



Among Friends of LBJ

ISSUE NUMBER XIII, JULY 15, 1978

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF THE LBJ LIBRARY

First Lady Rosalynn Carter speaks at LBJ Library



Mrs. Carter

First Lady Rosalynn Carter, honorary chairwoman of the President's Commission on Mental Health, was the keynote speaker on May 26 at a seminar sponsored by the Hogg Foundation and the University of Texas.

Mrs. Carter told an audience of 1,000 in the LBJ auditorium that "if we can educate the nation about the myths surrounding mental health, and reduce the fear of mental illness and the stigma attached to it," the goal of providing adequate treatment to mental patients in their local communities will be attainable. She called for the creation of "a national commitment, a national attitude, a national climate for the proper care and treatment of the mentally ill."

Mrs. Carter was introduced by Mrs. Johnson, who described Mrs. Carter as a "lady deeply committed to the cause of mental health. I applaud first ladies who do things," she said. "I know the White House has long echoes. You are there and suddenly you realize you can help a trend, a movement, with your interest and your time. You can be useful."

Following Mrs. Carter's presentation, a reception was held in the Great Hall of the Library.



Mrs. Carter and Mrs. Johnson greet guests in the Great Hall.

Barbara Jordan to teach at LBJ School

Barbara Jordan, U.S. Representative from Houston who is leaving Congress after three terms, has accepted a professorship at the LBJ School of Public Affairs.

The University of Texas Board of Regents voted June 9 to accept funding by the Sid W. Richardson Foundation for the post Ms. Jordan will occupy at the school. Beginning in January, the Foundation will provide an annual salary of \$38,000 for five years for the Lyndon B. Johnson Public Service Professorship.



Ms. Jordan

Ms. Jordan said she was "particularly pleased" to hold a professorship named after Johnson. "Lyndon Johnson was my friend and I am proud of that fact," she said. "I intend to validate the trust that has been placed in me by the LBJ School's extraordinary dean, Elspeth Rostow, by my future faculty colleagues, and by the administration and Board of Regents of the University of Texas at Austin. And, I do not intend to lose sight of the fact that students are the University's reason for being."

Friends invited to Washington reception

On October 3rd, members of the Friends of the LBJ Library in the Washington area will have the opportunity to attend a special preview of an exhibit which first opened in the LBJ Library last December. The exhibit, a display of Mexican Christmas folk art is entitled "Viva Jesus, Maria, y Jose." It was borrowed from Robert Wynn of San Antonio, Texas. The display was featured in the Library from December 12, 1977 until February 2, 1978.

Officials of the National Geographic visiting the Library at that time made arrangements to take the display to Washington.

The evening's reception will also salute the retiring members of the Texas Congressional Delegation.

Invitations to Friends in the Washington area will be sent in September.

A reception for Texas members of the Friends will also be held at the Library in early fall.

Lady Bird Johnson hosts meetings at LBJ Ranch

Members of the LBJ Foundation Board of Directors along with the LBJ Foundation Award Committee were weekend guests May 13-14 at the LBJ Ranch for two days of business meetings and relaxation.

The Award Committee, co-chaired by Dr. William J. McGill and Mrs. Johnson, met on Saturday morning. The Foundation Board, chaired by Frank C. Erwin, Jr., met on the following Sunday morning.



Members of the LBJ Foundation Award Committee: Harry McPherson, Verner, Liipfert, Bernhard and McPherson; Miss Linda Howard, Professor, Ohio State University; Dr. William J. McGill, President of Columbia University; Mrs. Johnson; Arthur Krim, Chairman of the Board, Orion Pictures Corp.; Dr. Robert A. Good, President, Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research; and Mr. George R. Brown, former Chairman of the Board, Brown and Root, Inc. Not pictured: Mrs. Albert Lasker, President, Albert & Mary Lasker Foundation, Inc.; Honorable Thurgood Marshall, Associate Justice, Supreme Court of the U.S.; and Mr. Mark Ward, graduate student at the University of Minnesota.



Lew Wasserman, Chairman of the Board of MCA, Inc., and Board member of the LBJ Foundation, and Mrs. Wasserman, chat with Award Committee member Dr. Robert A. Good.

Tribute Endowment reaches goal of \$2 million

The Committee which organized last December's National Tribute to Lady Bird Johnson has announced that \$2 million is now in place to fund a permanent endowment benefiting the Friends of the LBJ Library. The endowment honors the wife of the late President Johnson and will be used to support special activities at the Library, the only Presidential Library open free of charge to the public.

Former U. S. Ambassador Edward A. Clark and Congressman J. J. Pickle, Co-Chairmen, originally set their goal at \$1 million. However, public interest spurred them to double that effort. Announcing the realization of the new goal, Ambassador Clark said, "This has been a unique success story. With the help and involvement of nearly a thousand people, we will collect nearly two-and-a-half times our initial goal. Our success reflects the love and high regard that so many have for Lady Bird Johnson, and the widespread appreciation of the contributions the LBJ Library can make to our state and nation. Of course, it is also the result of unfailing efforts of the entire committee who worked on this project, especially the dedication and devotion of Congressman J. J. Pickle."

