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Lumières, November 1980

Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College

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LUMIÈRES

Profile of a Bibliophile

LIBRARY GIVEN EXTENSIVE POKER COLLECTION

During the country's economic depression in the early 1930s, a young LSU law graduate lost \$12 to friends in a poker game in New Orleans.

"In those days," recalls Oliver P. "Ike" Carriere, "\$12 was a pretty large amount. When a lawyer got a \$15 dollar fee and several smaller ones, he felt he'd had a good day."

In any event, the man who went on to become a successful lawyer, eminent judge, twice a member of the University's Board of Supervisors, and twice president of the Law School Alumni Association, also found the time and determination to subsequently become an expert on poker.

Carriere had a friend who had never played football, but learned to be a coach by watching practice sessions, reading books, and attending football clinics. "I figured," says Carriere, "that if he could learn football from books and clinics, I could master poker the same way, with the actual games as my clinics." Thus the fledgling loser at the poker table turned into an adept player, and the books he acquired to study the game became what is probably the world's greatest collection on the subject.

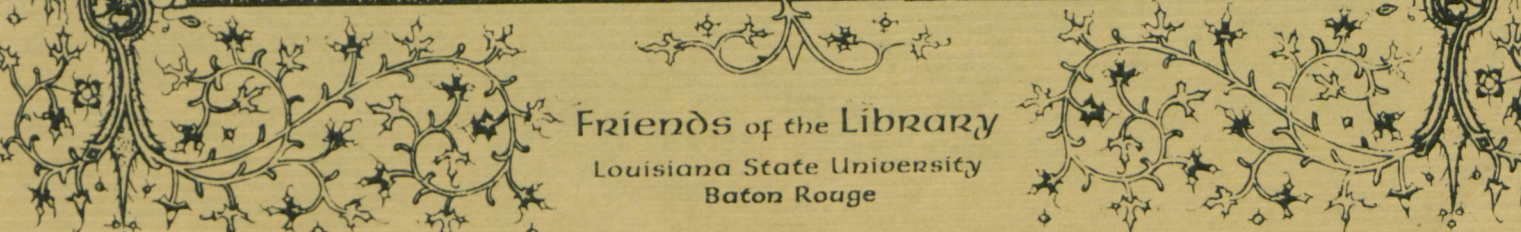
Earlier this year, he donated that collection—complete with some rare collectors' items—to the LSU Library.

A native of New Orleans where he attended elementary and high school, young Carriere then studied at the Sewanee Military Academy. He next entered LSU, where he earned a B.A. degree in 1925 and an L.L.B. two years later. He also was a four-year letterman in both football and baseball. (While long committed to the pursuit of scholarship and classical literature—in addition to volumes on poker—the Judge remains an avid sports fan. "No," he emphasizes, "I'm *more* than a fan," noting that he was one of the founders of the Quarterback Club in New Orleans.) At LSU, "Ike" Carriere was voted "best all-around man," served as captain of the baseball team and best-drilled cadet company, and was a member of Mu Sigma Rho Scholastic Fraternity, Delta Kappa Epsilon Fraternity, and the debating team.

After teaching history and coaching baseball and football at Jesuit High School in New Orleans for two years, Carriere opened his own law practice, specializing in civil law. But he had been told that he wouldn't "really" be a lawyer until he was an attorney in a large succession; was an attorney in successfully obtaining an injunction in a three-judge federal court; and had saved a man's life. Carriere had the last two accomplishments behind him when he saved a young man accused of murder from the electric chair. Thus he had "really" arrived.

