I. Departmental Affairs

A. Staff

Miss Willery Jackson, Associate Professor Emerita of History, continues to reside at her home at 803 Parker Avenue, Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Miss Jackson's health is much improved, and she continues to enjoy a very active retirement schedule. She makes frequent visits to the department and attends all functions of the department.

Dr. Fred Blakey resigned at the end of the spring quarter, 1968, to accept a position at Pensacola Junior College in Florida.

Mr. Robert W. DuBay resigned at the end of the spring quarter, 1968, to accept a position at Dalton Junior College in Georgia.

Dr. Phillip Posey has resigned effective spring quarter, 1969, to accept a position at St. Joseph's College in Rensselaer, Indiana.

John Guice (doctoral candidate at the University of Colorado) will assume his duties as assistant professor of history in September, 1969, to teach courses in Seventeenth and Eighteenth Century American history.

B. Association Activities

1. Southern Historical Association, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1968. All members of the department and a number of graduate students attended this meeting. Professor Coker was chairman of a session entitled "La Reforma in Mexico" at the meeting. Professor Gonzales has been appointed to the 1969 Membership Committee of the Association.

3. Organization of American Historians, Dallas, Texas, April, 1968. Professors Coker and Gonzales attended this meeting.

4. Mississippi Historical Society, Cleveland, Mississippi, March, 1968. All members of the department attended this meeting. President McCain read a paper entitled "Theodore Gilmour Bilbo and the Delta" at the Saturday luncheon session. Professor Gonzales presided at this session. Professor Brent read a paper entitled "Mississippi and the Mexican War" at the Friday morning session. Both of these papers will be published in forthcoming issues of The Journal of Mississippi History. Professor Scarborough served on the Program Committee for this 1968 meeting and President McCain was chairman of the Nominating Committee. Professor Skates and President McCain were elected to the Board of Directors of the Mississippi Historical Society. Professor Skates was named Program Chairman for the 1969 meeting to be held on the campus of the University of Southern Mississippi, March 20-22, 1969.

5. Southeastern Conference on Latin American Studies, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, March, 1968. Professor Coker attended this meeting.

6. Southern Conference on Slavic Studies, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, October, 1968. Professor Posey attended this meeting and read a paper entitled "From the Diaries of A. A. Polovtsov: Russian Leadership in the Russo-Turkish War, 1877-1878." This paper will be published in The Southern Quarterly in April, 1969.

II. The Faculty

A. Publication Activities

1. Faculty members in the department have been regular contributors to The Southern Quarterly. Professor Harper continues to serve as the assistant editor and Professor Davis serves on the Board of Editors.
Faculty contributions include:


2. 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:


3. Other publication activities include:

Brent, Robert A., Book Reviews have appeared in The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography and The Mississippi Quarterly.


Davis, J. Treadwell, Articles in the 1968 Encyclopaedia Britannica.


B. Faculty Seminar

At the spring quarter, 1968, seminar, Professor Harper read a paper entitled "'Cotton Tom' Heflin and the Election of 1930: The Price of Party Disloyalty." This paper has been published in The Historian.

At the fall quarter, 1968, seminar, Professor Skates read a paper entitled "Fred Sullens and Theodore G. Bilbo." This paper will be published in a forthcoming issue of The Southern Quarterly.

At the winter quarter, 1969, seminar, Professor Davis read a paper entitled "The Presbyterians and the Sectional Controversy."

Professor Turner is chairman of the seminar for 1968-1969. President McCain will read the paper at the spring seminar.


During the summer of 1968, under grant from the American Philosophical Society, Professor Harper did research in the British Museum and Public Record Office on Anglo-Spanish relations, 1868-1875.

Professor Bowers, under grant from the University of Southern Mississippi, did research in the Public Record Office on Italian merchants in Medieval England. During the summer, Professor Bowers was accepted for membership in the Institute of Historical Research and attended the Anglo-American Historical Conference sponsored by the Institute at the University of London.

Professor Skates continued work during the summer of 1968 on the history of the Mississippi Supreme Court which is being sponsored and published by the Mississippi Bar Foundation.
Professor Scarborough has typed more than 1,000 pages of the 4,100-page Diary of Edmund Ruffin, 1856-1865, during 1968. He hopes to have the first volume of a projected two-volume work ready for his publisher by the fall of 1969.

