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LUMIÈRES

Crayfish – a Scholarly Delight

In the spring in South Louisiana everyone's fancy turns to thoughts of crayfish. This is also true at the Middleton Library, although here the interest is scholarly, not culinary. Last year the library acquired a collection of more than 1,000 books, monographs, and articles on crayfish from Mrs. Nancy Rhoades, widow of Dr. Rendell Rhoades, a zoologist from Ohio. This is a major collection which adds to the extensive holdings on crayfish already available in the library. So important is the Rhoades Collection that researchers compiling an international bibliography on crayfish at the Smithsonian Institution have contacted the LSU Library requesting more information about the collection.

Dr. Rendell Rhoades was professor of biology and director of the Science Division at Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio. His interest, from his early student days until his death in 1976, was crayfish—not crayfish as tasty morsels to serve in bisque or étouffée—but crayfish as biological entities, members of the order Crustacea, Family Astacidae. Dr. Rhoades spent much of his life collecting publications on the history, diversity, taxonomy, culture and economics of crayfish, acquiring not only contemporary writings, but also many early and rare works. One of the oldest books in the collection is a 1548 edition of



Volume 37 of Pliny's *History of the World*. It, like most of the other very early publications, is not devoted entirely to crayfish; rather, it is an example of some of the earliest writing about natural history, including crustaceans and crayfish. Other such items in the collection include *Thamatographia Naturalis*, a book on the marvels of nature published in 1632 by John Jonston, a Scottish physician, and *Sylva Sylvarum* or a *Natural History* by Sir Francis Bacon, published posthumously in 1651. By the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, more specific works, such as *A History of British Stalk Eyed Crustaceans*, were written, and these too are included in the Rhoades Collection. Discussions on crayfish appear in many unusual sources, such as the descriptions of two species in *Reports of Explorations and Surveys to Ascertain the Most Practicable and Economical Route for a Railroad from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean, made under the direction of the Secretary of War in 1853-1855*. A book published in 1893, *Natural History of Economic Crustaceans of the United States* includes five pages on crayfish, stating "... Americans, as a rule, do not regard the eating of cray-fishes with much favor." More recent items include an in-depth look at the taxonomy of specific crayfish, books concerning the various aspects of crayfish farming, and descriptions of

blind, cave-dwelling crayfish. Most of the earliest books are in Latin, but works in French, Spanish, Italian, Dutch, German, Russian, and Chinese are included also.

Dr. James Avault, professor in the School of Forestry and Wildlife Management at LSU, was especially interested in bringing the Rhoades Collection to Baton Rouge for use by University zoologists and aquaculturists. Dr. Avault points out that there are more than 500 species of crayfish found throughout the world. Many countries are beginning to investigate the crayfish as an easily grown source of protein for people and animals, and investigators from such diverse areas of the globe as Sweden, Finland, Austria, Nicaragua, and the Sudan have consulted with him about the culture of these unusual little animals. Dr. Avault also has been trying to have legislation passed which would establish a central international depository for crayfish literature. The Rhoades Collection will help to provide a stronger base for this and all other levels of future crayfish research in the Middleton Library.

Although Dr. Rhoades' primary research interest was crayfish, his collecting was not limited to this subject. Mrs. Rhoades reports that he also had extensive collections of publications on Quaker disciplines, croquet, and post offices (he served as a consultant for the United States Post Office Department and had a collection of 45 different types of mailboxes). His stamp collection included more than 250 bound volumes. Dr. Rhoades also owned a printing press and printed pamphlets on some of his special interests, including a natural history series called *Bio-Briefs*. His research collection of over 50,000 specimens of crayfish was given to the Smithsonian Institution.

The Rhoades Crayfish Collection was acquired through a joint gift/purchase arrangement with Mrs. Rhoades. The Library is fortunate to have added this special collection that is a fine example of the care and generosity so frequently associated with scholarship.

Beth Paskoff
Science Bibliographer

Profile of a Bibliophile—Speed Lamkin

Monroe, Louisiana, is far distant from Europe, New York, and Beverly Hills—philosophically as well as geographically. Yet all have been the domiciles of Speed Lamkin, novelist and playwright, who for most of the last two decades has been firmly ensconced in the North Louisiana city of his birth, in the Williamsburg-style home where he lived as a boy.

