

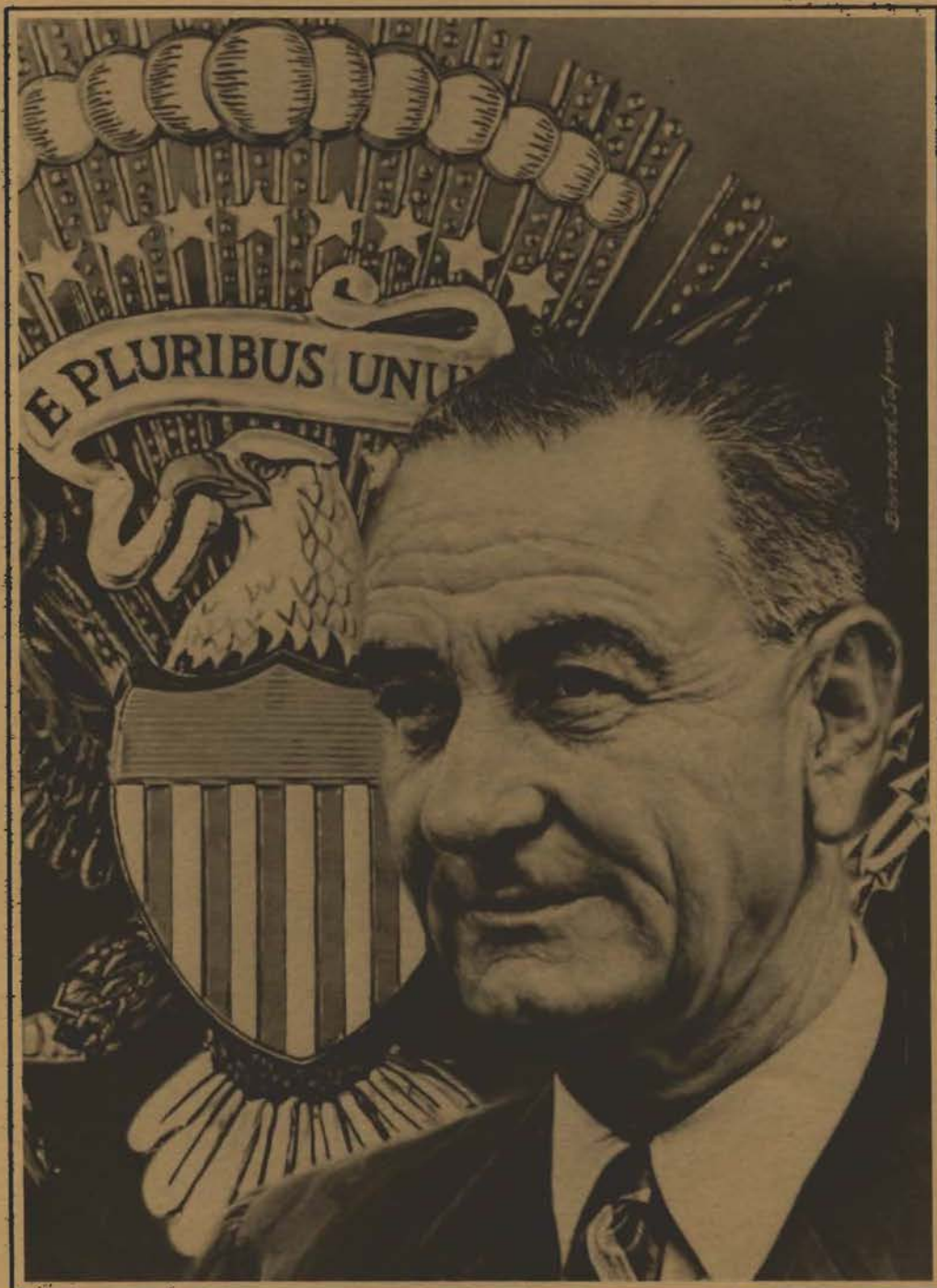


ISSUE NUMBER XVII, AUGUST 15, 1979

# Among Friends of LBJ

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF LBJ LIBRARY

The 1960's  
revisited in TIME covers  
see page 8





# Foundation Board Meets at Library



Mrs. Johnson makes her point to fellow members of the LBJ Foundation Board of Directors at the Board's annual meeting in the Library June 2. Flanking Mrs. Johnson are Elspeth Rostow, Dean of the LBJ School; Mrs. Charles Engelhard; John Barr, Secretary-Treasurer, and Chairman Frank C. Erwin Jr. Visible on Erwin's right are Henry Fowler and Lew Wasserman.



