

# Chronicle

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## Pulitzer Prize winner to address Friends

In the increasingly competitive world of publishing, the writer's tour is a mandatory part of marketing a new book to ensure brisk sales and reader interest. Tours are carefully timed to maximize media exposure: guest appearances on TV and radio talk shows, book signings at local booksellers, and interviews with journalists.

The Friends of the Library are pleased to announce that Nashville will be one of only four stops that Pulitzer Prize-winning author Robert K. Massie will make on his upcoming tour to promote his latest work. *Dreadnought: Britain, Germany, and the Coming of the Great War* will be released by Random House in November. During his Nashville visit, Massie will address the Friends' eighteenth annual dinner meeting on Tuesday, November 5, 7:30 p.m., at the Stadium Club. Other cities on his itinerary include New York, Washington, and Chicago. As in the past, Massie's books will be on sale at the dinner, and he will be available to sign them during the evening. Reservations are \$30 and may be made by calling the Heard Library Development Office, 322-7102.

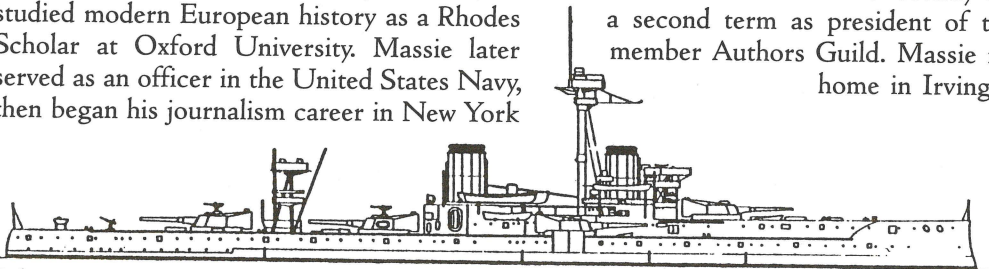
A native of Lexington, Kentucky, Massie attended Nashville's Peabody Demonstration School (now University School). After graduating from Yale University in 1950, he studied modern European history as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University. Massie later served as an officer in the United States Navy, then began his journalism career in New York

City, where he worked for *Collier's*, *Newsweek*, and the *Saturday Evening Post*. Over the years his writing has also appeared in *The New York Times Magazine* and "Book Review," *Life*, *Smithsonian Magazine*, *Saturday Review*, and *Reader's Digest*, among others.

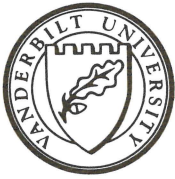
*Dreadnought* is Massie's fifth book. In 1967, his first book, *Nicholas and Alexandra*, headed *The New York Times* best-seller list for forty-six weeks. Translated into fourteen languages, it was made into an Academy Award-winning film by Columbia Pictures in 1971. In 1975, Massie and his wife, Suzanne, published *Journey*, an account of their experience with hemophilia, a chronic illness affecting one of their children. Both books were Literary Guild main selections.

In 1980, Massie's *Peter the Great: His Life and World* won the Pulitzer Prize for biography. In 1986, it became an Emmy Award-winning NBC Television mini-series. Like *Peter the Great*, Massie's new book is a main selection of the Book of the Month Club.

A trustee of Vassar College, Massie has served twice as Ferris Professor at Princeton University and was the Mellon Professor of Humanities at Tulane University in 1981. He has been a judge for the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize and recently completed a second term as president of the 6,500-member Authors Guild. Massie makes his home in Irvington, N.Y.



Robert K. Massie's new book, *Dreadnought*, takes its title from a British warship used during World War I.



# Heard Society dinner celebrates Library's fiftieth anniversary

Bob McGaw, secretary of the University, emeritus, paid a special tribute to the fiftieth anniversary of the construction of the General Library Building at the Heard Library Society dinner in July.

The event was held in the Milton H. Carr Reading Room in the Central Library. During the cocktail hour preceding dinner, guests had an opportunity to view an exhibit from the Jesse E. Wills Collection in the Fugitive Room.

McGaw's talk included a slide presentation on the Joint University Libraries (JUL), as it was known fifty years ago. He reviewed the establishment of the joint library concept between Vanderbilt University, George Peabody College, and Scarritt College, as well as construction of the building. Slides included pictures of the Library under construction, the completed building, and the 1969 addition (please see related articles and photos on pages 4, 5, and 6).

Walter Durham, chair of the Heard Library Society, welcomed the guests and presented new members with special bookends. In observance of the Heard Library Society's fifth birthday, John Poindexter recognized those who had been members for five consecutive years. They included Malcolm Getz, director of the Jean and Alexander Heard Library; Shirley Hallblade, associate director; and Durham. These special members received a certificate duplicating a bookplate, which has been placed in selected books, recognizing their generous support.

