triumph against the Patterson machine was complete.

And what of prohibition? Carmack's killing had closed that question even before the trial had begun. A state legislature with a majority formally committed to prohibition had been elected—along with Gov. Patterson—in 1908. Then as is now what is promised in an election is not what is necessarily voted for once in office. With the groundswell of outrage over Carmack's killing the politicians were forced to act as they had pledged by voting for statewide prohibition. Gov. Patterson could only look on helplessly as the legislature overrode his veto. The whiskey power that Carmack had fought, his death destroyed. Truly, as Nashville distillery owner Victor Immanuel Shwab observed, "When Cooper shot he killed Carmack, Patterson & whiskey at the same time."

GIVING IN MEMORY AND IN GENEROSITY: MRS. REBA Q. ABSHER

By Dana Bagwell, Development Intern

Mrs. Reba Q. Absher smiled when asked why she generously supports the University Libraries and said, "I know it's what my husband wanted."

Her husband is the late Dr. Lee A. Absher who owned a family medical practice in Knoxville. Dr. Absher died in July 1990 from leukemia. Mrs. Absher has carried on her husband's wishes to promote education and high standards of scholarship by establishing the Mr. and Mrs. Lytle A. Absher Library Memorial Fund, named for Dr. Absher's parents, and the Reba and Lee Absher Library Endowment Fund at UTK; an endowment fund for the UT Medical Center in Knoxville; and many medical and nursing scholarships.

Mrs. Absher shares her husband's interest in medicine. She grew up in Cleveland, Tennessee, and attended nursing school in Chattanooga. One month before her graduation, Dr. J. Tom Currey asked her to work in his office, and she accepted. Mrs. Absher worked in Dr. Currey's office until he bought a 25-bed hospital where she accompanied him as surgical supervisor.

"My duties were many," she said. "I had an apartment in the hospital, and I was on call 24-hours-a-day."

Her duties at the hospital included supervising all surgery, emergencies and obstetrics, making all x-rays and keeping all medical records.

One year after beginning her job at the hospital, Mrs. Absher left it to marry Dennis Queen and became an instant mother to his 6-year-old son, Ronald, and his 11-year-old daughter, Doris. Mrs. Absher began working part time again three years later.

Fear of instant motherhood almost kept Mrs. Absher from marrying her first husband. She was persuaded to do so by Queen's daughter, she said.

"I decided I wasn't going to marry Dennis and went back to Chattanooga. Dennis's daughter put on her very best clothes and came down alone to see me and ask me why I wasn't going to marry her daddy. I went back and married him," Mrs. Absher explained.

Mrs. Absher did private duty nursing during the beginning of her marriage to Queen before the World War II effort came to Cleveland. Anxious to be a part of the war effort, Mrs. Absher took a government training course in aircraft inspection. She worked as an inspector in a division that built flaps (brakes) for the wings of



Reba Absher with a portrait of her late husband, Lee Absher.

airplanes, joining the millions of American women who took on highly skilled work in defense plants, as characterized by Rosie the Riveter.

"Since the flap is the part of the wing that slows the plane down as it starts to descend for landing, there is extreme air pressure against this part of the plane," Mrs. Absher explained. "I was taught if a rivet was improperly driven it would not hold against the wind, and it would pull out. The burden of this rivet would be then carried by the rivets on either side causing a weakness in them. Eventually, the entire row of rivets could pull out and endanger the lives of the soldiers. I took my work very seriously."

"My work on aircraft was an entirely new experience, and I learned a lot of things that have been helpful to me since that time," she said.

Reading aircraft blueprints was another important thing Mrs. Absher learned while working for the military. As a result, she has drawn the blueprints for a rental house, two apartment buildings, the office for Dr. W. C. Stanbery, for whom she later worked, and her present home in Knoxville. Before she designed her home, she measured every piece of furniture she intended to use. Then she planned and drew the blueprints around these measurements.

During the war, Dennis Queen took an assignment at the naval base in Charleston, South Carolina. In Charleston, Mrs. Absher went to work in the navy yard as secretary to the foreman of labor and transportation, a department of 1,200 employees. "I suppose this was my 15 minutes of fame," she said.

Mrs. Absher remembers the end of the war vividly. "I was washing my hair before I went to pick up my husband when the announcement came on the radio," she said. "People came running out of their houses, and in the navy yard people were hugging and kissing and celebrating."

After the war she and her husband returned to Cleveland, and she began her long career with Dr. W. C. Stanbery. During this time she and Queen divorced after 36 years of marriage.

While working for Dr. Stanbery, Mrs. Absher attended many seminars and medical meetings. It was at one such meeting in Honolulu that she met her second husband, Dr. Lee A. Absher. The two married three years later, and she began her life all over again in Knoxville.

Tears filled Mrs. Absher's eyes when she spoke of her second husband's death. "My wonderful husband's death 14 1/2 years after we married was almost too much for me. I quit living for all practical purposes. Last year after four years without him I decided I was going to live, but I would have to help myself," she explained. "I took ballroom dancing even though I have been dancing since I was 19 years old, and I am now taking computer lessons."

Mrs. Absher credits her friends from First Baptist Church of Knoxville, where she is a member, and friends from the University with helping her in her recovery.