Tom Johnson makes his point to Harry Middleton and Lew Wasserman. Board members who were unable to attend: George Brown, Perry Bass, Arthur Krim and Andre Meyer.



Christina Lawson

## Library Names New Chief Archivist

Christina Lawson is the Library's new supervisory archivist. Ms. Lawson, who has been on the Library staff since 1972, replaces John Fawcett who was transferred to the National Archives in December, 1977. Charles Corkran, assistant director, has been serving as Supervisory Archivist in the interim.

Ms. Lawson, known as "Tina," received a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Library Science degrees from the University of Texas at Austin.

She has represented the Library, sometimes presenting papers and serving on panels, at meetings of the Texas Library Association, Society of Southwest Archivist, Society of American Archivist, Organization of American Historians, American Association of State and Local History and American Library Association.

As supervisory archivist, she oversees a staff of fifteen archivist and archives technicians who process the Library's 31 million papers and work with the scholars who use those collections.

John Wickman, Director of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library in Abilene, Kansas, spoke at the Library in May to a University of Texas group, joined together through an interest in "British Studies." The subject of Wickman's lecture was, "Eisenhower and the British."



Wickman



# Cohen and Evron Appear in Distinguished Lecture Series

Wilbur Cohen, Secretary of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare in 1968, and Israel's ambassador to the United States, Ephraim Evron, spoke at the Library as part of the Distinguished Lecture Series co-sponsored by the Library and the LBJ School of Public Affairs.

Cohen's presentation, entitled "Why Social Security Must be Saved," was given May 9. Ambassador Evron, who was here on June 25th, spoke on "The Middle

East After the Israeli-Egyptian Peace Treaty."

Cohen, who served as Dean of the College of Education at the University of Michigan after he left government in 1969 and is now Professor of Education and Public Welfare Administration at that university, is often called the "Father of Social Security," because he helped draft the original legislation as a young New Dealer in the 1930s. In his presentation, Cohen disputed the contention that the social security system is "bankrupt." "The system," he maintained, "is fully funded for the next 50 years."

Ambassador Evron said that the peace treaty signed in March between Israel and Egypt "means that we're living through the beginning of the end of the conflict. The Middle East is now set on a new course which I'm convinced will eventually bring about a comprehensive peace for all countries in the area."



Cohen

An incident which occurred when Anwar Sadat visited Jerusalem shows the extent of change in Egyptian feelings, Evron said. He reported that a member of the Egyptian party, sitting next to Evron at dinner told him that until the day before he "would have spat" if he passed a Jew on the street.

"If they have overcome that, those kinds of feelings, then it's because Egypt needs the treaty, too. Our feeling is that any future government of Egypt will continue on the same road," Evron said.



Evron with Dean Elspeth Rostow

## Ambassador Evron on President Johnson:

"I would like to say a few words about President Johnson and us in Israel. I was very fortunate—I don't know how it came about—to know President Johnson, and I was very fortunate to have the honor of having him look upon me as a friend. He was, in my view, one of the greatest presidents of this country, and history will certainly state so in future times. I believe it's already beginning so, to establish his position in American life. But for Israel, he was a special friend.

"Israel has had the fortune of enjoying bipartisan support from the day of its establishment. All American presidents since then, in one way or another, helped and supported Israel. But without diminishing from the support or from the feelings of other presidents, I think I am right in saying that he was the one who understood us best, and we reciprocated his understanding, in loving him and in cherishing his memory, and it's therefore with this feeling that I stand before you today."



Ambassador and Mrs. Evron receive visitors at the Library with Mrs. Johnson and Harry Middleton.



# N.Y.A. Alumni

by Willard Deason



Deason with Mrs. Johnson. (Deason served as administrative assistant to State Director Lyndon Johnson from 1935 to 1937, and as deputy state administrator from 1937 to 1942.)

In spite of the gasoline shortage, more than 100 people came to the LBJ Library in Austin on the weekend of July 14 and 15 for a reunion of NYA (National Youth Administration) staffers. The group was composed of the administrative and supervisory personnel of the state NYA staff in Texas. They came from all over Texas and other faraway places. C. P. and Catherine Little came from their home in Winchester, Virginia.

The NYA was an agency of the federal government created by an executive order of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1935 to give part-time employment and educational aid to needy young people between the ages of 16 and 24.

