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Annual Meeting

A standing room only crowd filled the Recital Hall of the Singletary Center for the Arts on 8 April for the Library Associates Annual Meeting and Prichard Lecture. Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., presented the eleventh annual Prichard Lecture, entitled "The Bill of Rights After Two Centuries." His remarks were warmly received by the largest crowd ever gathered for this event.

Another highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Libraries' Medallion for Intellectual Excellence to Kentucky Educational Television founder O. Leonard Press. Under Mr. Press's guidance, KET became a national leader, from its inception, in equalizing educational opportunities leading to its current role as a provider of advanced high school and teacher training courses.

Mr. Press retired from KET in June after thirty-two years of work with the broadcasting station. The Library Associates recognized Mr. Press for his vision and imagination and his dedication to education in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Past recipients of the award include Dr. Thomas D. Clark and the late Gov. Bert T. Combs.

The 1993 Annual Meeting is set for 7 April and will be held at the Singletary Center for the Arts. Newspaper publisher Katharine Graham will present the twelfth Edward F. Prichard, Jr., Lecture.

Cantrill-Bryan Papers Program

A large gathering of family and friends filled the W. Hugh Peal Gallery in King Library—North on 2 June for the presentation of the papers of two prominent Kentucky women, Florence McDowell Shelby Cantrill and Mary Brinker Bryan.

Mrs. Cantrill became, in 1933, the first woman to represent Fayette County in the Kentucky General Assembly. She was active in the Democratic party organization, and she was the descendant of several famous Kentuckians, including Isaac Shelby and Ephraim McDowell.
Miss Bryan was the first woman on the staff of a Lexington newspaper, and she worked as a society editor for both the Lexington Leader and the Lexington Herald.

The collections consist of letters, scrapbooks, diaries, photographs, and newspaper clippings, among other materials. The collection was donated to the U.K. Libraries by a former Lexingtonian, Mrs. Florence Tabeling, granddaughter of Mrs. Cantrill and also a relation of Miss Bryan. Historian Melba Porter Hay spoke on the importance of this collection to the scholarly community and of her personal interviews and research with Mrs. Cantrill.

Some of the members of the audience shared their recollections of these outstanding women during the latter portion of the program, which was followed by a reception and viewing of the exhibition mounted from the collection.

**Book Sale**

The Library Associates Annual Book Sale was held at the Buell Armory on 25 and 26 September 1992. Proceeds of more than $5,000 were realized during the two-day event.

Books, journals, magazines, LP records, audio tapes, and maps were among the items sold. Many of these materials were donated by Associates for the sale, and the Libraries are most appreciative of the contributions of materials and for the many hours of time and effort contributed to the sale by volunteers.

**Belinda Mason Program**

A capacity crowd filled the Student Center Theater on 12 September for a program entitled “In Her Own Words,” a tribute to University of Kentucky alumna, author, and leading AIDS activist Belinda Mason. The event was sponsored by the University of Kentucky Appalachian Center, Appalshop, and the University of Kentucky Libraries, which house Mason’s papers in its Appalachian Collection.

Ms. Mason died last year of complications from AIDS. A native of Whitesburg, she was a newspaper reporter and short story writer and had received writing grants from the Kentucky Arts Council and the Kentucky Foundation for Women. In addition to being a gifted writer, Belinda Mason was an outspoken advocate for people with AIDS. She was co-founder of the Kentucky-Indiana People with AIDS Coalition and was appointed by Pres.
George Bush to the National Commission on AIDS.

Four of Ms. Mason’s friends and fellow writers, Barbara Banks, George Ella Lyon, Gurney Norman, and Anne Shelby, read from her fiction, much of which is set in the mountains, as part of the presentation. The program also included a special screening of “Belinda,” a portrait of Ms. Mason as a person with AIDS and an AIDS activist by Appalshop filmmaker Anne Johnson.