Mrs. Absher is a member of the Founder's Society, the William G. McAdoo Society and the UT Medical Center Campaign Steering Committee at UT. Her memberships outside the University include the Tennessee Retired Officer's Club where she is an honorary member, the Knoxville Executive Club, the Knoxville Investment Club, the Rebecca Sunday School Class at First Baptist Church and the Knoxville Academy of Medicine Emeritus club. She also enjoys gardening—her home was featured on the cover of the *House and Garden* insert for the Dogwood Arts Festival in 1994.

Dr. and Mrs. Absher have consistently been monumental providers for the UTK campus and the UT Medical Center at Knoxville. The circulation services area of the John C. Hodges Library is named in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Lee A. Absher as well as the chapel at the Medical Center. They also established an endowment fund for the First Baptist Church in Knoxville; and after Dr. Absher's death, Mrs. Absher donated a carillon to the church in his memory.

In closing, Mrs. Absher summed up her long history of generosity by saying, "Everything I do is in memory of him."

RAGS TO RICHES: THE TENNESSEE NEWSPAPER PROJECT

By K. Joslyn Quinn
Project Manager,
Tennessee Newspaper Project

Newspapers provide a wealth of information to anyone interested in the history of this country, the lives of its people, and the genealogies of its families. Newspapers document the historical, civic, legal, and cultural events that have taken place in a community and around the world. They are an excellent resource for understanding the development of small towns and areas throughout the United States and for providing a feel of the time and place of their publication. From the lead articles, to job listing, to the advertisements, practically every aspect of a newspaper—even the style in which it is written—provides a glimpse of a specific time and place in history.

Despite the great potential these "rags" have as an historic resource, they are often under utilized because of obstacles users encounter. A common problem is that most were printed on wood pulp paper which becomes acidic over time and deteriorates rapidly; many are now too fragile to allow much use and are certainly not in any condition to be sent from library to library on interlibrary loan. Another problem is the lack of comprehensive access to newspaper collections; simply locating particular newspapers has often been very difficult if not impossible. The Tennessee Newspaper Project is working to solve these problems by preserving and making accessible the American newspapers held in Tennessee so these "riches" will be available for present and future generations.

Although the Tennessee Newspaper Project implementation phase is just getting underway, the United States Newspaper Program (USNP), of which it is part, has been active

for more than a dozen years. The USNP was created by the National Endowment for the Humanities in 1982 as a cooperative national effort to locate, catalog, and preserve on microfilm newspapers published in the United States from the eighteenth century to the present. The program began with just a few states, but now all fifty, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands are currently involved in or have completed their newspaper projects. National level involvement is key to this program's success; not only are expertise, experience, and bibliographic information shared, but the detailed holdings information recorded by one state's project makes it possible for another project to locate and borrow missing issues, thereby filling in gaps or completing a run for microfilming.

The program is overseen at the national level, but the projects themselves are run at the state level with the help of funding from the NEH and training and technical support from the Library of Congress. The number of newspapers, the size and geography of a state, the amount of work previously done, along with other factors greatly influence how a project is carried out; often this causes newspaper projects to vary significantly from state to state. Nevada's project with about 800 newspaper titles is very different from New York's project with about 25,000 titles. Even so, much of the detailed work of the cataloging and microfilming follows specific standards that are the same for all projects. Also, the general setup of the projects is similar. In each state a single

institution organizes and manages the project beginning with a planning phase and followed by implementation phases. During the later, the project encompasses the cataloging and microfilming of the newspaper holdings in often hundreds of smaller institutions in the state. The UTK Libraries is the managing institution for Tennessee's newspaper project.

The initial planning phase of the Tennessee Newspaper Project was carried out in 1994 with a one year grant from NEH. In that period hundreds of possible newspaper repositories across the state were contacted about their newspaper holdings. Based on the results of that survey, plans were developed for the cataloging and microfilming implementation phases. A proposal for the first cataloging phase was submitted to NEH in November 1994, and, as a result, a grant was awarded for a twenty-two month project which began July 1, 1995.

During this first implementation phase, newspapers on microfilm at the Tennessee



The front page of the first issue of Tennessee's first newspaper, The Knoxville Gazette, published November 5, 1791, when Tennessee was still part of the "Territory of the United States of America south of the river Ohio." (Photo from microfilm produced by the Tennessee State Library and Archives.)



From the Civil War map of the Knoxville area on the front page to the "want ads" on page eleven, this single issue of The New York Herald illustrates the diversity of information that can be found in newspapers. Notice the Tennessee River was still called the Holston River at that time, furnished rooms with "all the modern improvements" could be rented in New York for \$1.50 per week, and personal ads, though worded differently, were used even then to find a spouse. (The New York Herald, Tuesday, Nov. 24, 1963, p. 11.)

State Library in Nashville and in original paper format in the UTK Special Collections Library are being cataloged into a database at the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC), an international library network that is accessible through the Internet and through thousands of libraries and colleges throughout the United States and around the world. The State Library was chosen as the first site for cataloging because it holds the largest collection of Tennessee newspapers.

Though work with the individual newspapers has just begun, much information about papers held in the state has been gathered from the survey. Ranging from a single newspaper title at some, to several thousand at a few of the larger repositories, so far about 11,000 newspapers have been reported to the project from about 200 institutions across the state. The information acquired from the survey is now part of the project's in-house database which is used to organize and plan the cataloging, union listing, and later, the microfilming. This database is quite extensive and contains information on titles, types of papers, languages, places of publication, and date spans, to name but a few of the different kinds of data available.