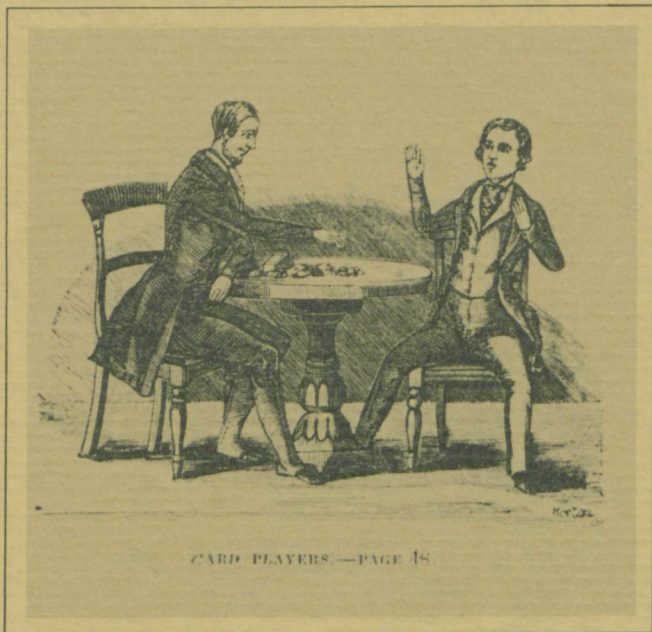
"All I ever wanted to be was a judge," says the Judge, whose grandfather was Chief Justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court and a man much admired by his young grandson. Oliver P. Carriere got his wish in 1956 when Gov. Earl K. Long appointed him to a four-year judgeship in civil district court in New Orleans. Long had already appointed him to his first term on the LSU Board of Supervisors (1939-41), and his college roommate, Gov. Robert F. Kennon had appointed him to his second in 1954; he resigned to don his first judicial robes.

(Continued on page 2)



Friends of the Library

Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge



In 1960, he was elected to a 12-year term as judge of the Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans, Division "H," and was reelected for a second term in 1972. He was presiding judge of Civil District Court for Orleans Parish from January 1971 through December 1974, was elected president of the Louisiana District Judges Association for 1968 (which also made him a member of the Judicial Council), and served on the Louisiana Judiciary Commission from January 1971 through January 1975.

"I've enjoyed every minute of it, and am still enjoying it. It's the best job in the state," says Judge Carriere, who

though designated as "retired," keeps finding himself re-assigned to civil judgeships by the state Supreme Court.

In addition to his obvious interest in education as evidenced by his two stints on the Board of Supervisors, Judge Carriere acquired what he describes as a "hobby" in 1931 when he began teaching two hours a week without pay in the Loyola University Law School. Teaching was something else he loved, so he continued as a volunteer Loyola professor for the next 48 years.

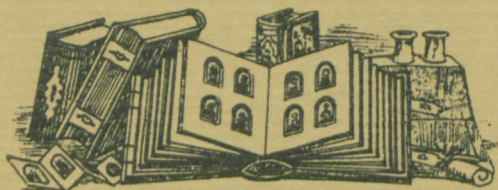
Judge Carriere's personal favorite reading is the Bible. A Roman Catholic, he realized he had very little knowledge of the scriptures except through the Gospel on Sundays. "So I grabbed that book, started at page one, and read it all the way through. It took me four-and-a-half years." His other literary preferences run to Shakespeare and Dickens, which he is in the process of completely rereading.

When his poker donation was being carted away to the LSU Library, Judge Carriere says he felt like his friends were leaving him. So why did he give them away? Two reasons: His use of the collection for his soon-to-be published book, *Poker from A to Z*, was completed, and he "wanted to know that during my lifetime the collection would be kept intact and duly preserved."

Judge Carriere has been engaged in many other professional, civic, and personal activities over the years. One of which he is most proud is his pioneering work with Manresa, the religious retreat for men in Convent, Louisiana—in which his old friend, the late Dean Paul M. Hebert of the LSU Law Center, joined him for many years.

And, of course, during all these times of diverse pursuits, he continued to be an active and regular poker player, both in friendly games and in tournaments. He definitely got his \$12 back.