The papers of Belinda Mason include several poems, numerous short stories, a one-act play entitled “The Gifts of the Spirit,” various monologues, essays, an unfinished novel, and an incomplete play based on the “War on Poverty” in Appalachia. The collection is located in the Libraries’ Division of Special Collections and Archives.

Niles Centennial Celebration

A gala birthday party was held on 17 April to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of the late Kentucky composer, balladeer, and recording artist John Jacob Niles. Musical performances by the Niles Quartet and soprano Jacqueline Roberts were a part of the celebration activities.

Peter Hart of G. Schirmer Music Publishing Company, Mr. Niles’s longtime publisher, and Barry Alfonso of Gift Horse Records, added their remarks about this Kentucky legend to the festivities. Other highlights of the program included an audiovisual presentation on Niles’s life and work, a presentation by his son John Edward Niles and a reading from “Brickdust and Buttermilk” by his niece Nancy Niles Sexton.

Following the program, the audience enjoyed a special birthday cake while they viewed an exhibition in the Peal Gallery of materials selected from the John Jacob Niles Collection.

Dedication of the Papers of Dr. Thomas D. Clark

At noon on Friday, 30 October, the papers of Dr. Thomas D. Clark were formally presented to the University of Kentucky. Dr. Clark is the celebrated historian of the Old South and its travelers, of Kentucky, and of the Western frontier. He is also the creator of the library’s Division of Special Collections and Archives, and of the University Press of Kentucky. Dr. Clark has served as the moving force in many other constructive projects throughout the Commonwealth and beyond, as organizer, advisor, writer, editor, administrator, and advocate. His papers represent
an immense resource not only as the record of a remarkable career in scholarship, but as a chart of the progress of many important developments at the University of Kentucky and in the Commonwealth.

Those participating in the program to mark the transfer of the Clark papers included Mrs. Elizabeth Jones, wife of Governor Brereton Jones; Mr. William J. Marshall, Assistant Director of Libraries for Special Collections and Archives; Dr. James C. Klotter, Director of the Kentucky Historical Society; and Dr. Charles T. Wethington, Jr., President of the University of Kentucky. Each praised Dr. Clark’s many contributions to the institution, to the academic profession, and to the community. Dr. Clark responded to the occasion with characteristic wit and with gracious words of praise for the Libraries and for the University of Kentucky.

A reception and buffet luncheon followed the formal program. Visitors enjoyed the chance to greet Dr. Clark, to visit, and to view an exhibition selected from the Clark Papers and mounted in the W. Hugh Peal Gallery.

**King Library Press Programs**

Two public programs have been sponsored by the King Library Press. The first of these was “A Calligraphy and Typography Workshop,” held on Saturday, 18 April 1992, in the Division of Special Collections and Archives. Conducting the calligraphy demonstrations and instruction was Prof. Steven Skaggs, of the Department of Fine Arts, the University of Louisville. Prof. Skaggs has studied under Hermann Zapf, one of the century’s foremost lettering artists and type designers; he has also researched Renaissance manuscripts in Italy and is the designer of the typeface Florencia. The instruction sessions were followed by the printing of a keepsake at the King Library Press’s wooden hand press.

On Friday, 13 November, the King Library Press sponsored a public lecture by Carol J. Blinn of the Warwick Press in Easthampton, Massachusetts. Ms. Blinn’s remarks, entitled “Warwick Press: A Personal View,” dealt with her work as an apprentice with Harold McGrath at the Gehenna Press, the business challenges of a career in the fine arts, acquaintances she has made in the course of her work as a graphic artist, and a survey of texts, illustrations, and binding produced in her shop. An exhibition from her works was placed in the lobby of King
Library—South. On the next day, Saturday, 14 November, Ms. Blinn conducted a day-long workshop on the techniques of paste-paper decoration. Following the workshop, participants printed a keepsake about paste papers using one of the King Library Press's antique printing presses.

—Paula Leach Pope