The geographical coverage is particularly extensive; Tennessee institutions hold papers from *The Eastern Argus* published in Maine in the early 1800s, to *The Roach*, an underground newspaper, published in Haleiwa, Hawaii, in the late

1960s, and from every state in between. Foreign language papers are also part of the project as long as they were published in the United States. The Russian paper *Novoe Russkoe Slovo* published in New York City and the *Journal Francais D'Amerique* from San Francisco, are examples held in Tennessee.

Since some papers are held by more than one institution (*The New York Times* is held by fifty-seven of the survey respondents), the 11,000 newspapers reported to the project actually represent about 6,000



different or unique newspaper titles. And even though quite a few of these are related papers, that is, they are previous, subsequent, merged, or divided titles, each gets its own bibliographic record. Such a family group of papers can get as large as twenty-five or more related titles and can be as complicated as any family tree. As the project continues these relationships will be investigated and included in the catalog record.

About half of the 6,000 unique titles are of newspapers published in Tennessee. They include Tennessee's first newspaper, *The Knoxville Gazette*, (which began in 1791, five years before Tennessee became a state) through Tennessee's current papers. Titles run the gamut from A to Z, or from *The Academist* published in the 1840's in Lawrenceburg to *The Zion Methodist* from Knoxville. Almost three hundred different newspapers were published in Knoxville alone over the past two hundred years according to the survey data.

Throughout the project, staff will continue to track down newspaper holdings and update survey data; there are still quite a few newspaper repositories that have as yet to be heard from. In future phases of the project, the staff will be going

A few of the hundreds of Tennessee newspapers that will be cataloged in this phase of the Tennessee Newspaper Project.

THE NEW YORK HERALD.
NEW YORK, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1963—TRIPLE SHEET. FIFTH YEAR

THE SIEGE OF KNOXVILLE.
Scene of Burnside's Operations in East Tennessee.

BOOKKEEPING, BUSINESS WRITING, ARITHMETIC.—Mr. DOLBEAR, 609 Broadway, keeps the largest commercial facility in New York, and prepares pupils (old or young) practically for any kind of business. Gentlemen can become practical book-keepers by January 1.

DR. RUDOLPH DULON'S GERMAN AMERICAN INSTITUTE No. 1 West Twenty-sixth street.—The second quarter of this institution commences on the 26th inst. The school is in a flourishing condition, nearly all the classes referred to in the programme have been formed. Pupils admitted daily.
DR. RUDOLPH DULON.

FRENCH AND GERMAN LANGUAGES.—PROF. E. FELLEHINO, 819 Broadway, (established in New York in 1835), will receive applications for private tuition in French and German conversation, as also in grammar, class, etc. L'Anglais aux étrangers. Translations made.

FRENCH CLASS.—MME. BONDON'S FRENCH CLASS for children will commence at half-past ten on Saturday, December 13, at 44 West Twenty-fourth street.

INSTRUCTION.—A COLLEGE GRADUATE WILL receive a few more pupils in the English branches, the modern languages or the classics. Terms accommodating. Address V. T. E., New York Post office.

LADIES DESIRING TO LEARN, IN A FEW LESSONS, an art that will pay from fifteen to twenty dollars per week, can do so by addressing A. L., station A. Best of city reference given.

SEMINARY FOR YOUNG LADIES.—AT GREENWICH, on the Sound. Instruction given in all the branches of a thorough English education, with especial attention to languages and literature. Circulars may be obtained by applying to the principal, Miss H. G. CHEAMER, Greenwich, Conn.

SPANISH LANGUAGE.—A NATIVE SPANIARD IS prepared to give lessons either in classes or privately. Good reference given.—Address V. R., box 1,314 Post office.

TO FAMILIES.—LADIES HAVING WHEELER & WILSON'S machines, and unable to use them to advantage will be taught by an experienced operator at their own residences to work on all kinds of material; taught until perfect; terms \$5. Address for one week J. S. B., station G.

MATRIMONIAL.
A YOUNG GENTLEMAN, 26 YEARS OF AGE, OF fine appearance, excellent reputation, and ample means, desires to form the acquaintance of a lady of low. Those desiring a quiet home may apply at the seventh house from Tuley avenue, in Ninety-first street, Yorkville.

BOARD IN WILLIAMSBURG CAN BE OBTAINED for two young gentlemen; pleasant Rooms and location about five minutes walk from either ferry; private family no other boarders; references required. Inquire at No. 45 South Third street.

BOARD WANTED.—BY A GENTLEMAN AND WIFE, in a respectable family, with the comforts of a home. A private family preferred. Please address, stating terms and accommodations, M., box 3,405 Post office.

BOARD WANTED.—FOR A FAMILY OF THREE. TWO Rooms will be required, furnished or unfurnished; a nice second floor for housekeeping would be preferred. First class reference will be given and required. Address Iron clad, station C, Fourth and Tenth streets.

BOARD WANTED.—BY A GENTLEMAN AND WIFE, in a quiet private family, in a central location, with Parlor and Bedroom. Address Philadelphia, Madison square East 231st.