Loyce J. McIlhenny
LSU Office of Public Relations



BOOK BAZAAR NEWS

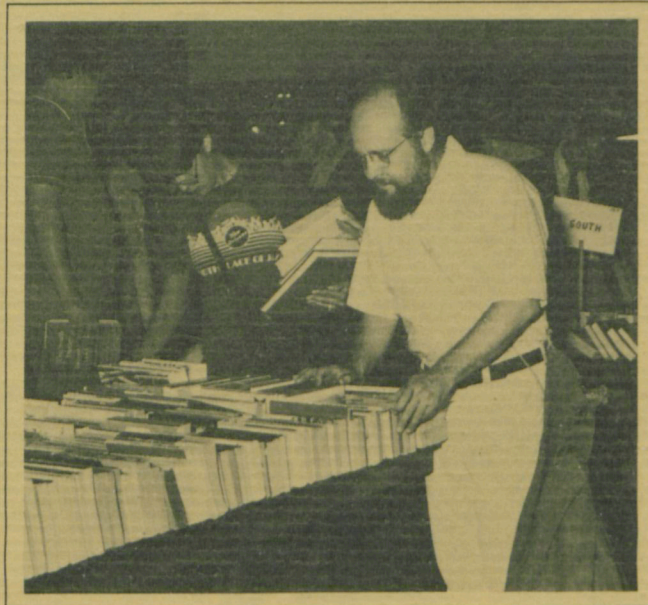
The news buzzing around is that the annual Book Bazaar continues to get bigger and better. About two hundred volunteers worked like bees under the chairmanship of Mrs. Joseph Simmons to make this year's Book Bazaar, held in Bon Marche Mall October 16-18, a honey of a sale. A swarm of book buyers combed the network of tables in the mall searching through over 50,000 books, records, sheet music, and magazines. The three days of activity added up to a sweet profit of \$22,000 for the Friends of the LSU Library.

This year's sale was the result of months of work by numerous volunteers. The year-round chairmanship of the Book Barn (in the basement of Hill Memorial) is most capably carried out by Mrs. Eugene Owen, assisted by Mrs. R. Gordon Kean. In charge of collections for this year's sale was Mrs. Charles Prosser, assisted by Mrs. J. Michael Cutshaw. The gathering of materials into the Book Barn from collection deposit sites was handled by Mrs. Robert Stuart, assisted by Mrs. H. F. Bradford. The sale committee was directed by Mrs. T. Warren Ogden, assisted by Mrs. David Bell. The job of enticing buyers to the sale was handled by publicity chairman Jane P. Kleiner with helpers Mrs. Richard Goldberger and Sandra Mooney. Mrs. John Keenon was in charge

of arrangements. Mrs. John West III and Mrs. Donald Harrison handled the important job of securing volunteers to work the sale.

The heavy task of transporting the 50,000 items from the Book Barn to Bon Marche was accomplished by workers from the Capitol City Kiwanis Club, several local Key Clubs, and several LSU fraternities.

Our busy Book Bazaar bees have already begun work on next year's sale with Mrs. Charles Bryant Smith as chairman.



A Message from the President

It is a privilege to be able to write to you as the new President of the Friends of the LSU Library. I am honored that you have chosen me to serve as your President. I can assure you that I have always been dedicated to the view that there is no more important portion of this University (or any university) than the Library and, as your President, I will do all I can to promote its interest and welfare as it serves us all so well.

As a book collector, a book lover, a scholar, and a teacher, I am a committed Library supporter. The Middleton Library is now in, surely, one of the most important periods of its existence. The major addition now in planning for the Library and the projected renovation of the old Hill Library offer equal opportunities to improve the range and quality of library services. With that new space must go the funds to acquire, process, and disseminate the collections which the building is intended to contain.

The LSU Library and the University community and its friends have many reasons to be proud of the fine holdings of the Library. Given the enormous expansion of student body and faculty and the continuing heavy demands made upon the Library, the need for continued support is ever more important. The kind of attention and visibility that the Friends give the Library, and the very real financial contributions they have made for the acquisition of special materials, provide that margin of excellence which every important library requires.

When I look over the record of the Friends and the complexity of the contributions, I am most impressed and proud to be a part of that tradition.

Henry Snyder

Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

President, Friends of the LSU Library

How Much Are My Books Worth?

