THE NEWS LETTER
Department of History
University of Southern Mississippi

Southern Station, Box 47
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39401

No. 4, Winter, 1968
John Edmond Gonzales, Editor

I. Departmental Affairs

A. Staff Changes

Miss Willery Jackson, Associate Professor Emerita of History, continues to reside at her home at 803 Parker Avenue, Hattiesburg, Mississippi. During recent months her health has improved, and she is able now to participate in a normal schedule of activities. She makes frequent visits to the department and attends our faculty seminars.

Dr. Gordon C. Bond resigned at the end of the spring quarter, 1967, to accept a position at Auburn University.

Mr. E. James Clark resigned at the end of the spring quarter, 1967, to take a position with an insurance firm in North Carolina.

In September, 1967, the following individuals joined the faculty of the Department of History:


Robert W. DuBay (M.S., University of Southern Mississippi.) Instructor in history.

B. Association Activities

1. Southern Historical Association, Atlanta, Georgia, November, 1967. All members of the department and a number of graduate students attended this meeting. Professor William K. Scarborough read a paper entitled "The Racial Views of the Ante-Bellum South in Modern Perspective: A Reassessment of the Concept of Racial Differences." Professor
John E. Gonzales read a paper entitled "The Opposition to Jefferson Davis in the Confederate Congress: the Case of Representative Henry Stuart Foote of Tennessee."

2. Mississippi Historical Society, Natchez, February, 1967. Most of the members of the department attended this meeting. Dr. William D. McCain served as president of the organization and presided at the annual dinner meeting and business session. Professor William S. Coker read a paper entitled "Peter Bryan Bruin, Soldier, Judge, and Early Settler." Professor Gonzales presided at the joint luncheon of the Mississippi Historical Society and the Junior Historical Society. Professor Scarborough was the program chairman for this meeting.


5. Southern Conference on Slavic Studies, Tallahassee, Florida State University, October, 1967. Professor Phillip Posey attended this meeting.


II. The Faculty

A. Publication Activities

Faculty members in the department have been regular contributors to The Southern Quarterly. Professor Harper continues to serve as the assistant editor.
Faculty contributions include:


The Journal of Mississippi History continues to be edited in the department. Professor Gonzales serves as editor and Professor Kenneth G. McCarty, Jr. serves as assistant editor. The following faculty members contributed to this publication:


Other publication activities include:


B. Faculty Seminar

At the winter quarter, 1967, seminar, Professor Posey read a paper entitled "David Hunter Miller and the Far Eastern Question at the Paris Peace Conference."

At the spring quarter, 1967, seminar, Professor Turner read a paper entitled "Origins of the Artisans' Dwellings Act of 1875."

At the fall quarter, 1967, seminar, Professor Coker read a paper entitled "Woodrow Wilson and the Panama Canal Tolls Controversy." A revised version of this paper has been accepted for publication in the Journal of American History.

At the winter quarter, 1968, seminar, Professor Fike read a paper entitled "Some Observations on Congressional Investigations of Communism with Emphasis on the Red Scare of the 1920's."

Professor Brent is chairman of the seminar for 1967-1968. Professor Harper will read the paper at spring seminar.

C. Summer (1967) Activities and Research Grants

Dr. Robert A. Brent spent the second term of the summer session in Mexico City. With the aid of a University grant he completed the research for his biography of Nicholas P. Trist.

Dr. William S. Coker taught in the NDEA Institute at Kansas State University and continued his research on Peter Bryan Bruin. He has an American Philosophical Society grant to aid him in his research on this subject during the current school year.

Dr. Glenn T. Harper spent the second term of the summer session on a University grant in Washington D.C. He engaged in research in the Library of Congress and National Archives on the Spanish Revolution, 1868-1875. He has an American Philosophical Society grant for the summer of 1968 to enable him to continue this research project in England.

Dr. Phillip Posey taught in the NDEA Institute at the University of Georgia during the first part of
the summer and toured Russia during the latter part of the summer.

Dr. William K. Scarborough spent the summer of 1967 at Louisiana State University on a grant from the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities. He began research for his next book tentatively entitled "Planter Dynasties of the Old South."

Dr. John Ray Skates, Jr., has a two-summer grant (1967 and 1968) to prepare a history of the Mississippi State Supreme Court for the Mississippi Bar Association.

D. Other Faculty News

In the spring of 1967, Professor Turner was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, London, England.

Members of the faculty have been asked to speak to various organizations. Among the reported organizations addressed were:

Professor Coker: Gulf Coast Civil War Round Table; Theta Kappa chapter of Phi Alpha Theta; University of Southern Mississippi chapter of Pen and Sword; Claiborne County Historical Society; West End, Biloxi, P.T.A.; Leggett Memorial Methodist Men's Club.