Lyndon Johnson was the first state administrator of the NYA program in Texas and served in that capacity from July 1935 until he resigned in the spring of 1937 to run for Congress upon the death of Congressman Buchanan. Upon LBJ's resignation, Jesse Kellam, the deputy state administrator, was appointed to the administrator's job and served in that capacity until the outbreak of World War II when he went into the navy.

Of the folks who attended the reunion, many had not seen one another for some thirty-five years, so naturally there were some polite disclaimers such as, "You don't look

a year older" or "I would have known you anywhere." The ages of most people present ranged from the early sixties to the mid-eighties. These were the same people who four decades earlier had done what was considered the outstanding program in the United States in getting worthwhile work projects and training schedules set up for needy young people. One of the participants remarked: We were then a bunch of idealistic and enthusiastic youngsters "who did not know it could not be done, so we did it."

The afternoon program was opened on a somber note with a request by Bill Deason who was presiding that a moment of silent prayer be observed for those who had gone on to their heavenly reward. He listed some twenty people in this category including both the NYA leaders Lyndon Johnson and Jesse Kellam.

Congressman Jake Pickle paid a beautiful tribute to the memory of Lyndon Johnson. Then Congressman Ray Roberts in a moving talk reminded those present of the many sterling qualities of Jesse Kellam. Both Congressman Roberts and Congressman Pickle were former staffers of NYA.

Most of the afternoon program was devoted to reminiscing. Each participant was called upon to tell where he now lives, what he is presently doing and to recall some of the highlights of his service with NYA. These memories were recorded by Mike Gillette, who is in charge of the oral history project at the LBJ Library and who was gathering information for a permanent record about LBJ's service with the NYA.

The reunion was held in conjunction with the opening of a display in the halls of the Library about LBJ's work and accomplishments while serving as administrator of the NYA program in Texas.

The highlight of the meeting was having Lady Bird Johnson present for most of the afternoon reminiscing, and for the reception Saturday evening.



Congressman and former NYAer Jake Pickle addresses group



# Convene at Library



*NYA attendees renew old acquaintances*



*Congressman Ray Roberts at the reunion*



*NYA attendees Sherman Birdwell, F. Lee Weigl, and Phillip Medillin*

*Special exhibit on NYA mounted by Library staff*



## NYA continued

*The NYA reunion brought many new photographs from those days into the Library's collections. A representative few of them are shown on these pages.*



### NYA BOYS:

#### TOP ROW—left to right:

W. O. Alexander  
Ben Jackson  
H. A. Tony Ziegler  
Hirschie Johnson  
Harvey O. Payne  
William Sheehy  
A. V. Bullock  
Jack L. Charlton  
John L. Coers  
Victor Jaeggli  
R. L. McWilliams  
Paul E. Spruill  
Ray Roberts  
Phil Wilson  
C. P. Little  
Harold E. Green

#### BOTTOM ROW—SEATED—left to right:

Albert W. Brisbin  
Fenner Roth  
Willard Deason  
Jesse Kellam  
L. B. Griffith  
Ray Lee  
Ivan B. Baker



R. W. Jacobs, regional representative, and Lyndon Johnson, state director, talk with worker in Seguin, 1936.



In the early 40's: District Directors Ben Crider, Harvey Payne, Harvie Yoe (top row); Al Deviney, Sherman Birdwell, J. J. (Jake) Pickle (bottom row).



# 40 Years



Jesse Kellam, shortly after succeeding Lyndon Johnson as state director.



Dedicating the Little-Chapel-In-The-Woods in Denton, Texas in November 1938 are first lady Eleanor Roosevelt; L. H. Hubbard, president of Texas Women's University in Denton; State NYA Director Jesse Kellam, and Rev. Floyd Poe, pastor of City Temple in Dallas. The chapel, designed by O'Neil Ford, was built by NYA students.



An NYA project at Prairie View College in 1938 trained students in electrical work. The concern Johnson showed for minority students as state director was recognized in the letter at right soon after his election to congress.

## NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION

1314 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 3, 1937

Congressman Lyndon B. Johnson,  
House Office Building,  
Washington, D. C.

Honorable Sir:

Dr. Burns joins me in extending to you our heartiest congratulations for the honor done you by the citizens of your district.

We feel certain that the same energy and vigorous imagination that characterized the outstanding success of your program with the National Youth Administration will write your name high in the annals of the House of Representatives.

We are indeed happy that one who has proven himself so conscious of and sympathetic with the needs of all the people should take his place in a Congress that is so intently writing a more human and more Christian concept of American Democracy.