BOARD WANTED.—A YOUNG GENTLEMAN DESIRES a comfortable single Room, with Board, location between Fourteenth and Twenty-sixth streets and Fourth and Sixth avenues. Terms not to exceed \$2 per week, including fire and gas. Address F. J. F., Herald office, giving full particulars.

BOARD WANTED.—IN BROOKLYN, BY A YOUNG lady, in a private family or where there are a few boarders. References exchanged. Address S. Hicks, Brooklyn Post office.

BOARD WANTED.—IN A FIRST CLASS PRIVATE FAMILY, for a gentleman, wife, two children and servant; a pleasant home for the winter is desired, for which a liberal price will be paid to any party who can accommodate. The best of references given. Address, giving particulars, R. B., box 2,205 Post office.

BOARD WANTED.—FOR A GENTLEMAN AND WIFE, with infant eight months old, and nurse. Private family and no term neighborhood preferred. Address, stating full particulars and price, F. S., box 126 Post office.

BOARDING.—THREE WELL FURNISHED ROOMS on the second floor to let to a family or single gentlemen, at 83 Clinton place, Eighth street, a few doors west of Fifth avenue.

BOARD ON BROOKLYN HEIGHTS.—TWO OR THREE gentlemen will find pleasant Rooms at 85 Willow street. Location desirable, between Fulton and Wall street ferries. References required.

to many of the newspaper repositories throughout the state, such as public libraries, courthouses, and newspaper offices, to catalog their holdings or perhaps to borrow issues to complete a run for microfilming. Archival microfilming of newspapers published in Tennessee will be one of the later phases of the project so the runs of newspapers being filmed can be as complete as possible. Since the State Library has been microfilming Tennessee newspapers for almost forty years, this project has a big head start in that area. There are still, however, many missing issues to locate and film and quite a few titles that have not been filmed at all.

In the past, the gold mine of information contained in newspapers has often been left unexplored because of the difficulties in finding and getting to it. This in combination with the fact that newspapers are rapidly deteriorating has created a critical situation which necessitates quick action. The United States Newspaper Program and the Tennessee Newspaper Project are working so that these American "rags" can soon be easily mined for the precious "riches" they contain.



The ragged condition of the University's only original paper issue of Tennessee's first newspaper, *The Knoxville Gazette* (Nov. 13, 1805), demonstrates the importance of archival microfilm. The Tennessee State Library and Archives has filmed many issues of this and other Tennessee papers but many are yet to be found and preserved on microfilm.

HUMANITIES COLLECTION ENRICHED THROUGH LINDSAY YOUNG FUND

By D.E. Perushek
Associate Dean,
Collection Services

Through the generosity of Lindsay Young, Esquire, the University Libraries was able to establish, in 1989, a fund for the purchase of important materials in the humanities that enhance the quality of the University of Tennessee's research collection. Each year faculty are solicited for recommendations of important primary source materials they and their students will use for scholarly purposes, and a committee of teaching and library faculty chooses from among those recommendations. Through Mr. Young's handsome gift, the Libraries has added titles to its collections that facilitate scholarly endeavors at the highest level.

The committee this year was comprised of Paul Bergeron (History), Russ Clement (Libraries), Stanton Garner (History), Phil Hamlin (Philosophy), Nancy Lauckner (Germanic and Slavic Languages), Judy Oliva (Theatre), Stephen Young (Music) and Diane Perushek, chair (Libraries). Their deliberations focused on selecting from the recommended titles those with the most value for academic research. Of the ten titles finally named for purchase, one title, the general catalog of printed books from the National Library of Spain (*Catalogo General des Libros Impresos hasta 1981*, *Biblioteca Nacional Madrid*), adds a resource in the area of Spanish culture and history that will greatly expand the Libraries' holdings.

A few of the purchases will add new volumes to materials that the Libraries acquires as they are published. One example is a supplement to a CD-ROM of complete works of philosophers called *Past Masters*; this year we will purchase the portions on John Locke, David Hume, Henry Sidgwick and George Santayana. Another example is *The Eighteenth Century Collection*, a massive microfilm collection of published English materials in all subjects that is being issued in hundreds of units; the units already in the libraries are used by faculty as well as graduate students. Another title, *Early Western Book 1500-1599: The Ottoman Empire and The Mediterranean*, gathers on microfiche 294 early books on East-West relations, trade and travel from Europe to the Ottoman Empire and beyond.

The arts are well-represented in this year's body of chosen titles. They include works of seven composers spanning several centuries, videos of African music, slides of architecture, interiors and furniture, volumes of the *Allgemeines Künstler-Lexikon (Artists of the World Throughout All Ages)*, and of *Kokka*, the lushly-illustrated journal of Japanese art. A microfilm of the trade journal *Film Daily* from 1928 to 1948 will enrich the Libraries' holdings in contextual historical criticism for cinema studies.

This year's selections reflect the catholic interests of UT's researchers in the humanities. Moreover, they are indicative of the multiformity of library materials available today—aside from printed books, we will also be acquiring microfilm, microfiches, slides, videos and CD-ROMs covering materials from the sixteenth century to the present day.

The 1995 Lindsay Young Endowment selection committee includes: (seated, left to right) Dr. Nancy Lauckner, associate professor of German and Slavic languages; Mr. Russ Clement, reference service coordinator for the humanities, University Libraries; (standing, left to right) Dr. Phillips Hamlin, assistant professor of philosophy; Ms. Diane Perushek, associate dean for collection services, University Libraries.