One of the most frequently asked questions of collection development personnel in libraries is "How much are my books worth?" This question invariably invokes excitement and frustration almost simultaneously for the specialist/bibliographer concerned with book selection. The specialist is excited because the question touches at the very core of his/her bibliophilic instincts; because such solicitation reaffirms the belief that books are useful, worthy, and loved; and because the specialist/bibliographer's experience, training, and services are being called upon.

The frustration involves two different aspects of the book appraisal process. The first cause of frustration is the range of values possible for most rare items, sometimes making it difficult to set an exact amount for a particular piece. The bibliographer can quote exact figures for which copies of the same item have been sold, but the value of each item can vary according to its condition, provenance, and time of sale.

The second cause of frustration is that of legalities. If the library is involved as the recipient of a gift, the American Library Association has a simple and sensible edict for its profession to follow prohibiting libraries from evaluating gift materials for specific individuals and parties. The restraining edict is aimed at avoiding library complicity in tax cases, probate hearings, and similar circumstances involving dollar evaluations of printed materials and manuscripts. This edict conforms to U.S. Internal Revenue Service policy on the ineligibility of gift recipients making appraisals.

Despite the inherent frustration in responding to "how much are my books worth?" the specialist/bibliographer and the library can be of assistance by giving book owners an idea of the range of prices into which particular items fall. The bibliographer can refer the patron to and assist him in using various publishers' catalogs, auction records, and other reference materials specifically relating to the subject content and type of the materials in question. The most-used reference tools are: Van Allen Bradley, *The Book Collector's Handbook of Values*, New York, Putnam; *Book Auction Records*,

London, H. Stevens, Sons & Stiles; *American Book Prices Current*, New York, Bancroft-Parkman; and, *AB Bookman's Weekly*, Clifton, New Jersey. The auction sales catalogs of *Christies*, *Phillips*, *Swan Galleries*, and *Sotheby Parke-Bernet*, all of New York, and those of the *California Book Auction Galleries* are widely used. All large research libraries have these pricing tools.

The bibliographer also can refer the owner to a reputable evaluator or appraiser and assist the patron with the arrangements and processes of the appraisal. All appraisals made for the evaluation of a tax-deductible gift to a library are themselves tax deductible.

In the final analysis, the appraisal of books, manuscripts, maps, and other materials is always possible and arrangements can be made with the library and its specialist/bibliographers to determine just how much your books are worth, depending upon the circumstances involved.

Thein Swe

Chief Bibliographer
Middleton Library

SPRING EVENTS

In March, the Friends and the LSU Library will sponsor an exhibit and lecture on "William Morris and the Kelmscott Press: The Bookmaker's Art." The exhibit will be displayed in the second floor hallway and the Louisiana Rare Book Rooms. William Morris, an artist and craftsman, founded the Kelmscott Press in the 1890s to encourage the design and production of fine books and is credited with inaugurating the modern fine press movement.

The Kelmscott Press collection is owned by Mr. John J. Walsdorf, an employee of the book firm of B. H. Blackwell, Ltd., who will give a lecture during the first week of March, when the exhibit opens.

PURCHASES 1979-80

Abbey, J. R. *Travel in Aquatint and Lithography, 1770-1860*, a Bibliography Catalogue. Curwen Press, 1956-57. £ 500. In the Rare Book Room.

Bible. The Bruce Rogers Oxford Lectern Bible. \$3,250.00. In the Rare Book Room.

Bible. The Douai-Rheims Bible. The Holy Bible faithfully translated into English out of the authentical Latin printed at Doway by Lawrence Kellon, 1609. 2 vols. \$975.00. The New Testament printed at Rhemes by John Fogney, 1582. \$875.00. These are in the Rare Book Room.

Chefs-D'Oeuvre du Musée de L'Impression sur étoffes, Mulhouse. 3 vols. Woodbury, NY, Barrons 1979. \$360.00/vol.

Farm Security Administration. Photograph Collection. Microfiche. Chadwyck Healy. \$4,700.00. Not yet received.