Very sincerely yours,

*Mary McLeod Bethune*

Mary McLeod Bethune  
Director, Division of Negro Affairs



# TIME Covers Reflect 20 Years of Recent History



Austin mayor Carole McClellan, Arthur Temple and Mrs. Johnson cut a ribbon officially opening the exhibit, "The Time of Our Lives." Temple is vice chairman of the board of Time, Inc.

The 1960's and 70's are recaptured in a new exhibit which opened at the Library July 21. Titled *The Time of Our Lives*, it features the original works of art from which Time Magazine produced its cover designs during those decades.

The portraits and sculptures are as varied as the newsmakers of the 20 year period and include presidents, protestors and performers.

The extensive show, which comes to the Library from the National Portrait Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C. (its only other showing), numbers more than 100 pieces produced in the medium of gouache, watercolor, oil, acrylic, photography, bronze, epoxy and stone. Artists represented are: James Wyeth, Marisol, Larry Rivers, Frank Gallo, Robert Vickrey, Peter Hurd, Henry Koerner, David Levine, Aaron Bohrod and many others.

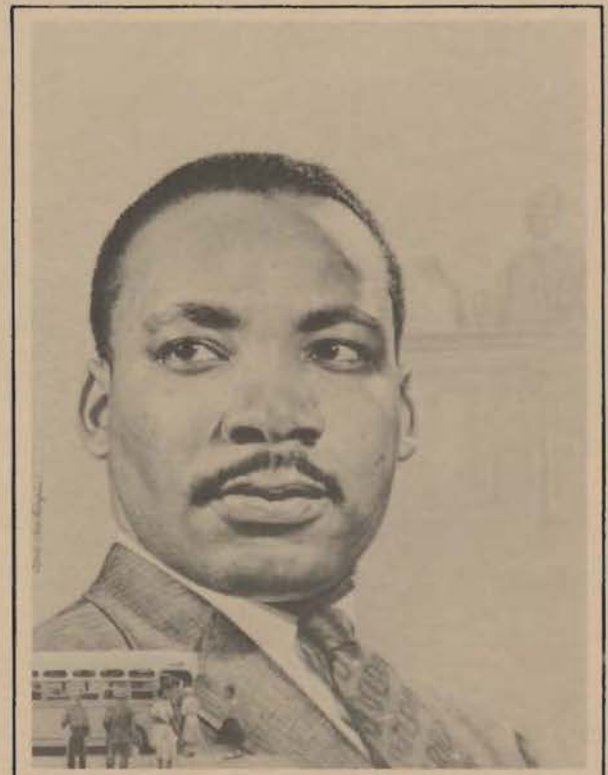
The exhibition, which is part of the Library's program of changing exhibits, will be on display until January 1.