THE SURVEY IS IN— SATISFIED FRIENDS

By Dana Bagwell
Development Intern
and
Laura C. Simic
Director of Development

For the first time since the formation of the organization six years ago, the Library Friends conducted a member satisfaction survey. Resoundingly, Library Friends are pleased with the organization and with the University Libraries' services and plan to continue their support of the libraries in the future.

"The library is the heart of the university," said one respondent, "not the arena or stadium." Another replied, "Libraries and books are the greatest physical treasure of my life." A third offered, "We have a good library. Keep up the good work!"

Throughout the past year, under the leadership of Library Friends Chair Mike Jaynes, the Library Friends continued to generate support and visibility for the University Libraries through its programming.

Last fall, the Library Friends Outstanding Service Award was presented to Dr. Gary Purcell, emeritus professor of Information Sciences. Dr. Purcell was recognized for his leadership in creating partnerships between the School of Information Sciences and the University Libraries and his notable contributions to the field of librarianship. A colleague of Dr. Purcell wrote in his nomination that, "Dr. Purcell has made significant contributions to libraries and librarianship through his academic vision, leadership, teaching and counseling. Dr. Purcell has given a part of himself to all those who have come into contact with him. In honoring him, the University Libraries in turn will be honored."

The Dr. and Mrs. A.H. Lancaster Library Friends Lecture Series brought in distinguished authors to provide entertaining programs on the topics of science in fiction, the mountain South and censorship.

The fall lecture featured Dr. Carl Djerassi, scientist-turned-author who created his own literary genre called "science-in-fiction" to smuggle serious topics of scientific behavior into the consciousness of the general



Gary Purcell



Dwight Teeter

public. As a scientist, Djerassi led a small team to synthesize the first steroid effective as a contraceptive pill. The winner of many scientific awards, including the 1992 Priestly Medal (the highest award of the American Chemical Society), decided during a traumatic period in his life that he wanted to try something completely different and thus became an author of fiction. His novels include *The Bourbaki Gambit* and *Cantor's Dilemma* in which he portrays the work and behavior of scientists while weaving gripping and suspenseful stories around the characters. He has also published a critically acclaimed autobiography, *The Pill, Pygmy Chimps, and Degas' Horse*, in which he reflects on the consequences of his life's work.

Award-winning mystery writer Sharyn McCrumb joined the Library Friends as the 1995 winter lecturer. In her Ballad Series of three novels, *If Ever I Return*, *Pretty Peggy-O*, *The Hangman's Beautiful Daughter* and *She Walks*

These Hills, McCrumb portrays northeast Tennessee as a land at odds with both its national stereotype and its own history. "My books are like Appalachian quilts," McCrumb said. "I take brightly

colored scraps of legends, ballads, fragments of rural life and local tragedy, and I piece them together into a complex whole that tells not only a story but also a deeper truth about the culture of the mountain South."

In her books, McCrumb explores Appalachian ties with a British and Celtic past and relates present-day Appalachia to its history. Her goal, she said, is to proclaim that the culture of the mountains is something worth preserving and worth celebrating.

The question, "What do you think when you see or hear the word 'obscene'?" began the 1995 spring Library Friends Lecture. Dwight Teeter, dean of the UTK College of Communications and well-known First Amendment scholar, discussed "How To Be A Censor" with a combination of thought-provoking questions, history and humor. His lecture chronicled the course of obscenity laws and anti-obscenity activism and previewed what the future of obscenity litigation might be as it relates to freedom of speech and the United States Constitution.

"So who defines obscenity?" Teeter posed. "Courts have tried to adopt guidelines for obscenity and are still trying. To this day, obscenity laws are not clearly defined. Everyone has a different opinion of what is obscene." Is it a question that can be answered?

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Carl Djerassi (right) has a post-lecture chat with Library Friend Stephen Friedlander (left).

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Sharyn McCrumb answers a question from a Library Friend fan.

WW II AT FIFTY

By John McManus
Executive Assistant, Center for the
Study of War and Society

Thanks to the efforts of UTK history professor, Charles W. Johnson, the stories of individual American servicemen and women in World War II will not be lost to scholars. Johnson began the World War II Veterans Project in 1984 to collect and preserve the stories of ordinary servicemen and women in World War II. He is particularly interested in what the war was like for junior officers, NCOs and other enlisted personnel. To date, the collection includes several hundred oral histories and taped interviews in addition to numerous letters, diaries, memoirs, unit histories, newspaper clippings, photographs and official war-related documents. The collection, housed in the Special Collections Library, occupies two hundred and twenty linear feet of shelf space and contains several hundred thousand individual pieces. It is open to any and all interested researchers.

Johnson, who joined the History Department in 1965, decided in the early 1980s that most World War II history had been written from the viewpoint of the generals and politicians—those at the top. In his view, the story of the everyday soldiers, sailors and airmen needed to be told. When in 1984 he began interviewing veterans, the response was overwhelming, and Johnson saw his project grow to the point where he needed a full-time office to deal with it.



Dr. Johnson in the Center for the Study of War and Society.

For that purpose, in 1988 he founded the Center for the Study of War and Society, which is located in Hoskins Library. He obtained an operating budget from the College of Arts and Sciences, which has allowed him to employ a graduate assistant, and for the past three years, while working towards my Ph.D., I have worked for him as both his assistant and his student. In that time, I have seen the collection double in size.