One of Monroe's showplaces, the house has been meticulously decorated to reflect Mr. Lamkin's extensive travels, interests, and tastes. His personal library also reflects this writer's personality, bulging as it does with literally thousands of books, both inherited and acquired. It's difficult for Speed Lamkin to cite a favorite author; he mentions Proust, Mailer, Capote, Willa Cather, Balzac, his friends Gore Vidal and Christopher Isherwood (to whom his second novel is dedicated).

Mr. Lamkin has led—indeed is *living*—an extremely fruitful life. Emigrating to Harvard University to major in English when he was only 16, he wrote his first novel as a senior thesis; published in 1950 by the prestigious firm of Houghton Mifflin, *Tiger in the Garden* attracted national attention, with its author described by *Time* magazine as knowing "a lot about the decline and decay of the old plantation set, who made small talk while energetic commoners made big money and powered the New South."

By 1951, Speed Lamkin had written a second novel, *The Easter Egg Hunt*; this book, set in Beverly Hills, California, deals with a locale extremely familiar to Mr. Lamkin, by virtue of his early stint as a Hollywood screenwriter.

By then, the young undergraduate had already made his first European foray—to England and France—where he was subsequently to spend several years. As the years went by, the creative Mr. Lamkin continued to regard the world as his own domain, developing some notable friendships with what has

been described as "charm and chance." Among his close acquaintances have been Dorothy Parker, Marian Davies, Claire Booth Luce, William Randolph Hearst, and the Duke and Duchess of Windsor. (Mr. Lamkin's sister Marguerite—Mrs. Mark Littman—now maintains her permanent residence in London, where she is a widely acclaimed hostess).

After his initial literary successes, Mr. Lamkin never slowed down. ("Speed is a family name, although in a generic sense, it's appropriately descriptive of the man.) His works have appeared in such publications as *Mademoiselle*, *Collier's*, *Cosmopolitan*, and *London Magazine*. He has a number of television scenarios to his credit. And his short story, "Comes a Day"—which won an O. Henry fiction award—assumed a life of its own in 1958, when it was developed into a Broadway play starring Judith Anderson, and boosting the careers of such then-lesser-known actors as George C. Scott and Larry Hagman.

At present, the seemingly inexhaustible Mr. Lamkin is engrossed in rewriting a novel, *Summerset*, which takes place in a small Southern city, as well as in writing a new novel which is set in the New Orleans of the late 1960s.

Earlier this year, the Monroe native made a gift to LSU's Middleton Library of a rare first edition of Herman Melville's venerable novel *Moby Dick*. This classic had belonged to Mr. Lamkin's great-great-grandfather, Giles Mumford Hillyer, a New Yorker who came South, established the *Natchez Courier* in Mississippi, and was later disinherited by his Yankee relatives for siding with the Confederates during the Civil War.

Speed Lamkin has done much for LSU and Louisiana—not merely with a valuable library donation, but also by the products of his many-faceted personal talents.

A Message from the President

Serving as president of the Friends of the Library for the past two years has been a particular honor for me because I know the Middleton Library is central to all the missions of the University. As a historian, a teacher, and a book collector, I find the library to be a never-ending source of enjoyment and instruction. Because of its substantial holdings, it serves not only the University but the whole community of the State of Louisiana. Maintaining the currency and range of its collections is an immense challenge. State-appropriated funds alone do not make the fulfillment of that challenge possible. Augmentation from private benefactions and the exemplary contribution of the annual Book Bazaar are essential if the library is to continue to serve its readers. The Friends and the Book Bazaar it sponsors are also essential as a means of publicizing the library and its needs and of extending its base of support beyond the boundaries of the campus.

As one means of insuring a reserve that can be available to the library for special acquisitions the board of the Friends have established an endowment, now totalling \$100,000. The income from the endowment is dedicated to the purchase of books and manuscripts for the library. The principal also can be utilized if needed. But the board believes it is important to establish the physical existence of the endowment as a symbol of the pledge the Friends have made to the support and enrichment of the collections of the Troy H. Middleton Library at Louisiana State University.

I look forward to working with our new officers and all of you for our common goal.

Henry L. Snyder

New Quarters for the Library School Library

High ceilings and long windows, enhanced by cream colored walls, create inviting new quarters for the School of Library and Information Science Library. Six years after the initial planning, a dog-eared floor plan and color-cued tabs in a few books are the last vestiges of the October move to the second floor of renovated Coates Hall.