Visitors view cover material

Cover: **LYNDON JOHNSON**  
November 29, 1963  
Bernard Safran

**MARTIN LUTHER KING**  
February 18, 1957  
Boris Chaliapin

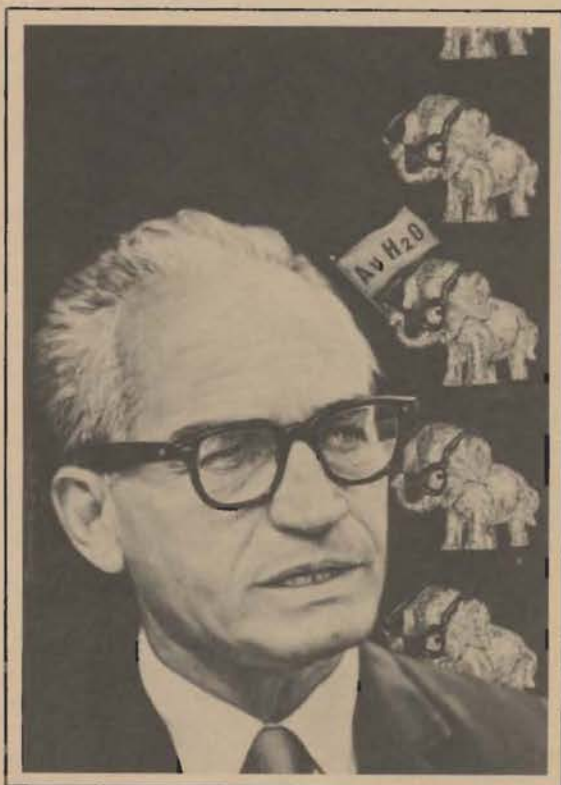






LADY BIRD JOHNSON  
August 28, 1964  
Boris Artzybasheff

BOB HOPE  
December 22, 1967  
Marisol



BARRY GOLDWATER  
June 12, 1964  
Bernard Safran

BOBBY KENNEDY  
May 24, 1968  
Roy Lichtenstein



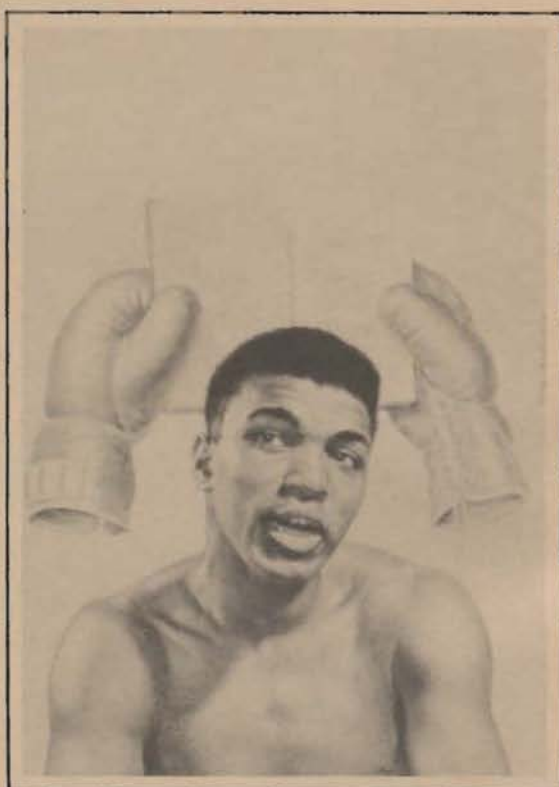


NELSON ROCKEFELLER  
September 2, 1974  
Marisol



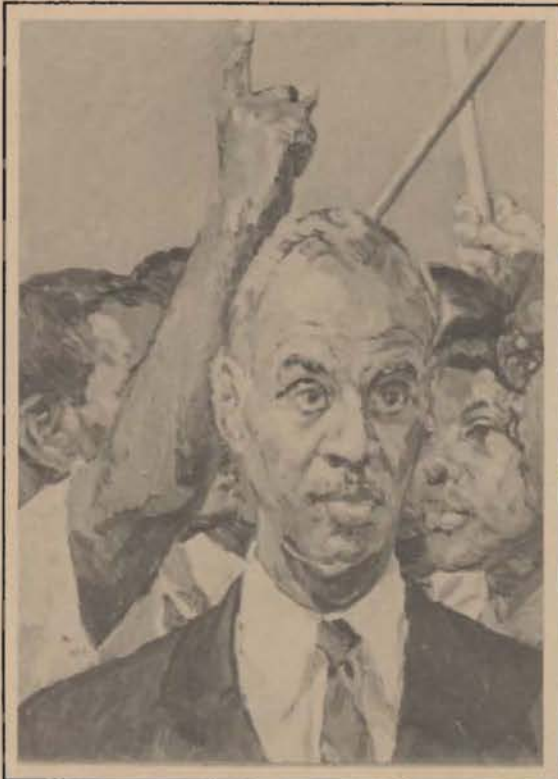
JIMMY CARTER  
January 3, 1977  
James Wyeth

CHER BONO  
March 17, 1975  
Richard Avedon



CASSIUS MARCELLUS CLAY  
March 22, 1963  
Boris Chaliapin





ROY WILKINS  
August 30, 1963  
Henry Koerner

RAQUEL WELCH  
November 28, 1969  
Frank Gallo



NEIL ARMSTRONG  
July 25, 1969  
Louis Glanzman

HUBERT H. HUMPHREY  
May 3, 1968  
Louis Glanzman







# Summertime at the Library

*captured on these pages are images of the Library in the spring and summer of 1979.*



## Library Receives 5 Millionth Visitor



Mrs. Hay

Mrs. Janet Lee Hay of Jennerstown, Pa., on her first visit to Texas, became the 5 millionth person to visit the Library since it opened on May 22, 1971. Mrs. Hay, who had been attending a professional meeting in Dallas, was in Austin touring with friends when she visited the Library on July 30.

Mrs. Hay is a teacher of gifted children in third through sixth grades in the Somerset School District in Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Hay said that she and her traveling companions each selected one attraction to visit in the Austin area and she chose the Library. "I had heard about the LBJ Library and always wanted to visit it since watching the opening several years ago," she said.