Getz gave an update on recent Library activities and described some of the acquisitions purchased with funds donated to the Heard Society. The latter included the Donald Davidson papers, the Glatzer Judacia collection, and the Catalogue of the British Library.

The Heard Library Society includes those who contribute \$1,000 or more annually to the Library. There are currently eighty Heard Society members.



*Bob McGaw, left, and Malcolm Getz discuss McGaw's slide presentation on the Joint University Libraries (JUL).*



*Irene Wills, left, chats with Martin Roberts under the watchful eye of Alan Tate's portrait.*



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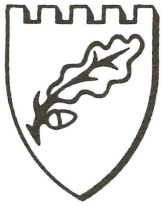
Among those enjoying the Heard Society dinner are Elizabeth Queener, left, and Annette Eskind.



Sara Rodes, left, and Elizabeth McGaw enjoy the Jesse Wills display.



John Poindexter, right, presented these five-year members of the Heard Society with certificates recognizing their continuing support of the Library. From left are Shirley Hallblade, Walter Durham, and Malcolm Getz.



## General Library Building marks fiftieth birthday

On December 5-6, 1991, the Jean and Alexander Heard Library will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the dedication of the General Library Building. Known at the time as the Joint University Libraries (JUL), it combined the library resources of Vanderbilt University, George Peabody College, and Scarritt College.

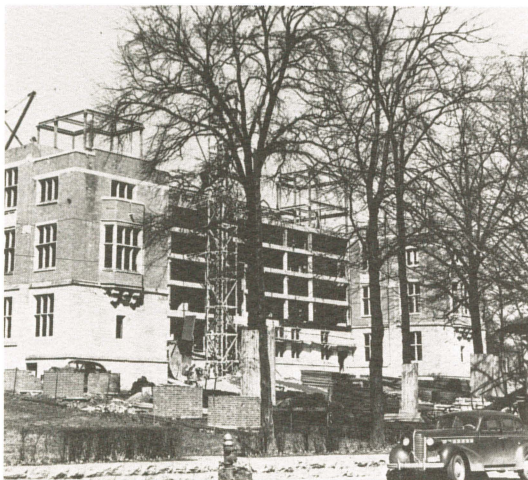
According to Professor Paul Conkin's biography of Vanderbilt, *Gone with the Ivy*, the JUL system opened with about 400,000 volumes. Only four other universities in the South had larger collections: Duke, Virginia, North Carolina, and Texas. The books were in place by August 9, 1941, and JUL opened to students on Tuesday, September 24. A front page article in the *Vanderbilt Hustler* on September 26, 1941, stated: "While it will probably not be completed by November 1, it nevertheless is sufficiently completed to take care of essential services..."

Dignitaries came from all over the United States to participate in the dedication ceremony in December 1941. Speaking during the two-day event were Chancellor Emeritus Harvie Branscomb, then director of libraries at Duke University; Louis R. Wilson, dean of the Graduate Library School at the University of Chicago; W.W. Bishop, librarian at the University of Michigan; Goodrich C. White, vice-

president of Emory University; Roger P. McCutcheon, dean of the Graduate School at Tulane University; Robert M. Lester, secretary of the Carnegie Corporation; and Charles Harvey Brown, president of the American Library Association. Vanderbilt's Chancellor O.C. Carmichael, Scarritt's President J.L. Cuninggim, and Peabody's President S.O. Garrison also participated in the program. Two days after the elaborate dedication ceremony began, the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor and the United States declared war on Japan.

Not only was the JUL one of the largest and most modern library buildings in the South, but it was also a unique cooperative effort between Vanderbilt, Peabody, and Scarritt. The Union Catalog contained card catalogs for all three schools, as well as those of the Nashville Public Library, Fisk University, Meharry Medical School, the Tennessee State Library, Vanderbilt's medical and departmental libraries, and the Library of Congress.

Articles about the new building extolled the central air-conditioning, fluorescent lighting, slanted tables in the reading rooms, and wooden posture chairs. After fifty years, the air-conditioning system has undergone a total transformation, and the fluorescent lighting



Two views of the General Library Building: under construction in 1941, left, and completed.