The Center will try to collect material on all of America's wars, but for now World War II is the focus. Johnson feels very strongly that now is the time for the WW II vets to tell their stories. In ten or fifteen years, they may not be

around in significant numbers and irreplaceable history will be forever lost. Accordingly, he and I constantly correspond with veterans, collect material, and conduct interviews. There are scrapbooks of photographs from such distant locales as North Africa and Saipan. Interested researchers can find out firsthand what it was like to serve aboard the USS Kanawha when it was sunk in a naval battle off Guadalcanal. Or they can read the words of numerous veterans who flew deadly combat missions over Germany. Want to find out what it was like to be a prisoner of the Germans or Japanese? The collection has plenty of accounts which tell the story in great detail.

Since the WW II Veterans Project collects individual, true-life testimonies, it is marvelously diverse. Some may have served in an obscure corner of the war that has gone largely unchronicled. Others may have charged ashore in the first wave on D-Day. Every single American who served in WW II had, in some way, a unique experience. If they do not tell it, no one else will. This is why the Center collects primary source material, original accounts. These letters, personal accounts, diaries, photographs, newspapers and official documents from the time period constitute an outstanding source for historians. However, many veterans do not have anything left on paper from their service, so Johnson simply asks them to tell their story in any manner with which they are comfortable. That can range from a personal interview, to a self-taped oral history, to a written memoir (you might be surprised

Marines in combat, Garapan, Saipan. (Photo by contributor Lawrence Barker, Jr.)





Mitsubishi Steel Works after atomic bomb, Nagasaki, 1945. (Photo by Lawrence Barker, Jr.)

how many WW II vets use word processors).

The result of this approach will speak for itself. From very small beginnings, this collection has become an important research source for scholars studying the United States in the Second World War. Outside of the United States Army Military History Institute in Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania (with which the Center cooperates frequently), there is presently no single archive in this country with comparable holdings on the individual American in World War II.

In addition to the Veterans Project, the Center sponsors an annual fall lecture (named after Col. John B. McKinney who endowed it) dealing with some aspect of military history, usually World War II. Internationally recognized military historians have made presentations. Most recently, in 1993 Dr. Terry Copp of Wilfred Laurier University in Ontario, probably the foremost Canadian military historian, spoke on the Canadian Army in the 1944 Normandy campaign. Last year, Edward M. Coffman of the University of Wisconsin and author of *The War to End All Wars*, an excellent history of the United States in World War I, lectured on WW II vets whom he has interviewed for a current project. This coming year, the lecture will touch on a very timely topic—the end of the war in the Pacific. The speaker will be

Famous war correspondent Ernie Pyle's coffin, Ie Shima, 1945. (Photo by Lawrence Barker, Jr.)



Contributor Lawrence Barker, Jr. (right) with Memphis Belle pilot Robert Morgan, Christmas Eve, 1944.



Dr. Johnson with two of his veterans. From left to right: Edgar Wilson, Johnson, and Colonel John Leake.

Dr. Edward Drea of the Center for Military History in Washington.

As it enters its eleventh year of existence, the WW II Veterans Project has clearly taken on a life of its own. It has grown from an idea to a far-reaching, self-perpetuating, historical project. Much of the material is now generated solely by word of mouth; one veteran tells another about the project and he or she sends in a story or materials. If you are a WWII veteran with a story to tell or materials to share, please get in touch with the Center at the following address and phone number:

Center for the Study of
War and Society
220 Hoskins Library
Knoxville, TN 37996-4008
(423) 974-0128



ANDREW JOHNSON CLAIMS A THIRD CORNER

By Cathy Chase
Assistant Director,
Tennessee Presidents Trust

Andrew Johnson became the seventeenth president of the United States following the assassination of Abraham Lincoln in 1865. His presidency spanned the difficult period of Reconstruction following the Civil War. During his term the United States purchased Alaska from Russia and established the Wyoming Territory. However, Johnson is probably best known as the only president to have been impeached. By a margin of one vote, the Senate refused to convict Johnson, and thus he successfully defended his belief in a constitutional separation of the three branches of government.

Following his presidency Andrew Johnson was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1875 and is still the only ex-president to have achieved such recognition. A patriot to the end, Johnson died on July 31, 1875 with the request that a copy of the Constitution be put under his head and that he be wrapped in the American flag.

Citizens of Greeneville and their many guests celebrated Johnson's career with an unveiling and dedication of his statue on Thursday, June 22, in the city's downtown historic district. A crowd of approximately four hundred watched as the statue was unveiled by twelve year old Emily Null, a fifth-generation descendant of President Johnson. The memorial was made possible by the late Margaret Johnson Patterson Bartlett, great-granddaughter of President Johnson. During her life Mrs. Bartlett worked to perpetuate the story of Johnson and served as hostess in the Johnson historic home for thirty-four years. Her first cousin and executor of her estate, Mr. Ralph Phinney, championed her dream of erecting the statue and took the lead in seeing the project through to completion. Mr. Phinney,

who recently celebrated his one hundredth birthday, dedicated the statue, explaining that Mrs. Bartlett had devoted her life to "the preservation and perpetuation of the name and political career of her great-grandfather. Her continuing determination was never idle, directed to the fulfillment of her pledge of loyalty and the defense of his political record."