A baby for the Robbs

Virginia's Lt. Governor Charles S. Robb and his wife, the former Lynda Bird Johnson, became the parents of a third daughter Tuesday, June 20.

The latest addition to the Robb household, Jennifer Wickliffe, was born at Fairfax County Hospital, weighing in at 8 pounds, 2 ounces.

The new baby is the seventh Johnson grandchild.



Martin Blumenson



Meeting site: 8th floor conference room.

Seminar at Library studies

impact of "Ultra" on World War II

When *The Ultra Secret*, by F. W. Winterbotham, was published in 1974 revealing that the allies broke the most secret code of the Germans during World War II, it created a sensation among historians, political scientists and military analysts. One question which that book, and others that followed, posed is: to what extent must the history of the war now be rewritten?

This was the question addressed by a University of Texas Faculty Seminar which met at the Library on May 5.

Principal speaker at the session was Martin Blumenson, author of a number of military histories and editor of *The Patton Papers*. His conclusion was that knowledge of Ultra "will not radically change the histories written before Winterbotham's revelation in 1974. Precise knowledge of where and how Ultra had an impact will add to our understanding, but will hardly alter our fundamental perceptions."

His presentation was followed by comments from Professor Roger J. Spiller, of Southwest Texas State University, and Walt Rostow.

American political memorabilia exhibit traces campaigns through 200 years

A new exhibit of American Political Memorabilia is actually a revised version of one of the most popular exhibits ever on display in the Library.

In 1968 Ralph Becker, a Washington, D. C. attorney, gave the Johnson Library more than 4,000 political items — from Washington's campaign to Nixon's. Since then this "instant collection" has been expanded by purchases and donations. The collection now includes buttons, medallions, photos, a painting of George Washington, and Jimmy Carter peanut pins.

In 1971 the material was developed into a temporary show for the opening of the Library. Though it had been designed to last only a year, the exhibit was so popular it remained on display for four years. Now rebuilt and redesigned, it is considered a permanent exhibit.

Radios are part of the new display techniques. From a vintage radio visitors listen to the voice of Woodrow Wilson. Presidents Herbert Hoover and Franklin Roosevelt speak from a radio built in 1933 while campaign speeches by Harry Truman and Dwight Eisenhower are heard from a radio of around 1950.

The exhibit opened on July 4.



Scholars get grants for Library research

Twenty-one scholars have been selected as the 1978 recipients of grants to study in the LBJ Library. The grant funds, totalling \$12,085 this year, are made available by the Lyndon Baines Johnson Foundation and the Friends of the LBJ Library.

The annual research program was established with assistance from the

Moody Foundation to help students, teachers, and writers in using the Library's resources by providing support for travel and living expenses without which they would be unable to undertake their projects.

The topics of this year's recipients, reflecting the variety of research potential in the Library, cover the arts, foreign

aid, Presidential policy making, the FCC, the problems of presidential transition, the American Indians, the President, the Congress, and LBJ's March 31, 1968 decision. Several relate to U. S. policy in other nations, including Vietnam, Venezuela, Lebanon, Portugal, and countries in Africa.

"LYNDON JOHNSON AND THE ART OF

By T. Harry Williams

T. Harry Williams, author of Lincoln and His Generals, and the Pulitzer Prize winning Huey Long, and Boyd professor of history at Louisiana State University, is currently working on a biography of Lyndon Johnson. At the 1977 American Historical Association's Senior Scholars Seminar in Dallas last December, Dr. Williams, speaking informally from notes, discussed this project. Following are excerpts from his remarks, which preceded a question and answer period that was not recorded.

...The desire to work on the life of Johnson was born soon after I completed my biography of Huey Long, and I think that my attraction to LBJ was inevitable. I had written about one fascinating southern politician, and here was another one, equally fascinating, waiting to be treated...

...Now the fact that you're drawn to a person doesn't mean that you can't be objective about him. It does not exclude objectivity, but it does presume, I think, a kind of empathy with the subject... The men I have been drawn to in history are, well, Abraham Lincoln, Huey Long, Lyndon Johnson — great power artists...

...Well now, briefly on what I plan to do with LBJ. It will be a big book; I would estimate at this stage seven or eight hundred pages, not an exhaustive treatment. I am mindful of Namier's warning that political biography may be history's worst enemy, that the too long biography may obscure the sweep of events, or dim the grand design, or lose the supporting cast. And it will be primarily a political biography, because LBJ was primarily if not completely a political creature. Because he was in politics almost continually from young manhood to his twilight years. Politics was his life.