The new facility, now a branch library, occupies quarters which formerly housed the Chemistry Library. The collections housed in the SLIS Library are the Library and Information Science Collection, the Young People's Collection, and the Historical Young People's Collection.

In preparation for the move to Coates Hall, all library science materials were reclassified from Dewey to the Library of Congress classification. Professional books and serials were reviewed to decide what should remain in the Middleton Library. In addition, a catalog for the SLIS Library was begun.

The permanent two-level stack area with slat shelving and carrels, used by many libraries built in the '30s, is an interesting feature retained in the renovation. Study space is available for sixty-five students at tables or carrels. Additional floor space was added for the librarian's office, a workroom, a cataloging and reference lab, a computer terminal room, and a room for the Historical Young People's Collection.

With completion of the move, circulation and book security became an added responsibility for the staff. With the installation of 3-M Tattle Tape gates, security was insured since materials had already been sensitivity stripped. Undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty are enjoying the new branch library—in a new, recycled building!

Mary Jane Kahao, Librarian
School of Library and
Information Science Library

Middleton Library Construction Begun

After many years of planning and anticipation, construction was begun in February on the addition of the top two floors to the Middleton Library.

The Baton Rouge firm of Woodrow Wilson Construction Co., Inc. has the \$5,913,000 contract for the additional two floors, which will add some 120,000 square feet to the library and bring the building's total square footage to about 305,000. Completion is scheduled for February 16, 1984.

The project will begin with installation of air-handling units on each existing floor, so that when the unit on the roof is disconnected for construction, there will be no disruption of the climatic control function for library operation.

The two additional floors will be used for book stacks and study areas. The new floors will contain 166 graduate carrels and faculty studies, 682 open carrels and seating for 324 patrons at tables located in non-shelf areas. There also will be lounge areas, typing rooms, and photocopy facilities on each floor. Public-service functions such as the card catalog, reference, government documents, and circulation, will be in the basement and on the first floor. The second floor will continue to house periodicals, special collections, and the library's administrative offices.

The exterior of the building will be unsightly and there will be interior noise and inconvenience occasioned by the construction. Library users are asked during the period of disruption to keep in mind the enhanced library facilities the University will have when the construction is completed. We all look forward to the future with two newly renovated buildings to assist in the goal of having one of the best library systems in the nation.

George J. Guidry, Jr., Director
Middleton Library

"Wheelhorses, Mavericks, and Gentlemen-Scientists"

The *Friends of the LSU Library* celebrated another year of record fund-raising achievements with champagne before the annual dinner held March 18th at the LSU Faculty Club. The evening had a scientific flavor, with books on display from a recent gift collection on crayfish and also from an exhibit of works by early American scientists from the Louisiana Collection pertaining to the topic of the after-dinner speech.

During the evening, Miss Claude M. Brooks and Mrs. Nancy Rhoades were honored with life memberships in the *Friends of the LSU Library* for their contributions to the library. Miss Brooks, a retired LSU librarian, donated a collection of approximately four hundred books which had been in her family. The collection, mainly of late nineteenth and early twentieth-century fiction, contained several rare Elbert Hubbard/Roycroft items and also a few Thomas Bird Mosher literary editions. Mrs. Rhoades was honored for her portion of a joint gift/purchase which brought to LSU over 1,000 books and articles on crayfish. The collection contained early scientific works in natural history as well as international publications on crayfish.



Honorees for life memberships Miss Claude M. Brooks and Mrs. Nancy Rhoades meet Professor John Greene, the guest speaker at the dinner.

A eulogy was given by Chancellor Emeritus Cecil G. Taylor for Mrs. Ella V. Aldrich Schwing. Chancellor Taylor reviewed Mrs. Schwing's generosity to the Middleton Library in her funding of the LSU Library Lecture Series, her gift of bald-cypress paneling for the reading room of the Louisiana/Rare Book Rooms, and her support of the *Friends* as a benefactress and board member. It was announced that the *Friends* have purchased in memory of Mrs. Schwing a first edition of *The Works of William Blake, Poetic, Symbolic, and Critical*, edited by Edwin John Ellis and William Butler Yeats, and published in London in 1893.