The imposing larger-than-life bronze statue was sculpted by the noted artist Jim Gray, whose commissions include The Teaching Christ figure at Church Street United Methodist Church in Knoxville, the Dolly Parton statuery in Sevierville, and the Alex Haley bust located in the Hodges Library at UT Knoxville. Situated at the corner of Depot and College streets, the statue rests on a gray and pink granite base in the middle of a circular brick pedestal. Here it joins the Andrew Johnson National Historic Site and Visitor Center on one corner and Johnson's 1830s house on another.

Preceding the unveiling, Dr. Wayne Cutler, Director of the Tennessee Presidents Trust, read the farewell address delivered by President Johnson to the nation upon his leaving the White House on March 4, 1869. For some who attended, it was an introduction to Johnson's own words and many commented that they were impressed with both the president's masterful speech writing skill and message. The Trust supports the

Tennessee Presidents Center, which is publishing the papers of Andrew Johnson along with those of the other two Tennessee Presidents, Andrew Jackson and James K. Polk.

When the statue was unveiled, the crowd rose to their feet in a standing ovation. Among those who did so were Paul Bergeron, Editor of *The Papers of Andrew Johnson*; Alvin Gerhardt, Director of the President Andrew Johnson Museum and Library at Tusculum College; James Hoobler, Curator of the Tennessee State Museum; Dan Pomeroy, Director of Acquisitions at the museum; Patsy Williams, Past President of the Tennessee Presidents Trust; and G. Thomas Love, Mayor of Greeneville. A statue identical to the one located in Greeneville will soon be erected in Nashville on the grounds of the state capitol.



Emily Null (left) and Mayor G. Thomas Love (right) unveil the bronze statue of Andrew Johnson. (Photo by Joe Futia, courtesy of The Greeneville Sun.)

PRIVATE DOLLARS, PUBLIC TREASURES

As Americans have given to various charitable efforts over the years, they have created many national treasures available to all. Many of these resources would never have been possible with government support alone. Virtually all of the truly great libraries have been made great through gifts from individuals. We are most grateful to all of those who have generously supported the University of Tennessee, Knoxville Libraries.

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

More than any other single element, the library is the heart of a university. The quality of the University Libraries' collection is a barometer of the quality of intellectual inquiry campus-wide—and the quality of education we give our students, the leaders of our future. You can help guarantee that our future leaders receive the best possible education by making an investment in the University Libraries.

To make a gift, please make you check payable to the University of Tennessee, Knoxville Libraries and use the reply envelope included in the *Review*. For more information, please write or call:

Director of Development
University Libraries
612 Hodges Library
1015 Volunteer Boulevard
Knoxville, TN 37996-1000
(423) 974-0037

LIBRARY ENDOWMENTS

The first endowment at the UT Knoxville Libraries, the John L. Rhea Foundation Endowment, was created in 1904. Since then the number of library endowments has grown tremendously.

Endowment funds are particularly valuable because, once established, they provide interest income for the library in perpetuity. Such funds also offer a fitting opportunity to honor or memorialize a friend or relative. Anyone may establish a named endowment fund with a minimum gift of \$15,000 to the University Libraries.

For more information about establishing an endowment fund, call the Library Development Office at (423) 974-0037.

(Endowments marked with an asterisk have been established during the 1994-95 year.)

Reba & Lee Absher Library Endowment
Agriculture-Veterinary Medicine Library Endowment
Anonymous Library Endowment
Lalla Block Arnstein Library Endowment
James M. Blake Library Endowment
Margaret Gray Blanton Library Endowment
Tutt S. & Elizabeth Bradford Library Endowment
James Douglas Bruce Library Endowment
Renda Burkhart Library Endowment
William Waller Carson Library Endowment
Ira N. Chiles Library Endowment-Higher Education
Caroline Perry Cleveland Library Endowment
Betsey Beeler Creekmore Library Endowment
William E. & Leona G. Crunk Library Endowment
Kenneth Curry Library Endowment
Durant DaPonte Memorial Library Endowment
Richard Beale Davis Humanities Library Endowment
Clayton B. Dekle Library Endowment
Nancy R. & G. Mack Dove Library Endowment
Frank M. Dryzer Library Endowment
Roland E. Duncan Library Endowment
Ellis & Ernest Library Endowment
Harold S. Fink Library Endowment-History
Dr. Stanley J. Folmsbee Library Endowment
Franz/Myers Family Library Endowment
Armour T. Granger Library Endowment
Henry A. Haenseler Library Endowment
Mildred M. Haines Special Collections Library Endowment
Hamilton National Bank Library Endowment
Natalie Leach & James A. Haslam II Library Endowment
George and Sallie Hicks Agricultural-Veterinary Library Endowment
Hodges Books for English Library Endowment
J.C. Hodges-UTK Alumni Library Endowment
Paul E. Howard Humanities Collection Library Endowment
Human Ecology Library Development Endowment
Thomas L. James Library Endowment
William H. Jesse-Library Staff Endowment
Mamie C. Johnston Library Endowment
Kenwill, Inc. Cartographic Information Center Endowment*
Angelyn Donaldson & Richard Adolf Koella Historical Documents Library Endowment
LaFollette Hardware & Lumber Company Library Endowment
Dr. & Mrs. A. H. Lancaster Library Endowment

