



# Chronicle

A Register of this work, the book of chronicles with figures and images from the beginning of the world. Nuremberg Chronicle, 1493

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Volume 4, Number 1

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TO INAUGURATE THE RITES OF SPRING the Friends of the Joint University Libraries will gather on Tuesday, April 3rd, at 7:30 p.m. in Underwood Auditorium on the Vanderbilt Campus. The speaker for the occasion will be Donald Davie, Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Humanities at Vanderbilt. He will speak, appropriately enough, on "American Poetry Through British Eyes."

Professor Davie was born in the West Riding of Yorkshire, England, and was educated at Cambridge University, where he also taught. He filled various academic posts at Dublin University, the University of Essex, and the University of Bristol. In America he has held professorships at the University of California at Santa Barbara, at the University of Cincinnati, at the University of Southern California, and at Stanford University. He has, clearly, a broad acquaintance with English and American education. But it is as a poet and a critic that Professor Davie is most widely known. He has published nine volumes of verse and seven volumes of criticism, besides a translation of Doctor Zhivago's poems and many articles not yet collected into books. In fact, Donald Davie is one of the two or three most distinguished poets and critics now living.

Friends of the Library are invited to the lecture and to a reception following it to meet Professor Davie.

IN AN APPRECIATIVE MEMORIAL ESSAY for the Vanderbilt Alumnus, T.D. Young has paid tribute to Allen Tate. The scope of Tate's writings extends to a number of genres--poetry, fiction, and criticism. Best known for "Ode to the Confederate Dead," Tate wrote twelve volumes of poetry. His novel, The Fathers, and his two published short stories, "The Migration" and "The Immortal Woman," have recently been reprinted by the Louisiana State University Press. In his fiction and biographies, Young writes, "Tate comes as close as anyone ever has, with the possible exception of William Faulkner, to encompassing imaginatively the Southern myth." Though his creative works brought him numerous awards, Tate's "cultural criticism--political, economic, literary, and religious--marks his most lasting contribution to American letters." Tate's perspective throughout his works remains focused on classical and humanistic values.

FRAGMENT OF A  
MEDITATION/MCMXXVIII  
BY ALLEN TATE



Following the Fugitive tradition, a group of literati gathered to read and discuss poetry in celebration of Allen Tate's seventy-fifth birthday. Commenting on Walter Savage Landor's poem, written at the same age, Tate concluded his remarks with the following lines:

And it is now time for us to say  
the few words we have to say  
Because tomorrow our soul sets sail.

AMONG THE MANY AND VARIED NEW ITEMS added to the Jesse E. Wills Collection through the industry of the Fugitive Committee is the splendid gift of Mrs. Whitefoord Cole. Mrs. Cole, Merrill Moore's sister, has presented a wealth of books, tape recordings, photographs, and memorabilia to the collection.

Interesting pieces among recent purchases are the galleys for Robert Penn Warren's Audubon: A Vision and a Taiwanese piracy of the work graced by the mark shown at right.

Future issues of Chronicle will carry notes on other significant acquisitions for the Wills Collection.

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ANN WELLS WELCOMED NEW MEMBERS of the Board of Directors of the Friends to their first meeting, 30 January 1979. After introductions and announcements Frank Grisham gave a brief history of the organization and Marice Wolfe described the holdings in the Special Collections Department. Mrs. Wells named Elizabeth Walsh and Robert Thomson to the Executive Committee. Walter Durham chairs the Publications Committee and Dorothy Loomis is in charge of Publicity. Prospects for the Fall Meeting were discussed.

Following the precedent of the group, a special volume was presented to the Libraries in appreciation of the presidency of Jean Heard. It will be accompanied by the remarks read by Ann Wells:

Friends of the Library pay tribute to Jean Heard in presenting this rare slender volume of Allen Tate's Sonnets at Christmas to the Jesse Wills Fugitive/Agrarian Collection.

Although some Twentieth Century muses have been thought elusive, Friends of JUL can have no doubt that Jean Heard has been a colleague rather than a protege of Euterpe in inspiring and bringing to generous fruition the organization to which she has devoted her piquant imagination and unflagging energies for the five years just past.

The Friends of the Library are delightedly in her debt and wish to proclaim it.

OVER \$16,000 IN FRIENDS FUNDS was raised during 1978-79 through the contributions of 525 members. A sustained record of Friends' giving has been an important increment in building the quality of JUL collections.

The annual renewal mailing will be made the first of May for the 1979-80 membership year. You can add a welcome bonus to your contribution by anticipating the drive and sending your renewal check with the form below. Thank you.

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FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY CELEBRATED A SIGNIFICANT MILESTONE on the occasion of the Fifth Annual Dinner Meeting 21 November 1978. With proven staying power, over one hundred and fifty Friends gathered at The Temple to hear Charles Frankel, Director of the National Humanities Center at Research Triangle, North Carolina, in a stimulating discussion of "The Attack on Books"--by various forces through the centuries and most recently, according to Frankel, by politics, television, and the women's movement.

Chancellor Emeritus Harvie Branscomb introduced the speaker with urbane remarks on the cultural state of affairs and the presidency of Jean Heard. Mrs. Heard conducted a brief business meeting at which officers and board members for 1979-1981 were elected. Officers are: Mrs. Charles Wells, President; Mrs. Alexander Heard, Past President; James F. Kilroy, First Vice-President; Mrs. Starkey Duncan, Second Vice-President; Frank P. Grisham, Secretary; and Andrew Benedict, Treasurer. Members of the new Board are: William Boozer, Walter Durham, Robert Lagemann, Mrs. Roger S. Loomis, Rudolph Kampmeier, Robert A. McGaw, Richard Porter, Rob Roy Purdy, Joanne Sasser, Robert Polk Thomson, Mrs. Joseph L. Walsh, and Richard W. Weesner.

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