The director of the library, George J. Guidry, Jr., thanked the *Friends* for their loyal support of the library. He stated that he knew of no friends' organization as effective and dedicated as that of the LSU *Friends*. A brief report was given on the status of building construction for the Middleton Library and Hill

Memorial Library. Mr. Guidry also thanked the *Friends* for their lobbying efforts to secure funds from the legislature for the construction.

The report of the nominations committee was given by its chairman, Dean Emeritus Max Goodrich. The slate of officers proposed by the committee was president, Dr. Charles Prosser; vice-president, Mrs. Eugene Owen; secretary, Anna H. Perrault; and treasurer, Caroline G. Wire. The slate was accepted by acclamation.



Friends' board members Mrs. Claude Kirkpatrick, Mr. Louis Curet, and Mrs. Eugene Owen peruse recent purchases on exhibit.

Dean Henry Snyder introduced the after-dinner speaker, Professor John Greene, a distinguished historian in the field of the history and philosophy of science. Dr. Greene is a visiting professor in the LSU Department of History. He has been the recipient of a senior Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities and has been a National Science Foundation Research Fellow and a visiting historian at the National Museum of History and Technology of the Smithsonian Institution. Professor Greene spoke on the topic "Researching American Science in the Age of Jefferson." He categorized early American scientists as "wheelhorses," "mavericks," and "gentlemen-scientists." Professor Greene illustrated each of these types by giving a brief sketch of four scientists who helped to explore the lower Mississippi region—Andrew Ellicott, William Dunbar, William Bartram, and Alexander Wilson. Professor Greene ended his talk with some remarks on Thomas Jefferson and the part he played in early American science.

Dean Snyder closed the dinner by thanking everyone for coming and for their support of the library.

Schwing Memorial

The board of the *Friends of the LSU Library* has purchased a special item for the Rare Book Room in memory of Mrs. Ella V. Aldrich Schwing. The title is a first edition of *The Works of William Blake, Poetic, Symbolic, and Critical*, edited by Edwin John Ellis and William Butler Yeats, London: Bernard Quaritch, 1893, 3 volumes, Octavo, original cloth with ornate pictorial gilt.

The copy purchased for the library is from the library of H. Buxton Forman, the Shelley scholar. Forman's bookplate is in each volume. The edition of Blake by Ellis and Yeats occupies a special place in the Blake canon today because of the editorial liberties the two men took with Blake's writings. Ellis and Yeats were steeped in Celtic and occult lore and undertook to explain Blake by supplying myth where they could not supply facts. Many legends about Blake can be traced to the Ellis and Yeats' edition of the Blake works. This purchase adds to the considerable number of facsimiles and books about Blake already in the Rare Book Collection.

Purchases

The Le Corbusier Archive. Garland Publishing Co. 32 vols. \$4,000. This set reproduces 32,000 architectural drawings, projects, and urban plans from the collection of the Fondation Le Corbusier in Paris. It includes twenty-one essays written by eminent scholars, architects, historians, and former Le Corbusier apprentices.

XX^e Siecle. Series I: Vols. 1-2 No. 1. (all published) Paris 1938-1939. \$1,500. Purchased from Ars Libri, Ltd. This famous art periodical contains original graphics by Kandinsky, Matisse, Laurens, Miro, Ayr, de Chirico, Duchamp, Ernst, et. al.

Audubon, John James. [Prospectus for the Birds of America.] Under the special patronage of her Majesty Queen Adelaide. Published in London by the author 1831. \$2,000. The Current Company. The Prospectus was published to solicit subscriptions for the elephant folio. Only sixteen copies were published. This copy was the only one left in private hands.

Memorials

In memory of:

Mrs. John G. Allen

by Mr. and Mrs. Tip H. Allen, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. James E. Allison, Jr., Mrs. L. W. Eaton, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Donald L. Howell, Mrs. Frank Kean, Mr. and Mrs. R. Gordon Kean, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Macklin, Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Mallory, Jr., William S. Moss, Jr., Gary L. Rosenthal, Chancellor Emeritus and Mrs. Cecil G. Taylor, James Taylor, Jr., Ms. Terry Wade, the Law Firm of Vinson and Elkins, and Mr. and Mrs. P. Chauvin Wilkinson.