But a political biography has to be more than a political account. As any biographer must do, the political biographer must try to explain the inner life of his subject. He must, as Robert Towers puts it, "attempt to discover and interpret the interplay of forces, genetic, familial and cultural, that constitute the psychodynamics of the life under examination." ... As to the state of my research, I'm well into it I think, but still in a preliminary stage. I am using and am terribly impressed by the resources of the LBJ Library... I think it is a great library, a very helpful staff, an immense variety of sources. In fact, so many that sometimes I think the researcher must be appalled by them. A number of people have asked me if I will use the technique I relied on in doing the Huey Long — oral history interviews. Yes I will. But the people at the Library have been

doing an awful lot of interviewing on their own. I think they have some 400 interviews. However, I will do some interviewing of my own, or maybe re-interview some people that they have interviewed to find out something that interests me particularly. I'm a great believer in oral history as a research technique, particularly in political history. I think it's reliable in many areas. In fact, in some cases the only way you get the inside story, I think, is in the oral interview...

Well now, lastly here, I of course have some tentative or preliminary thoughts or ideas about this man Lyndon Johnson. As I see him now, he was a liberal with a real compassion for poor people and a great believer in using the power of government to solve problems. But he was not, in my opinion, a radical, as Huey Long was. I see Huey Long as a radical. Huey Long, I think, would have subverted the system if he had to. Lyndon Johnson never questioned the capitalistic system, never questioned the bases of capitalism.

One of the best of the several interviews I have read in the LBJ Library is by a very interesting woman by the name of Virginia Foster Durr from Alabama, long-time southern liberal, sister-in-law of Hugo Black. (She) knew Lyndon Johnson from the thirties on through his presidency, had respect for him, and yet (is) very objective about him. She had this to say about Johnson's belief in capitalism, and she compared him with Roosevelt, whom she had known, too, of course. "Now Roosevelt and Lyndon," she said, "both believed in the capitalistic system and in democracy. Roosevelt fought fascism when Hitler came up on the grounds of dictatorship. Lyndon fought communism on the grounds of dictatorship. In other words, they both believed in political democracy, but neither one of them, I think, ever questioned the capitalistic system's being a beneficent system. Even Roosevelt, when it had fallen flat on its face in 1933, just completely done for, picked it up and revived it. Of course a lot of criticism of the left wingers at that time was that he had revived the capitalist system, that



Dr. Williams

he could have at that time just taken over the banks and taken over everything. Lyndon had exactly the same attitude. He used to say, 'Business is what makes the mail run.' People say he was impressed by big business, or owned by big business," and Durr said, "I never thought he was impressed or owned by it. I just think he believed in it."

He believed in it, but he did not have really, I think, a philosophy of government or of economics. He did not have a philosophy. That's another thing that Virginia Durr emphasizes, and I think accurately. I think she sees him very well. He did not have philosophies about a lot of things, or if he did he wouldn't discuss them. Now of course he was noted for not discussing. One man remembered in his office when he was senator that he had a sign on his desk that said, "If you're talking, you're not learning." So he preferred to do, rather than to talk. But Virginia Durr said you couldn't get him to discuss philosophies of issues in the 1930's. She wanted him to fight for repeal of the poll tax and she wanted to talk to him about the philosophy behind the poll tax, and she couldn't get him to do it. She said, "Lyndon never discussed things like that. You couldn't get Lyndon to sit down and discuss the philosophy of government or the philoso-

BIOGRAPHY

phy of the poll tax or the philosophy of the oil depletion allowance. Lyndon acted." Once when she reproached him for not supporting a move to repeal the poll tax, he said, "We can't do it yet. We haven't got the votes. When we get the votes, then we'll try and do it."

This was a thing that was always present in his mind, I think, that he always talked about. If you're going to do anything, and this of course born out of his Senate years, you have to have the votes. One of his great criticisms of the liberals, in the Senate particularly, was that they never knew where the votes were. He knew; they didn't. One of his famous statements was, you know, "The conservatives can't speak, and the liberals can't count." Which may be right. He believed in the democratic system, and I think partly because he could manage the democratic system. But it was hard for him to explain it, because he did not have this philosophical mind. And of course this was both a strength, I think, and a weakness, that he knew how to work the system and work it for what he thought were good ends, and yet he had difficulty in explaining maybe why he was doing these things.

However, one man who was very close to him would disagree somewhat with that, and that is Douglass Cater. Cater said, "The cliché was that he was the master consensus builder who really didn't care much about issues. But," said Cater, "I found that the cliché was, like all clichés, quite inadequate — that Johnson did not in those Senate years stress the substance of issues in his speeches on the floor of the Senate or in his dealing with other senators because that would have negated his purpose, which was to reach a rolling consensus. But seeking a consensus was not a negative act for him," said Cater. "It wasn't the lowest common denominator, or what just any old body would agree on. It was trying to find out what was the maximum that you could get the majority to support." The maximum. "Generally his idea of what constituted good public policy corresponded with my own idea that he was not on the vanguard of liberalism, but he was certainly liberally inclined. And he was not for preserving the status quo. So," concluded Cater, "although he didn't talk about substance a great deal in his public rhetoric, I felt he understood the substance. He was by no means ignorant of what were the subtleties of the issues he was dealing with." ...

"one of the best all-around young men I know ..."