Mrs. Johnson was on hand to greet Mrs. Hay when she came through the door. She presented the visitor with an autographed copy of *A White House Diary* and a bronze bust of President Johnson.

"It has all been most enlightening," Mrs. Hay said. "This is my first trip to Texas and I can't wait to get back home to tell my

students about this experience. I'm sure they will listen very closely."

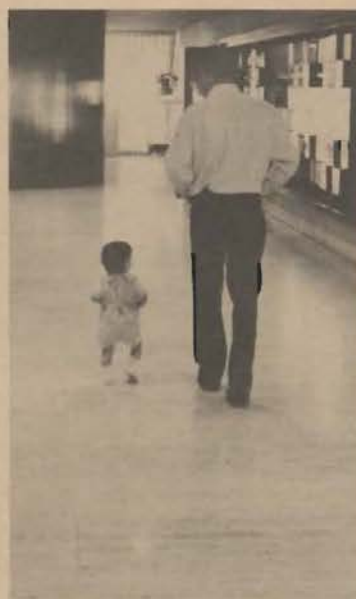
When the 5 millionth visitor came through the Library doors, she was several months behind schedule. Library staffers had known for a long time that attendance would reach that figure in 1979, and shortly after the first of the year they began planning to record that event.

The projection then was that it would happen in the spring. But the energy crisis complicated that prediction. Gasoline shortages across the nation slowed the normal tourist flows during the spring and early summer. Popular vacation spots in every part of the country reported the quietest Fourth of July on record.

The Library, like every other attraction in Texas, felt the effect of this slowdown. On some days in May, June, and July, attendance dropped as low as 800.

By the time Mrs. Hay visited the Library, however, the average attendance range was back up to 1500 a day. In the 15 minutes preceding the entrance of the 5 millionth visitor, tourists from six states came through the door.







# Lyndon Johnson's Great Society Address

by Robert M. Warner

*In the spring of 1964, less than six months in office, President Johnson gave the commencement address to the graduating class of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. It became one of the most significant speeches of his Presidency. In the spring of 1979, a paper prepared by Robert M. Warner, Director of the Bentley Historical Library at the University of Michigan, marked the 15th anniversary of that historic occasion. The article presented on these pages is excerpted from Dr. Warner's paper.*

"THE WORLD'S LARGEST COMMENCEMENT" headlined the University of Michigan alumni magazine's story of Lyndon Johnson's Ann Arbor appearance on May 22, 1964 in a hyperbole that any good Texan would approve. Without doubt it was one of the biggest audiences Lyndon Johnson ever addressed. One estimate put the number of those hearing him at 70,000, another at over 85,000. In any event, an enormous number of people were in Michigan Stadium on that warm May morning. More came to this event than to many of the Saturday fall football games when the Michigan Wolverines battled some Big Ten rival. The setting for the presidential visit was in many ways similar to a football Saturday. The grassy field was brilliantly green. The smartly dressed University band turned out in full strength. A large platform, elaborately decorated with a small forest of potted trees and a colorful array of flags and flowers, had been constructed at the north end of the stadium to accommodate the 300 guests of honor.

The weather on this Friday morning was exactly as the White House weather service had predicted, clear and hot. Even though it was only mid-morning when the festivities got under way, the temperature was warm and humid. On this spring day, black-gowned men and women, adorned with brightly colored academic hoods, solemnly marched

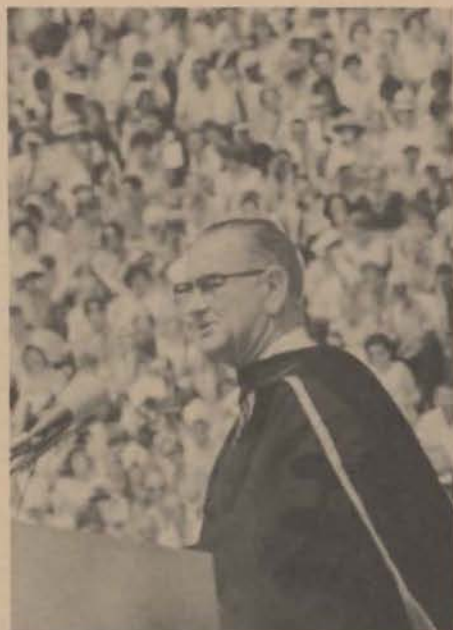
through the tunnel into the stadium forming the anachronistic but still awe-inspiring University procession. When President Johnson and University President Harlan Hatcher came into view, they were greeted with a great roar from the people in the stadium.