Mr. C. Richard Anderson
by Mr. and Mrs. John J. Capdevielle

Mrs. Louis Frank Burel
by Mrs. William Cooper, Mrs. Warren Green, Mrs. Charles Grenier, Mrs. Adrian E. Johnson, Mrs. R. Gordon Kean, Mrs. John H. Keenon, Mrs. Maurice LeBlanc, Mrs. Eugene Owen, Mrs. Charles Bryant Smith, and Mrs. Delroy Spann.

William A. Campbell, Jr.
by The Graduate Association of Sociology Students

Mrs. Elizabeth B. DeGeneres
by Dr. and Mrs. Irwin A. Berg

Mr. Ben Hamilton
by Mr. and Mrs. R. Gordon Kean and Mr. and Mrs. William H. Roberts

J. Norwell Harper
by Judge and Mrs. Minos D. Miller, Jr.

Mrs. George O. Herbert
by Mr. and Mrs. Stephen E. Pomeroy

Wyatt A. Pickens
by Mr. and Mrs. Alfredo R. Lozada

Mrs. Virginia M. Ott
by Miss Mittie Gruber, the Staff of the Middleton Library

Mrs. Dorothy S. Pope
by Mr. and Mrs. John J. Capdevielle

Judge Thomas B. Pugh
by Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Arbour, Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. John J. Capdevielle

Mr. William V. Samuel
by Mr. and Mrs. P. Chauvin Wilkinson

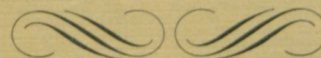
Mrs. Ella V. Aldrich Schwing
by Ms. Jean Weldon, The Staff of the Middleton Library, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Arbour, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Baldrige, Jr., Mrs. Kitty B. Strain, and Mr. and Mrs. P. Chauvin Wilkinson.

Richard J. Shirley
by Mr. and Mrs. H. Leslie McKenzie

Mrs. Thelma Ford Smith
by Chancellor Emeritus and Mrs. C. G. Taylor

Mrs. Anne B. Stewart
by Friends of Anne B. Stewart

Mr. Floyd Womack, Jr.
by Mr. and Mrs. John J. Capdevielle

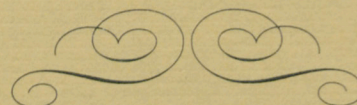


Financial Statement January-December 1981

Balance in LSU Foundation Account		
December 31, 1980		\$ 67,724.00
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Income:		
Memberships, memorials		\$ 1,712.95
Book Bazaar		27,000.00
Interest		7,712.90
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TOTAL		\$ 48,433.85
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Expenditures:		
January	No expenditures	
February	Debit by Foundation	25.00
March	No expenditures	
April	Authorized book purchases by Middleton Library	2,000.00
	Transfer to <i>Friends'</i> Operating Account (175-01-6307) for postage, printing, other operating costs	1,700.00
	Transfer to <i>Friends'</i> Mini-Grant Account for Kelmscott Exhibit	220.39
May	No expenditures	
June	Deposit placed with U.S. Post Office	75.00
July	Transfer to <i>Friends'</i> Operating Account (175-01-6307)	775.00
August	Debit by Foundation	25.00
	No expenditures	
September	Insurance Premium	335.00
	Transfer to <i>Friends'</i> Endowment Account 17501F821	35,167.71
October	Debit by Foundation	20.00
November	No expenditures	
December	Payment to Printing, Inc. for printing work	51.94
Total		\$ 40,395.04
Balance in LSU Foundation Account		\$ 75,762.81
December 31, 1981		
Library Endowment Fund		\$100,000.00
December 31, 1981		
Ellinor H. Behre Fund		\$ 1,416.27
December 31, 1981		
Fred B. Kniffen Fund		\$ 1,852.90
December 31, 1981		
H. C. Sanders Fund		\$ 1,974.38
December 31, 1981		

Officers

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



Classes of Membership

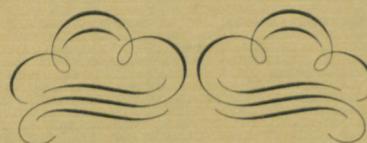
- ☐ A. Student Member (annually) \$2.00
- ☐ B. Regular Member (annually) \$10.00
- ☐ C. Contributing Member (annually) \$25.00
- ☐ D. Sustaining Member (annually) \$50.00
- ☐ E. Patron Member (annually) \$100.00
- ☐ F. Life Member \$1000.00 or more
or the donation of unusual and distinctive material 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
LSU Foundation
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803**

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