Judah P. Benjamin Collection. Twelve items—letters and photographs. \$1,500.00. In Archives.

Kastner, G., *Les danses des morts. Dissertations et recherches historiques, philosophiques, littéraires et musicales sur les divers monuments de ce genre qui existent ou qui ont existé tant en France qu'à l'étranger*. Accomp. de la danse macabre, grande ronde vocale et instrumentale, paroles d'E. Thierry, musique de G. Kastner. Paris, 1852. \$500.00. In the Rare Book Room.

Latrobe. *The Papers of Benjamin Henry Latrobe*. Microfiche set. \$600.00. In the Louisiana Collection.

Le Moyne, P., *De l'art des devises. Avec divers recueils de devises du mesme*. autheur. Paris, Cramoisy, 1666. \$563.00. In the Rare Book Room.

Mémoires pour servir à l'histoire de la Calotte. (Par G. Plantavit de la Pause, P. F. Guyot Desfontaines, J. Aymon, F. Gacon, P. C. Roy and others). Basle, Brandmyller, 1725. \$271.00. In the Rare Book Room.

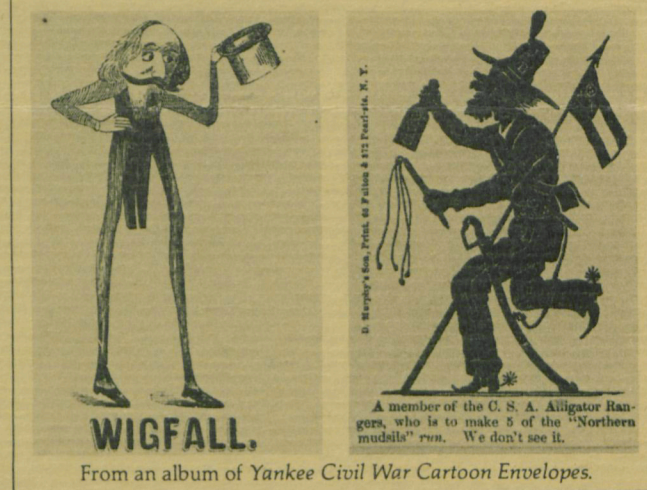
Percy, Walker. Manuscript. The original typescript, with holograph corrections by Percy, throughout, of "An Interview with Walker Percy" which appeared in the little magazine *Shenandoah*, in 1967. The interview, in which Percy talks enlighteningly on his works and the influences upon it, was conducted by Ashley Brown and his holographic corrections are present as well. \$750.00. In Archives.

Rousseau-(Gacon, F.). *Anti-Rousseau par le poète sans fard*. Rotterdam. 1712. \$125.00. In the Rare Book Room.

Staël-Lonchamp, F. C. *L'oeuvre imprimé de Madame Germaine de Staël*. Description bibliographique raisonnée et annotée de tous les ouvrages publiés par ses soins ou ceux de ses heritiers (1786-1821). Genève, Cailler, 1949. \$178.00. In the Rare Book Room.

Vigny-Citoleux, M., Alfred de Vigny. *Persistances classiques et affinités étrangères*. Paris, 1924. \$75.00. In the Rare Book Room.

Yankee Civil War Cartoon Envelopes. \$850.00. In Archives.



From an album of Yankee Civil War Cartoon Envelopes.

GIFTS

In honor of:

Mr. and Mrs. Hermann Moyse, Sr., on the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary, from Mr. and Mrs. Robert I. Reisfeld and Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Burkenroad, Jr.
Mrs. Douglas M. Warriner from Mrs. Harriet Moster and Miss JoAnn Moster.

LUMIÈRES

Published by the Friends of the LSU Library
131 Pleasant Hall, Louisiana State University, Anna Perrault, editor

Volume 5 Number 2

Literally "lights" in French, lumières is frequently used to denote enlightenment or knowledge. As such, it illustrates the purpose of the newsletter: to enlighten members of the Friends of the LSU Library with news of the organization and with needs of the LSU Library. The cover design is based on an exquisite hand-illuminated border from a 15th century French religious manuscript.