Ordinarily, the deans of the various colleges have to do some arm twisting to get professors to participate in commencement, but not for commencement 1964. There were more volunteers than could be accepted, and the posts had to be carefully assigned to reflect University constituencies. In a similar departure from recent tradition a large proportion of the graduates showed up for the occasion. In the 1950s and 1960s it had become fashionable, particularly for undergraduates, to skip commencement, but this was not so in 1964. Most of the 4,943 graduates turned out to occupy the prime seats that had been allotted them in the middle of the field, near the speaker's stand. Although the rows of chairs did not extend from one end zone to the other, they filled virtually two-thirds of the vast green field.

The program went off without incident. It began at 10 o'clock with an invocation and the national anthem. Then the degrees were awarded—bachelors', masters', and doctorates, and finally the honorary degrees.

President Johnson received his honorary L.L.D. last. Along with the customary University diploma, Hatcher, with a touch of humor, also gave Johnson "the pen with which I signed it." This part of the commencement ceremonies completed, the program moved to the featured event—the President's address. In a forceful manner, the President, using a teleprompter, delivered his Great Society speech, a bold and idealistic call not only to the graduates but to the entire nation.

The Great Society speech began at 10:55 and ended at 11:15, a total of twenty minutes—not a long



speech, but ten minutes longer than the original schedule had indicated. According to the official White House record, the speech was interrupted fourteen times with applause. An unknown aide indicated on his copy of the speech where the applause had come and noted quite accurately at the end of the manuscript, "long applause."

A decade and a half later this speech seems to pass the test of time. Much of what it contained has meaning for today. There is little that seems dated and pertinent only to another era. Because it dealt with domestic matters and not foreign affairs, it ignored the problems of the Vietnam War. In his speech Johnson called upon the best instincts of his audience. He urged the people not to be content with the nation as it was but to look ahead, particularly at three areas where great problems remained. The first of these was the city, which continued to attract more and more people yet seemingly met fewer of their needs. The second was the countryside, where Johnson pointed to the problems of pollution, overcrowding, and the desecration of the natural splendor. The third area of challenge for the future was in the classroom, where much still needed to be done, both in school-building and in the improvement of teaching. He asked his audience to join in the effort to meet these problems, to end poverty, to work for peace, and to bring about equality regardless of race. For his own part, he promised to convene conferences of the best



minds to work on these far-reaching problems. In all, it was a very good speech, well delivered, and did the President justice.

From the Presidential papers of Lyndon Johnson, it is evident that the President and his closest advisors and speechwriters viewed this as a speech that would perhaps set the tone of not only the forthcoming 1964 election but also of the entire Johnson administration in the area of domestic policy. For this reason, the Johnson papers contain a large number of suggestions from a variety of persons as to what should be included in the address. In fact, some associates submitted full drafts of speeches for consideration. Most interesting of all, however, are drafts of the speech as it actually developed. Through these we can see how the speech was written and what modifications were made. What we will probably never know is exactly what percentage of input from what individual went into making this speech and, most important of all, how much of the President's own thoughts served as a catalyst for Johnson's thinking. As far as the President's impact is concerned, it is fair to say that the speech and the thoughts therein were typical of the man and his attitude toward his job.

Contained in the Presidential archives is a significant memorandum from Bill Moyers to George Reedy that was prepared the day before the speech was given, apparently to reflect the president's own views about the speech. The memorandum made eight points. One, that although this was an election year, the President was "also thinking of the next generation" in writing the speech. Two, the President, since he assumed office, had spent a good deal of time thinking about the long-term consequences of his decisions. Three, the President must look far into the future at the consequences of his actions, or there would not be effective national planning. Only the Presidential office "has power to match responsibility and means to match motives." Four, since the President was worried that political considerations would overshadow long-term national concerns, he hoped in his speech to focus on major issues of general significance to the nation. Five, the three points he made concerning the cities, the

countryside, and the classroom were "deliberately chosen by the President for this speech." Six, the President recognized urbanization as inevitable but thought that urbanization could be tempered if people had access to the outdoors and outdoor influences. Seven, he deliberately chose a university commencement to express these ideas because his own experience in the Great Depression showed him what motivated young people could accomplish. Eight, he saw his office as one offering a great opportunity to provide moral leadership for the whole country and to focus the public's attention on these major issues. From these various points, it is clear, if the Moyers' memo reflects the President's thinking (and there is no reason to assume otherwise), that Johnson looked upon this speech as one of decisive significance, that the setting was chosen thoughtfully, and the words were given much attention by Johnson himself.