Professor Turner is under contract with Scott, Foresman and Company to write an instructional manual to accompany the forthcoming new edition of Wallbank, Taylor, and Carson, Civilization, Past and Present, II.

Professor Davis was the reader and advisor on a manuscript entitled "Western Civilization" accepted for publication by Scott, Foresman and Company.

Professor Coker made an extended trip to Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, and Washington, D.C., in late May and early June, 1968, to gather additional materials for his biography of Peter Bryan Brun. He is in the writing stage now on this manuscript.

Professor Gonzales spent the summer of 1968 assisting Dr. McCain in a research project relating to the history of the University of Southern Mississippi. He continues to work on this project during the 1968-1969 session.

D. Other Faculty News

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

Professor Coker: Meeting in Columbia, Mississippi; Pen and Sword Fraternity.

Professor Davis: William Carey College Pi Gamma Mu initiation.

Professor Gonzales: Junior Historical Society, Hattiesburg High School.

Professor Scarborough: Jackson Civil War Round Table; Sons of Confederate Veterans; Petal High School Assembly; U.S.M. Chapter of American Independent Youth; Wesley Foundation; Kappa Alpha Fraternity.
Professor Scarborough is the editor of the new journal published by Theta Kappa Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta entitled The Southern Historian. The first number appeared in the spring of 1968. Professor Scarborough also attended the regional convention of Phi Alpha Theta at University of Mississippi, May 4, 1968.

Professor Harper attended the National Archives Conference on Captured German and Related Records in Washington, D.C., November 12-13, 1968.

Professor Coker attended the first Southern Conference on World Affairs held at Millsaps College, June 21-23, 1968. He made a twenty-five minute formal presentation on the need for social and economic change in Latin America, served as one of the leaders on the Latin American panel discussion group, and presented a final summary to the entire conference. He also attended a meeting of the Ford Foundation at the University of Florida in October, 1968, to discuss the new fellowship program for Ford Foundation Fellowships for Latin America.

Professor Davis conducted a series of conferences at Pearl River Junior College on the improvement of teaching in the social science area.

Effective July 1, 1968, Professor Gonzales became William D. McCain Professor of History in the University. He continues to teach two classes per quarter and edit The Journal of Mississippi History. At the May, 1968 Honors Day Convocation the Kappa Sigma Fraternity presented him with their Outstanding Faculty Member for 1967-1968 Award. He also participated during the spring and fall of 1968 in the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools evaluation of social science programs of Bay St. Louis High School and Gulfport East High School.

III. Graduate Students

A. Degree requirements were met by the following students in 1968:


Moore, Warner O., Jr., M.A. thesis - "The Board of War and Ordnance," directed by Professor Scarborough.

Richerson, Mrs. Lucille, M.S. - Professor Gonzales, major professor.

Taylor, William Banks, III, M.A. thesis - "British Background to the Monroe Doctrine," directed by Professor Brent.

The following students hold graduate fellowships or assistantships during the 1968-1969 session:


Black, Henry W., M.A., University of Southern Mississippi, 1968.

Brown, Sam P., B.A., University of Southern Mississippi, 1966.

Coffin, Donald, B.S., University of Southern Mississippi, 1957.

Eastman, Anthony, B.A., Union University, 1962; M.A., Memphis State University, 1964.

Honeycutt, Judy, B.S., University of Southern Mississippi, 1968.

James, John, B.S., University of Southern Mississippi, 1958.


Lawrence, Lynda, B.S., Northwestern State College of Louisiana, 1968.

Lofton, Mrs. Bernadette, A.B., University of Nebraska, 1942; M.E., University of Southern Mississippi, 1966.


C. The following students were admitted to candidacy for the doctorate in 1968:

John Wallace - B.A., University of Southern Mississippi, 1953; M.A., University of Southern Mississippi, 1954; dissertation being directed by Professor Harper.

David Sansing - B.A., Mississippi College, 1956; M.A., Mississippi College, 1959; dissertation being directed by Professor Gonzales.

D. Graduate students in history have been regular contributors to The Southern Quarterly and to The Journal of Mississippi History:


F. Organizations

Officers of Theta Kappa Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, 1968-1969

President, Sam P. Brown
Vice-President, Henry Black
Secretary, Peg Smith. Lynda Lawrence
Treasurer, "Mrs. Bernadette Loftin
Historian, "Mrs. "abel Donovan
Faculty Advisors, Professors Skates and McCarty

Officers of Pi Gamma Mu, 1968-1969
President, Benjamin H. Best
Vice-President, Virgil Cornelison
Secretary-Treasurer, Professor Wilber
Faculty Advisor, Professor Woods

Professor Merril D. Peterson of the University of Virginia was the visiting Pi Gamma Mu and Phi Alpha Theta lecturer in the spring quarter, 1968.