Lancaster Library Friends Lecture Endowment
Library Acquisitions Endowment
Library Collections Endowment
Library Employee Development Endowment*
Library Technology Endowment*
Wayne & Alberta Longmire Library Endowment
Edwin R. Lutz Memorial Library Endowment
Lois Maxwell Mahan Library Endowment
Stuart Maher Memorial Endowment-Technical Library
Department of Mathematics Library Endowment
Edward J. McMillan Library Endowment
Men's Athletic Department Library Endowment
Harvey and Helen Meyer Library Endowment
Paul M. and Marion T. Miles Library Endowment
Phillip W. Moffitt Library Endowment
William Elijah Morris and Mildred Morris Haines Special Collections Library Endowment
Flora Belle & Bessie Abigail Moss Library Endowment
Angie Warren Perkins Library Endowment
Jack E. Reese Library Endowment
John L. Rhea Foundation Library Endowment
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William G. McAdoo was the first head librarian at UT, Knoxville. He was named head librarian in 1879, when the Tennessee State Legislature chose East Tennessee University as Tennessee's state university and changed its name. By this act, the University of Tennessee was pledged to serve the entire state. McAdoo continued to serve as head librarian until 1883, at which time the collection numbered 7,000 volumes.

The William G. McAdoo Society recognizes those who have named the University Libraries the beneficiary of a deferred gift. Deferred gifts include bequests in insurance policies, life income agreements, trusts and wills. If you have made a deferred gift to the UT Knoxville Libraries and are not listed here, please contact the Library Development Office at (423) 974-0037.

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When Olive Harlee Branch passed away on February 2, 1995, the Libraries lost one of its oldest and dearest friends. She worked for the libraries for thirty-three years, 1948-81, but is best known for her tenure as Collection Development Librarian. When she retired, Daphne Townsend, whose photo appeared here last year, wrote this about her: "Olive Branch is a woman of variety. All the traits for exemplary living she has in abundance....she will be missed."

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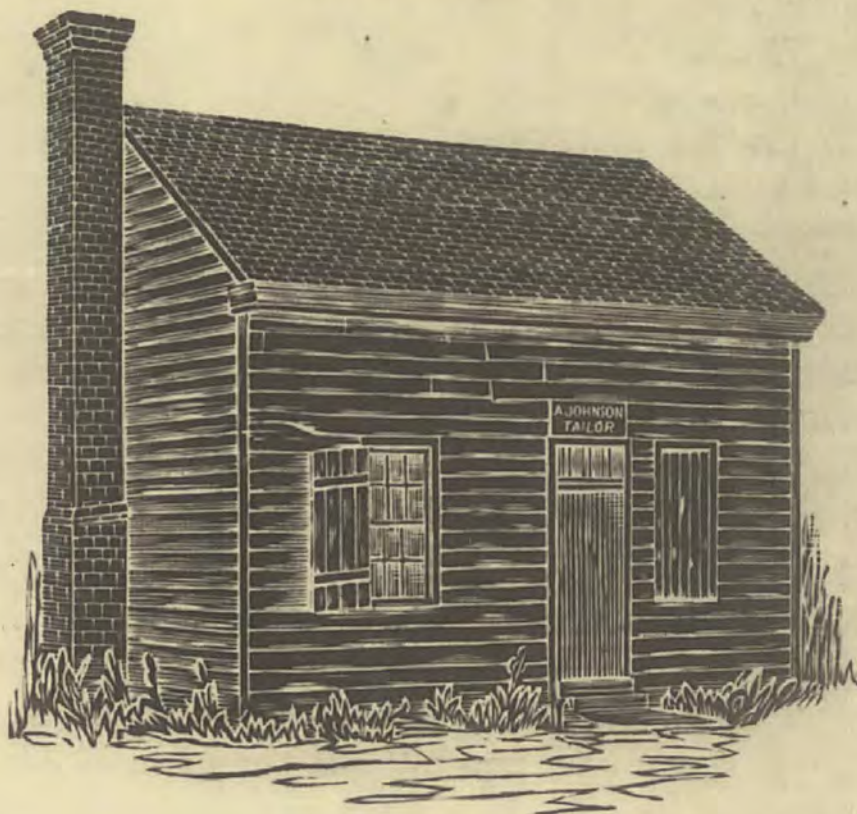
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**JOHNSON'S OLD TAILOR SHOP
 JUST AS HE LEFT IT**

**SEVENTEENTH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
 NEVER IN SCHOOL A DAY IN HIS LIFE**

"THERE CAN BE NO REAL GREATNESS WITHOUT GOODNESS,"

**From a speech of Andrew Johnson, made to 5,000 School
 Children in Washington, May 20, 1865**

A recent acquisition, this four page pamphlet was published in c. 1925 by J. W. Howard of Greeneville to advertise his forty-five minute address on the life and character of Andrew Johnson. For a minimal fee, he offered to give the address in local schools to "encourage some boy, or girl, into higher and better citizenship in spite of obstacles."

Back Cover

No sixteen-starred flag was ever created to celebrate Tennessee's entrance into the union in 1796. John Dobson, Special Collections Librarian Emeritus, had this one made to fill that gap. (See article on p. 7.)

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November, 1995

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