Welly K. Hopkins served as a member of the Texas House of Representatives from 1929-1930 and as a member of the Texas Senate from 1930-1936. In 1940 he became general counsel to the United Mine Workers Union. Now retired, he and his wife Alice live in Culpepper, Virginia.

While campaigning for the Senate in 1930, Hopkins became acquainted with young Lyndon Johnson. The following year, he wrote to Roy Miller, an influential friend of Representative Richard M. Kleberg, recommending Johnson for the job of Congressional secretary. The letter was included in a group of papers recently opened for research in the Library. LBJ went to work for Kleberg in 1931.

"November 25th, 1931

Mr. Roy Miller
Corpus Christi, Texas.

Dear Roy: Following so closely on the heels of the election, the matter which I wish to call to your attention is just a bit embarrassing. Believing, however, that it is a matter of merit and calculated to be to the interest of Dick as well as to the young man for whom I write, I am making bold enough to suggest it to you. It is this: Lyndon B. Johnson, son of Sam Johnson, in my opinion, would be a most loyal and efficient secretary to Dick at Washington, and, so believing, I now write to you about him. Lyndon is approximately twenty-two years of age, single, born and reared in Blanco County. He now is starting his second year as debating coach, after a very exceptionally brilliant record last year, at Sam Houston High School in Houston. He is, however, a resident of Blanco County. He is strictly a self-made man, having on his own resources obtained his education. During his three years at the San Marcos Normal, he acted as private secretary to its president, Dr. Evans and was, as I recall, editor of the college paper and its annual year book. Last year during my campaign for the Senate, I turned over the entire work in four of my counties to him, two of these being Blanco and Comal, and never have I seen better work.

Lyndon knows almost every man, woman and child in Blanco County and has a wide acquaintance in Comal, Kendall and Guadalupe counties. Judge Clarence Martin (whom I am sure you know) is his uncle and his relatives are widely scattered over that section. During Edgar Witt's campaign for Lieutenant Governor last year, I arranged for Lyndon to take charge of some eight or ten counties in this section and he handled it ably and well, Witt not losing a single one of them. I know this man to be honorable, ambitious, capable, well informed on public questions, quick minded, nimble witted, resourceful, and gifted with a very unusual ability to meet and greet

the public. In fact, for a long time I have considered him the brightest and one of the best all-around young men I know and have long hoped to be able to assist him in advancing his interests. Therefore when it occurred to me today that Dick probably had as yet made no arrangements for secretarial help, I immediately decided to suggest Lyndon to him. This I can do in good conscience and not merely as a political matter for I am confident that Dick would very shortly find him a real help and a decided asset. The boy is thoroughly deserving and I trust you will understand that I suggest him only for that reason and with the further idea of building up and securing Dick's political position in the future. ...

Trusting that you and Dick will accept this letter in the spirit in which it is written and with every personal good wish, I am

Your friend,

W.K. Hopkins."



Hopkins and Johnson in 1934

Lady Bird Johnson and High School C

The 50th Class Reunion of Lady Bird Johnson drew her and 42 classmates of Marshall High School's Class of 1928 to Marshall, Texas, on May 27. *Among Friends of LBJ* thought you would enjoy the flavor of the event in the pictures and words which emerged from that golden anniversary gathering.

Mrs. Johnson was the featured speaker of the evening. Her remarks to her classmates follow in full.

Members of the Marshall High School Class of 1928 and friends, Emma, your words leave me in awe! And, Ida Mae, without YOU, all this would never have gotten off the ground!

Fifty years! Can it really be all that? Half a century? I know a montage of memories parades across your minds — just as in mine.



Emma Boehringer Tooley at Podium

In her introduction of Mrs. Johnson, Emma Boehringer Tooley, who had been Class Valedictorian, said:

"When Lady Bird and I were teenagers, we had a mutual friend, who was an artist and a poet. He was always writing poems and drawing pictures of the things we would do and say. He was so interested in the fact that we had been born in Karnack, Texas. I reminded him that it was a privilege to have been born in that small village, named after one of the magnificent temples in Egypt. One day as he was drawing his pictures and writing his poems, he said, 'This is how your birth announcements must have looked.'

"On Lady Bird's announcement, he drew a picture of a stork, flying over the Taylor's beautiful ante bellum home, bearing its precious cargo. Underneath the picture he wrote:

'On December 22, such and such a year, the store in Karnack, the T. J. Taylor Store, Dealer-in-Everything closed. In every fireplace in the Taylor home, a fire was glowing. The school was closed; the train stopped running. Tommy and Tony Taylor had a new little baby sister named Claudia Alta.' He added, 'And the world will never be the same again.'"

1928 — Marshall had a population of 15,000. Calvin Coolidge was President. We were singing "Side by Side" and "Harvest Moon" and "Rainbow Round My Shoulder."

In Marshall, the action revolved around the square on Saturday afternoons — quite literally. Remember — we would drive around a half dozen times and see what everyone was doing. The square would be chock-a-block with wagons, especially on the west side, and the cars would be coupes with rumble seats, pick-up trucks and some open touring cars — and then we would stop at Matthewson's Drug Store — or Sacra's — or Fry Hodge to have a cherry coke or — for me, at least, a Delaware Punch, and catch up with all the latest conversation.