The Phi Alpha Theta Chapter members took a field trip to visit the Ford House near Columbia in the winter quarter, 1968. Mr. and "Mrs. B. P. Bradley, Jr., presented the chapter with a framed color photograph of the home to be placed in the department.

The first number of the new journal The Southern Historian published by Theta Kappa Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta appeared in the spring of 1968. It is edited by Professor Scarborough. In addition to articles previously mentioned, the issue contains the following:


F. Personal Notes

S. David Buice, II (63) continues to teach at Louisiana Tech.
Neil McMillen (63) continues to teach at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana.

Edgar H. Sessions (62) continues as director of the Chattanooga State Technical Institute.

Paul Black (63) and his wife were visitors in the department this summer. He is spending the academic year 1968-1969 working on his dissertation for the doctorate at University of Wisconsin.

William S. Martin, Jr. (67) continues to teach at Florida Junior College in Jacksonville, Florida.

John P. Bacon, Jr. (67) continues to teach at State Technical Institute, Memphis, Tennessee.

Major Russell W. Ramsey (63) continues on the ROTC staff at the University of Florida and to work on his doctorate in Latin American history there.

Warner Moore (68) continues in graduate work at University of Alabama.

Robert W. DuBay (67) is now teaching at Dalton Junior College, Dalton, Georgia.

John C. Eudy (68) is now on a graduate assistantship at the University of Houston, working on the doctoral degree.

Eddie Carnes (66) continues to work for Scott, Foresman and Company.

Lt. William Banks Taylor, III (68) is now stationed at Ft. Benjamin Harrison.

Robert F. Couch (60) has retired from his teaching position at Jefferson Davis Junior College. He continues to reside on the Gulf Coast.

Samuel A. Lewis (62) continues to teach at Perkinston Junior College.

Jerome Peel (61) continues to teach at Clemson University and will be in charge of Clemson's educational program in the British Isles during the summer of 1969. He visited the department during the past year.

Larry "Alley" (66) is now social science editor for Rand McNally and Company in Chicago, Illinois.
Carl Little (61) is assistant dean at the Birmingham, Alabama, Junior College.

Mrs. Joan Caldwell's (58) article "Christmas in Old Wachez" based on her master's thesis and originally published in The Journal of Mississippi History has been reprinted in Our Heritage (December, 1968 - January, 1969), the official bi-monthly organ of the Mississippi Division of the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Mrs. Beverly Mourning (69) completed her degree requirements in December, 1968. Her thesis, directed by Professor Bowers, was "Hincmar of Reims and the De Ordine Palatii." She now lives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

V. Other News

Mrs. Hazel McInnis, former department secretary, and her husband have moved from Mobile to Laurel and Hazel is now working for the Masonite Corporation. She has made several trips to visit the department. Mrs. Cynthia Davis continues as department secretary.

The addition to the library was opened during the summer quarter, 1969. Various collections have been shifted to new locations. You are urged to visit the new and expanded Mississippi Room in the library.

In answer to several inquiries regarding some of the former faculty members in the department here is the latest information available:

Gordon Bond continues to teach at Auburn University.

Arthur De Rosier is now Dean of the School of Graduate Studies at East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, Tennessee.

Porter L. Fortune, Jr., became chancellor of the University of Mississippi in January, 1968.

Richard Harper continues to teach at the University of Wyoming.

William F. LaForge continues as chairman of the Division of Social Studies at Delta State College, Cleveland, Mississippi.

Edward R. Koseley continues to teach at the University of Alabama.
Robert L. Robinson continues to teach at University of Houston in Texas.

Philip A. Walker continues as chairman of the Humanities and Social Science Division at Asheville-Biltmore College, Asheville, North Carolina.

It may be of some interest to former graduate students to learn that Professor Charles Moorman of the Department of English is now Associate Dean of the Graduate School of the University of Southern Mississippi.

This is the fifth news letter and the last by this editor. He is relinquishing his pen for this task to one of his younger colleagues. He again wishes to thank his colleagues and all former graduate students and the secretaries for their cooperation in the preparation of this document.