The immediate reaction to the Johnson speech was one of great enthusiasm on the part of the listeners. The huge audience liked the speech and liked the President. And the President was pleased too. Immediately after the address University Regent William Cudlip spoke with Johnson for a few minutes, congratulating him on his talk and telling him: "You have characterized your administration because 'the Great Society' was the theme of your address and you mentioned it several times. It is in the tradition of President Wilson's 'New Freedom' and the 'New Frontier' and other slogans . . ." "He [Johnson] looked at me very squarely," Cudlip continued, "and said in substance,

'Thank you very much.' You are right. That will be the description of my administration's program next year and it reflects the goals we shall try to achieve. We shall aim to accomplish these things." Under Secretary of State G. Mennen Williams thought the speech so significant that he sent copies to thirty-two major leaders of African nations, including many heads of state. Williams told the Africans in a personal letter that the speech represented "not only the President's desires, but the enthusiastic desires of the greater part of the American people."

The "Great Society" never characterized the Johnson years with the same force as the "New Deal" characterized Franklin Roosevelt's terms. Yet the "Great Society" has become the title historians use to characterize Johnson's program of domestic reform, which was indeed one of the most extraordinary of any Presidential administration.

A direct result of the speech was the establishment of the Presidential Task Forces. Johnson sought to bring together experts from throughout the nation to develop a platform for the 1964 campaign but more broadly to draw his "blueprint for the next four years." With cynical humor [Eric] Goldman termed the proposed groups "the greatest assemblage of wisdom since the Nicene Council."

The Ann Arbor speech was probably Johnson's most important pronouncement on domestic matters. This was the intention of the President at the time, and its significance was recognized by the press in its reporting of the event. The passage of more than a decade has confirmed the assessment.







*This ink drawing of Mrs. Johnson, by famed caricaturist Albert Hirschfeld, is now on exhibit in the Library, a gift from the artist. The drawing was used on invitations to a U.S.O. luncheon in New York in the spring, where Mrs. Johnson was honored as U.S.O.'s "Woman of the Year." Hirschfeld, whose work is represented in some of the country's major museums, has been known for his caricatures of various persons for half a century.*

## LBJ School Graduates New Crop of Public Servants

Forty-seven students received their Master of Public Affairs degree at the 1979 Commencement ceremonies for the LBJ School of Public Affairs May 19.

The Commencement address was given by faculty member Barbara Jordan, former Congresswoman from Texas who is now the School's Lyndon B. Johnson Public Service Professor.

The Emmette S. Redford Award for Outstanding Research was presented to Gary Flynn by Dr. Jared Hazleton, Associate Dean of the LBJ School. The Lyndon Baines Johnson Award for Academic Excellence was presented to Joellen Snow, Daniel Reingold and Donald D. Saylor by Frank C. Erwin, Jr., Chairman of the LBJ Foundation's Board of Directors.

## Coming Events

The Library's major exhibit for 1979 will evoke the mood and history of the 1920's. Presidential speeches, documents of statecraft, music, literature, art, fashion, and the economy of the period will be documented with items obtained from major institutions across the country. The exhibit will open to the public on October 24, the 50th anniversary of the crash of 1929.

A special viewing of the exhibit on Friday, November 2 will be the occasion of the 1979 gathering of the members of the Friends of the LBJ Library who live in Texas. Another Friends' function will be held in Washington, D. C. November 6 commemorating the 15th anniversary of LBJ's 1964 election to the Presidency.

Invitations to both events will be in the mail to Friends in October.

## In Memoriam: MILDRED PORTNER

Mildred C. Portner, whose early work in organizing the papers of Lyndon Johnson paved the way toward creation of the LBJ Library, died on July 24, in St. Petersburg, Fla. She served as secretary to the Library of Congress from 1946-1969. In March 1958, she began to advise Senate Majority Leader Johnson on the organization of his records. She and her assistant, Dorothy Territo, worked with Juanita Roberts of LBJ's staff to organize what later became the nucleus of the manuscripts housed in the Library. They established record systems, collected archival copies of speeches

and letters, initiated a daily diary, and created photographic files. Even before the Johnson Presidency, they introduced the idea of establishing a library to preserve LBJ's papers.

Mrs. Portner also applied her extensive knowledge of American antiques and antiquities in cataloging the artifacts of LBJ's boyhood home in 1964.

She is survived by her husband, Dr. Stuart Portner, former Assistant Secretary General of the Organization of American States, and her granddaughter Julie, both of St. Petersburg.

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

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