Then there were the movies — shown at "The Grand" — where the magic of the motion picture brought us such stars as Clara Bow, Will Rogers, Rudolph Valentino and Tom Mix, of course. They stole silently into our hearts and became part of our memories forever. When we wanted to go somewhere really special, we travelled to Shreveport's palatial "Strand" — that elaborate, rococo, theatre that spoke so ornately of the twenties. It cost us a whole quarter to get in, I think.

But, some things are still the same. Joe Weisman's was a landmark then as it is today. The imposing old courthouse built in 1900 is still the hub of the city.



Mrs. Johnson addressing classmates

Classmates Celebrate 50 Year Reunion



the class of 1928

The fashions were not far from today's — bangs, bobbed hair, short skirts, some with handkerchief hemlines and lots of long beads.

There's so much to remember — dances at Rosborough Springs — for those of you who were grown-up (I myself was just fifteen and surely the shyest among the class) — picnics and house parties on Caddo Lake, with Dorris Powell chaperoning. The lake is so vivid in my thoughts, with Spanish moss draped from the age-old cypress, dark enchanting lagoons where occasionally you would see an alligator slithering from a muddy bank — we would swim along with turtles and yes, a few snakes. We remember the names of the places, too — Pine Island, Government Ditch, Dallas Clubhouse and that delicious name, Uncertain. How many lazy Sunday afternoons we spent floating along in a bateau under those feathery trees and pulling in among the gnarled old roots! Time stood still and we loved it that way.

The big events of the day seeped into our consciousness. Aviation was the new thing. Lindbergh's flight to Paris had turned the Nation's eyes skyward and dozens of would-be pilots were setting endurance records.

But most of my memories of transportation in those days are more mundane. When I started to Marshall High in September 1926, aged 13, my Daddy would send somebody from his store — a clerk, the bookkeeper, the butcher — to drive me in to school, and come back for me in the afternoon. It was very time consuming, and Daddy got the idea he had better buy me a car — a Chevrolet coupe. I was so relieved when he did, for sometimes Daddy sent me off in a pick-up truck carrying cow hides. I had absolutely nothing against the pick-up — but I didn't like the cow hides one bit. They smelled to high heaven and I would get out a couple of blocks from school, walking the rest of the way and hoping nobody had seen me. I was always delighted when it rained or snowed and the roads would be axle deep in mud — several of you in this room will remember, especially Ida Mae Pou and Emma Boehringer, that I would spend the night in town with you.

One of you sent me some copies of the class souvenirs, the program of the school play, the write-up of the baccalaureate, and the class prophecies. Like the fragrance of rosepetals in some old porcelain jar, they set me remembering: the excitement of that May graduation and my delight that Emma was our Valedictorian, and the suspense ending when my good friend Maurine Kranson, who deserved and earned that honor, was named Salutatorian (she must have remembered the town with love. I know we're all grateful for her and her family's generous gift to the town library).

And, the memories go on — decorating school floats for the May fete, riding on them with streamers flying from the car

ahead ... cramming for English finals with Emma and for Math with Ida Mae (Ida Mae reminded me we would pack a picnic lunch from my Daddy's store and take it to a pond for serious studying) ... the class play in the auditorium starring Carolyn Ramsey and Wells Long, the class poem, the ridiculous class prophecies and the Baccalaureate which duly records that we filed down the aisle amid tall stands of Dorothy Perkins Roses ... our school newspaper, the Parrot and my pleasure in seeing my name on a by-line no matter how inconsequential the story ... Byrom McGrill was our football hero, and Tyler and Texarkana our chief rivals ... Remember the Pep Squad with the red and white costumes? ... and how all of us would holler as loudly and fervently as we could, "When Those Marshall Men All Fall in Line" or "We're Loyal To You, Marshall High" ... remember Jack Staples playing the romantic lead in "The Gypsy Rover."

I especially loved reading back over some of the prophecies: Kathleen Casey — "Our leading lady in The Gypsy Rover is now singing in Faust at the Chicago Civic Opera Company."

Farrington Heflin — "The latest movie shiek in Hollywood."

Milton Silberstein — "America's most distinguished Violinist."

Inez McFarland — "Looking for the sequel of Virgil's Aeneid in Roman Ruins."

Bonnie Jean Moffat — "A designer in New York."

As for my own prophecy, whoever wrote it, was certainly perceptive. It said: Claudia Taylor "would become a second Halliburton poking her nose in unknown places of Asia."

Well, I've done some of that and loved it.

But, home memories linger long in our minds. They followed me around the world and back. In faraway places memories of East Texas came to me with a sound, a fragrance, a taste. At the most exotic luncheon I ever attended, in Kuala Lumpur, the Tunku of Malaysia — strange name for the Prime Minister — introduced me to a great variety of fruits none I had ever seen, one of which was somehow reminiscent of the Mayhaw of this area, and equally treasured as a delicacy. It thrills me still to receive each spring a jar of Mayhaw jelly from some visitor from East Texas.