Professor Gonzales: Sons of Confederate Veterans; Mississippi Civil War Round Table; Daughters of the American Revolution.

Professor Scarbrough: Jackson Civil War Round Table; Regional Conference of Phi Alpha Theta.

III. Graduate Students

A. Degree requirements were met by the following students in 1967:


B. The following students hold graduate fellowships or assistantships or grading positions during the 1967-1968 session:

Black, Henry, B.G.E., Omaha University, 1965.
Brown, Sam P., B.A., University of Southern Mississippi, 1966.
Bryant, Giles W., B.S., University of Southern Mississippi, 1968 (spring quarter, 1968).
Eastman, Anthony, B.A., Union University, 1962; M.A., Memphis State University, 1964.
Reuter, Paul, B.S., Appalachian State University, 1964.
Williams, Russ, B.M.E., Southeastern Louisiana College, 1966; M.Ed., University of Southern Mississippi, 1966.
Young, Robert Stephen B.A., University of Southern Mississippi, 1967.

C. Graduate alumni in history have been regular contributors to The Southern Quarterly:


D. Organizations

Officers of Theta Kappa Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, 1967-1968:

President, Sam P. Brown
Vice President, Larry Thornton
Secretary, Susan Patterson
Treasurer, Clois Aycock
Historian, Mrs. Mabel Donavan
Faculty Advisors, Professors Scarborough and Skates

Officers of Pi Gamma Mu, 1967-1968:

President, Jimmy Williamson
Vice President, Robert Steele
Secretary-Treasurer, Professor Wilber
Faculty Advisor, Professor Burrus

Professors William B. Hamilton of Duke University and Robert V. Remini of the University of Illinois at Chicago Circle visited the department during the winter and spring of 1967 and talked to the students and the local chapters of Pi Gamma Mu and Phi Alpha Theta.

E. Personal Notes

Harry K. Benson (66) in a recent letter wrote: "Perhaps you would like to know something of my progress since leaving Southern. At the end of this school year, I will have completed all course, residence, and language requirements for the Ph.D. The two major hurdles remaining are the General Orals and the dissertation. Shortly after coming here, I shifted my major field from British History to American History, concentrating on the Reconstruction period. Mrs. Willie Lee Rose is directing my dissertation on Adelbert Ames." His address is Rt. 6, Box 59, Charlottesville, Virginia.

S. David Buice, II (63) continues to teach at Louisiana Tech. He expects to receive the doctorate
at the University of Oklahoma in August, 1968.

Glenn H. Woods (62) is Director of Continuing Education with an educational TV station in Hartford, Connecticut.

Neil McMillen (63) is teaching at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, and expects to receive the doctorate this year from Vanderbilt.

Miss Josephine H. Schulte (61) is teaching at the University of the Americas in Mexico City.

Duris Speights, Jr. (63) has retired from military service and is now living in Florida.


Paul Black (63) hopes to complete residence requirements and course work for the doctorate at the University of Wisconsin by August, 1968. He has been teaching at Mankato State College in Minnesota. His present address is 933A Eagle Heights, Madison, Wisconsin.

William S. Martin, Jr. (67) is teaching at Florida Junior College at Jacksonville, Florida.

Major Montecue Lowry (67) is stationed at Ft. Campbell, Kentucky.

John P. Bacon, Jr., (67) teaches at State Technical Institute, Memphis, Tennessee.

William Ashurst Ward (66) is on leave of absence this semester from Mobile College to continue graduate work at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Jerry Glenn Sullivan (64) has enrolled in the doctoral program in political science at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Major Russell W. Ramsey (63) is on the ROTC staff at the University of Florida and is also working on his doctorate in Latin American history there.
John Allen Robertson (61) is the co-author with Tom W. Conger, Jr. of Early History of the Town of Ruleville, (Greenville, 1965), 44 pp.

Warner Moore (68) is continuing his graduate work at the University of Alabama.

IV. Other News

The department initiated in the fall of 1967 a movement to establish the William D. McCain chair of history to honor Dr. McCain for his years of service as a historian, archivist, and university administrator. Contributions to this endowment may be made through the University of Southern Mississippi Foundation.

Among the most significant acquisitions by the library is the A. P. Whitaker Collection. This acquisition will enable the University to expand its work in the area of Latin American studies. The library is being doubled in size and the new wing of the library should be ready for occupancy by the fall quarter of 1968.

Mrs. Hazel D. McInnis, department secretary for the past four years, resigned effective March 1, 1968. Her husband was transferred from Hattiesburg to Mobile, Alabama, and they are now residing there. The department regrets very much the loss of Mrs. McInnis, who has been both a loyal friend and an extremely competent secretary. Mrs. Cynthia Davis (not related to the chairman) assumed her duties as department secretary on March 1.