In memory of:

Mrs. Nell Richardson Allen
by Judge and Mrs. Thomas B. Pugh; Mrs. Irby C. Nichols, Sr.

Mr. Francis R. Broussard
by Mr. and Mrs. Alfredo R. Lozada; Mrs. Mary B. Mills; Miss Caroline Wire

Mrs. Ethel Burton
by Mr. and Mrs. John J. Capdevielle

Mr. Lionel A. Champagne
by Mr. and Mrs. William C. Monroe and Children

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by Dr. and Mrs. Max Goodrich; Mr. and Mrs. John J. Capdevielle

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Mr. John Palmer
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by Chancellor Emeritus and Mrs. Cecil G. Taylor

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Mr. C. C. Wood
by Mrs. Frank Kean

SHAVER RETIREMENT GIFT

A limited edition portfolio of reproductions of stage designs by Sergei Eisenstein has been purchased from a fund established on the occasion of the retirement of Claude M. Shaver of LSU's Department of Speech. The portfolio, entitled *Teatralnie Risunki* (Theatrical Sketches) has 30 pages of text and 30 mounted color plates. The accompanying text in Russian, English, and French catalogues the designs and includes an essay "Eisenstein, Scene-Painter," by Sergei Yutkevich.

Sergei Eisenstein is known chiefly for his pioneering work in the cinema. His film *The Battleship Potemkin* remains among the masterpieces of the world cinema. After the Revolution of 1917 in Russia he became the principal decorator and the co-director of the Proletkult Theater in Moscow. The scenes in the portfolio cover the period 1917-1944. The portfolio, with a book plate stating "Given by Friends of Claude M. Shaver on the Occasion of His Retirement," is in the Rare Book Room of the Middleton Library.

Financial Statement

January 1980-September 1980

Balance in LSU Foundation Account
December 31, 1979 \$62,942.87

Income:
Memberships, Memorials \$10,678.33
Gifts in Honor of Individuals 5,159.00
Interest
TOTAL \$15,837.33

Expenditures:
January -0-
February Transfer to the Kniffen Fund 105.00
U.S. Postmaster for use of bulk rate permit 40.00
Registration for Community Board Institute 10.00
March Transfer to Endowment Fund 20,000.00
Purchase of Judah P. Benjamin Collection for Archives 2,500.00
Operating Account for printing, supplies 1,100.00
April Purchase of plaque and gift presented at annual banquet 55.85
May -0-
June U.S. Postmaster to establish a deposit account 100.00
LSU Union for balance owed for catering annual banquet 73.34
Authorized book purchases for Middleton Library 1,500.00
July -0-
August Authorized book purchases for Middleton Library 2,000.00
September -0-
TOTAL \$27,484.19

Balance in LSU Foundation Account
September 30, 1980 \$51,296.01
Library Endowment Fund
September 30, 1980 \$57,907.82
Ellinor H. Behre Fund
September 30, 1980 \$ 1,265.00
Fred B. Kniffen Fund
September 30, 1980 \$ 1,655.00
H. C. Sanders Fund
September 30, 1980 \$ 1,763.50

Officers

President Henry Snyder
Vice-President Edith Kirkpatrick
Treasurer Caroline Wire
Secretary Anna Perrault



Classes of Membership

- ☐ A. Student Member (annually) \$2.00
- ☐ B. Regular Member (annually) \$10.00
- ☐ C. Contributing Member (annually) \$25.00
- ☐ D. Sustaining Member (annually) \$50.00
- ☐ E. Patron Member (annually) \$100.00
- ☐ F. Life Member \$1000.00 or more
or the donation of unusual and distinctive material valued at \$1000 or more
- ☐ G. Institutional or Corporate Member (annually) \$500.00
- ☐ H. Honorary Life Member
- ☐ Check payable to LSU Foundation for Friends of the Library
- ☐ I prefer to pay as follows: _____

Member's signature _____

Address _____

City and State _____

Date _____

Friends of the LSU Library
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