There were many times I was busy living up to my prophecy — on a thrilling white water raft trip down a West Virginia river ...

Last year an adventure in Egypt, a cruise down the Nile, stopping to explore every temple, tomb and pyramid. You can understand how excited I was to see the ancient temples at Karnak!

In fact, just this past summer I read an article in Newsweek describing the ten most remote, out of the world places to go.

Continued on next page



then . . .

. . . and now



In 1928



in front of family home ("the Brick House")

And, lo and behold I had been to two of them. One, a National Geographic trip to view the origins of early man when we stayed at Lake Rudolf, lying between the borders of Kenya, Ethiopia and Sudan, where the only place to take a bath was to jump in along with the crocodiles. Shades of Caddo Lake! Another, was Cumberland Island off the coast of Georgia — a mystical haunted place where cobwebs hang in empty old plantation homes that spoke of life and people of long ago. There were miles and miles of sandy beaches and utter wilderness, yet just a short flight from bustling Atlanta.

I think back over the years and miles and wonder what has happened to us in the span of fifty years between Mayhaw jelly and a tart sweet fruit in Malaysia? Between Lindbergh and John Glenn? Coolidge and Carter? And between our generation and our children's and their children?

Every Commencement Class, every new generation has characteristics that are different and distinctive. We lamented the apathy and indifference of the '50's. We bewailed the restlessness and protests of the '60's.

But I agree with what Lyndon expressed in one of his last speeches, "we are not living in times of collapse," he said. "The old is not coming down. Rather the troubling and torment of these days stems from the new trying to rise into place . . . Change is NOT our enemy. On the contrary, this society has no deadlier danger than refusal to change."

I am not dismayed about the new generations, today's Graduates. Most of us have made our passage through the generation gap without becoming "uptight" about where this is leading. I just wish I could stick around and see how it all turns out. But, of course, it "won't turn out" — in any final form. That is what makes a democracy vital. We do not reach a level, a plateau — a static society. What we and each generation can do is to work and strive to assure that the thread of change is good and to leave our area of concern, our corner of the world better than we found it.

We hear the fresh young minds of today talk in terms we never wrestled with until long after Marshall High School. "Peace" and "Justice" and "Freedom" are not abstract concepts to them. They are part of their curriculum, and I believe, their commitment in high school and college. I hear young people not too long away from graduation talking in terms of "land use," "gerontology," "solar energy," hardly part of our concern or vocabulary of high school days.

So, we are all creatures of our times, shaped by the forces we live with. But we are endowed, I believe, with some basic goodness that has a continuity to it.

We look back on the road we travelled, now grown long, and say with the sweet sadness of the Welsh poet:

"What are those blue remembered hills,
What spires, what farms are those?
That is the land of lost content,
I see it shining plain
The happy highways where I went
And cannot come again."

Few of us would want to walk the same paths again, however much we may have enjoyed it at the time. We have relived our youth in our children, grandchildren, a few great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews, thrilled with their achievements, agonized over the disappointments — just as we did our own here in the intimacy of this well remembered town.

What are our consolations, old friends, before the unstoppable mill of time?

The mill grinds us all and we change. But with whatever good is in us, we nourish, we serve, and we feed the spirit of others coming on. The good within each of us, small to our own aspirations, combines with a million grains of goodness in others and sustains, by God's grace, an imperfect human race.

I have always believed that the path of mankind moves slowly upward.

I see it in the young people I know. I see it in their coming to grips with quite specific issues. And I see it in their quest for warmth and neighborliness we knew and still cherish. If their zeal for a better future embodies appreciation for the values of the past, as well, I have no fear. And I believe that is what they are all about . . . as we were long ago.



With longtime friend Mrs. Hugh Powell

PANAMA CANAL EXHIBIT OPENS AT LBJ LIBRARY

The story of the Panama Canal told in exhibit form opened June 16 at the Library.

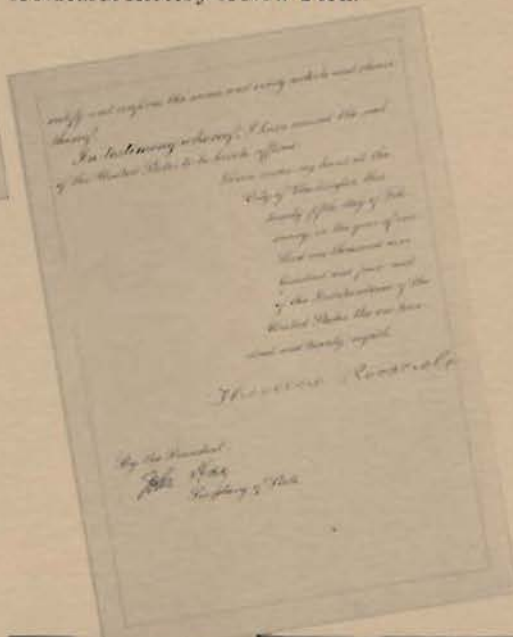
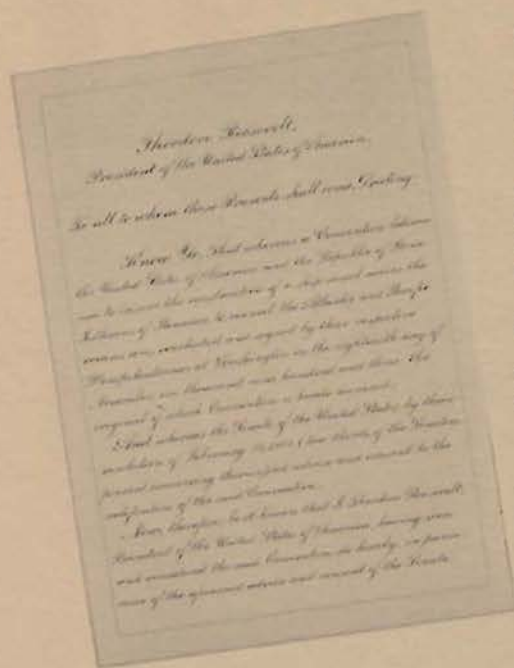
The timely historical display offers original documents, photographs, treaties, and notes which trace the relationship of Panama and this country from 1870 to 1978.

Two of the most valuable documents on view are the original American Treaty with Panama signed by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1903 and the Treaty of 1936 signed by President Franklin Roosevelt, both on loan to the Library from the National Archives.

The exhibit includes four original photographic prints by T.H. O'Sullivan, with views of Panama in 1870, showing the significance of that tiny isthmus which has had commercial and military significance since Balboa determined its nature in 1513. There are photos of the French working on the canal in the 1880's and a French map detailing the plan for a canal in 1881, and the American plan in 1889.

Notes and telegrams during the 1960's advising President Johnson of growing difficulties in Panama are included.

From the artists' standpoint, one of the major items is an oil portrait of President Theodore Roosevelt, painted from life by Philip Laszlo, lent by the American Museum of Natural History of New York.



A LOOK BACKWARD: 1968

It was a year of images — traumatic, poignant, tragic, hopeful. Many were recorded in 150 photographs taken by a special group of photographers and assembled at the time into a collection called "The White House News Photographers Best — 1968." The Library has borrowed these photographs — some of which are shown here — from the Library of Congress for a special exhibit looking back to that dramatic year a decade ago.

The exhibit will run until September 4.



"War in a Wet Hell" by W. E. Garrett



"Waving Flags" by Darryl L. Heikes



"Capitol Disgrace" by James K. W. Atherton



"Nixon's the One" by George Tames



"RFK funeral" by Byron E. Schumaker



"An Autumn Stroll" by Charles W. Harrity



Dr. Elzy

Research potential at the Johnson Library

By Martin I. Elzy

*Dr. Elzy is an archivist in
the textual records section
at the Library.*

The holdings of the Johnson Library include the resources for hundreds of articles and scores of books and dissertations. High school students research debate topics here; undergraduates learn the meaning of primary source material here; and graduate students will publish their first articles from the holdings. Many of the books and articles will achieve distinction, but three topics are of such scope that their conquest may lead to Pulitzer prizes for their authors. Selection for such an award depends on more than scope of topic, of course. So the aspiring authors will have to combine research satisfactory to scholars with a felicity of style which will result in popularity with the general public. One such prize may well be awarded for a biography of the thirty-sixth president. The Vietnam war, so complicated to those who lived through it, will provide a Pulitzer prize to the historian capable of extracting from its many complexities an explanation of the American role in Southeast Asia. A third prize would go to the historian or political scientist who pens an assessment of the Democratic party from Roosevelt to Johnson.

How will these prize-winning volumes be written? The definitive biography of Johnson will utilize the Library's full range of resources. Family correspondence, which will soon be made available for research, will supply the portrait of the pre-political Lyndon Johnson. The House and Senate papers, also soon to be opened for research, will be invaluable to the study of Johnson's pre-presidential career. The policies of the presidential period are well-documented by the White House Central Files, which is now almost entirely processed. Various auxiliary files supplement the White House Central Files, such as presidential task force reports, administrative histories of government agencies, and the President's daily diary, which provides the most personal view of the President's life in the White House. The post-presidential files are voluminous and will also be made available for research at an undetermined future date. Encompassing Johnson's entire career are oral histories with friends, politicians, and government officials. These interviews, which are still being conducted, add warmth to the dry memorandums of busy government officials and fill the lacunas that exist in the historical record due to the modern ease of communication by telephone and personal conversation.

A second prize may be awarded for the definitive study of

the American role in Vietnam. The National Security Files, which were kept in the Situation Room at the White House, fulfilled the same function for foreign policy. Approximately one-third of the three hundred linear feet of mostly security-classified material deals with Vietnam. It will provide the White House view of developments in Southeast Asia. The author of this volume will do further research at the National Archives in Washington in the files of the State and Defense Departments. Although hindered by the security classification of most of the important material, the author will find that Executive Order 11652 provides an avenue of declassification.

Another scholar will travel many thousands of miles to do research for a history of the Democratic party from Roosevelt to Johnson. Historians are already writing that an era of American history which began with the Depression and World War II ended during the Nixon administration. No one knows where the new era will lead, but most scholars agree that it has begun. The old era was an age of Democratic ascendancy in both the executive and legislative branches of government, and it witnessed a growing Democratic influence within the judicial branch as well. A student of the party will journey to the Roosevelt Library in New York, the Truman Library in Missouri, and the Kennedy Library in Massachusetts as well as the Johnson Library. Nor should the papers of the two unsuccessful Democratic presidential candidates of this period, Adlai Stevenson and Hubert Humphrey, be ignored — nor the papers of Sam Rayburn, Robert Wagner, Paul Douglas, and scores of other important party figures including Wright Patman, whose papers are now located in the Johnson Library. The records of the Democratic National Committee, a small portion of which are available at the Johnson Library, will also be vital, of course. This long list indicates that probably no single scholar can do all of the primary research for this topic, but some day a scholar will combine his own research with the most reliable writing of his colleagues to form a synthesis describing the important role played by the Democratic party during the middle half of the twentieth century.

The Johnson Library is a young institution that has already welcomed almost one thousand researchers. As more material is made available for research, we can expect an increasing volume of scholars to use the facility. Many of them will make remarkable contributions to the field of historical writing.

COMING EVENTS

TAKING THE MEASURE OF THE LAND — Cartography exhibit on loan from the National Archives from September 20 — October 22. The display, a choice collection of 78 maps, charts, photographs, drawings, watercolors, manuscripts, and cartographic instruments that depict the development of this nation from 1769 to the present.

FRIENDS OF THE LBJ LIBRARY FUNCTIONS — Special receptions for the members of the Friends of the LBJ Library will be held in Washington on October 3rd and in the Library in early fall.

MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE EXHIBIT — A major historical exhibit based primarily on documents from Cornell University's collection of the papers of the Marquis de Lafayette will open October 6 in the Library.



Members of the Rider High School A Cappella Choir, from Wichita Falls, Texas, sang in the Great Hall of the Library in May. It is under the direction of Mr. Donald B. Cowan, head of choral activities at the S.H. Rider High School.

The choir, which has performed throughout Texas, in Mexico City, and in Washington, D.C., was in Austin on tour.

A total of 37 concerts was given by the choir last year for civic clubs, hospitals, conventions, churches and rest homes. It has won eight awards.

COLLECTORS ITEMS STILL AVAILABLE

Limited numbers of two specialty items produced in the last few years are still available from the Friends of the LBJ Library.

LBJ CHAIR

The limited edition "LBJ Chair" designed and manufactured by the Hitchcock Chair Company carries a stenciled image of the LBJ Ranch against a soft antiqued Bayberry Green. A silhouette of President Johnson and traditional bronze stencil ornamentation complement the crown top, button back chair. The chair stands 35" high and features a cane seat. It is fully documented as a true antique reproduction in limited edition, signed and numbered by the artist and bears the Hitchcock Warranted trademark.

These chairs can be purchased for \$260.00 each shipped anywhere in the United States and \$236.00 each if purchased in Austin, Texas.

SPECIAL EDITION, "LBJ: 37 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE"

A special edition of LBJ: 37 Years of Public Service, a compilation of documents from each of Lyndon Johnson's years in the public eye, selected by Joe B. Frantz, with accompanying essays by him, was published several years ago by Shoal Creek Publishers. Some volumes of this special edition, which are bound in white cowhide and encased in a box of Texas cedar, are still available at \$150, the publisher has announced. Proceeds from sales will benefit the Friends of the LBJ Library.

Four students receive LBJ Foundation Award for academic excellence

The Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas Saturday, May 20, presented its first LBJ Foundation Award for Academic Excellence.

Sharing the \$2,000 award, to be given annually to one or more members of the graduating class with the highest scholastic record were four all-A students. They were: Harley Thomas Duncan of Highmore, South Dakota, Lillas J. Shelby Kinch of Austin, Conway Chris Kuykendall of Canyon, and Peggy Ann Hamilton of San Antonio.

The academic awards were presented during the LBJ School's Commencement convocation. Guest speaker was Congressman Jim Wright of Fort Worth, Majority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives.

The awards, provided by the LBJ Foundation, were presented by Frank C. Erwin, Jr., President of the Foundation Board of Directors.

AMONG FRIENDS OF LBJ is a publication of the Friends of the LBJ Library

Editor: Lawrence D. Reed

Research Assistance: Liz Carpenter, Charles Corkran, Mike Gillette, David Humphrey, Philip Scott, Gary Yarrington

Photography: Frank Wolfe, Paul Chevalier, Dennis Fagan

Staff Assistance: Yolanda Booser

Orders for both items can be directed to the Friends of the LBJ Library, 2313 Red River, Austin, Texas 78705.