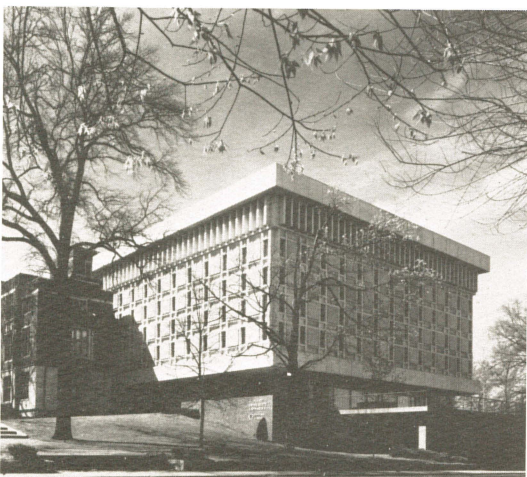


Foster



In 1966 Jesse Wills, left, presented JUL Director David Kaser with the Library's one millionth volume, the Nuremberg Chronicle, a history of the world to 1493.

has been updated as well. While the slanted reading tables are no longer used in the reference rooms, many of the heavy wooden chairs are still present. The card catalog is obsolete today, with Acorn providing an impressive electronic access to Vanderbilt's library holdings and other extensive databases containing a vast array of information.



The building today with the 1969 addition

## J.P. Foster: Fifty years of memories

During the summer of 1941, the United States cheered as Joe DiMaggio and Ted Williams set baseball records; the world watched as armed conflicts escalated toward the Second World War; and new Vanderbilt graduates like J.P. Foster waited to hear from the draft board.

Foster kept a daily log in which he recorded events of that memorable summer when he was hired to transport books from Kirkland Hall to the newest, most modern building on campus—the Joint University Libraries (JUL) building. Here are excerpts from his log, along with his memories and those of his fellow student workers, fifty years later:

"July 29, 1941: Miss Fleming of (the) Joint University Library asked if I wanted a job moving books."

Foster and a dozen or so graduate students worked four to a team removing books from overcrowded quarters in Kirkland Hall and placing them on wooden "stretchers"—specially constructed litters designed to keep the books in order. The stretchers went via truck to the campus entrance of the Library building where another team of four waited to carry the books to the stacks and place them on the new shelves.

"July 30: Rather heavy work. Thirty cents per hour. Ate lunch at Mack's."

It took more than a week to transport 200,000 volumes from Kirkland to JUL. Foster's job was to receive books in the new building, where he had to navigate narrow metal stairways to reach the eight levels of stacks. Although JUL was the first centrally air-conditioned building on campus, Foster's diary records that the air-conditioning was not turned on during the August move. Instead, "the University supplied salt tablets to prevent heat problems."

Sometimes a two-man team transported the books by foot from Kirkland to the new building, according to Joe Thompson, one of Foster's fellow workers.

(Please turn to page 6)

# Planned gifts create big impact

A new brochure outlining specific ways to benefit the Jean and Alexander Heard Library through planned gifts was mailed recently to about 2,000 Library donors. Published by the Office of Alumni and Development, the brochure explains how donors can include the Heard Library in their wills. This particular

type of planned gift, called a charitable bequest, often enables donors to make larger gifts than they thought possible, and, at the same time, save substantial estate taxes.

Bequests can be gifts of cash, securities, real estate, or other property. The latter might include outstanding book collections, personal

## Foster...

"We were moving the Vanderbilt Library from Kirkland Hall to a new "joint" as they called it—Joint University Library," Thompson recalled. "We carried books like we were carrying bricks. We'd take the books from a shelf in exact order and put them on a V-shaped plank about six or seven feet long. One guy carried one end and one carried the other, and we just walked across campus like a couple of blue-collar bricklayers. Then we'd put the books on the shelf over at the new building, so that we really moved the Library perfectly intact, exactly as the card references said."

In reflecting on the move, Foster asked other fellow workers to share their memories about the Library. Locating them required a certain amount of detective work, since the only name mentioned in his diary was James Penrod, a graduate student in English. After searching through several directories, Foster located Penrod—a retired English professor at Eastern New Mexico University—and discovered other names. They included J. Merton England, who recalled receiving thirty-five cents per hour as a result of "being promoted early on from common tray-bearer to a foreman of sorts...My elevated status, I'm sure, must have been owing to my having earned the doctorate, a distinction not yet achieved by other members of the educated crew."

George Boswell remembered: "Our remuneration was twenty to thirty cents an hour, thus making us the best-educated, if not the best-paid, labor crew in Tennessee history."

E. Clinton Gardner began working in the Library during his first year at Vanderbilt and continued to do so until graduation in 1942. "The summer was quite warm, especially when we were carrying books," Gardner said. "After work some of us used to buy large quantities of ice cream and sit on the lawn in front of Kirkland Tower and eat it."

While attending a recent luncheon, Foster mentioned his interest in locating those involved with the move to former Vanderbilt Librarian Eleanor Morrissey. As coincidence



*Vanderbilt students began using the new JUL building in 1941. The day after the building's dedication ceremonies, the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, and the United States declared war on Japan the following day.*

would have it, she turned out to be the "Miss Flemming" who had offered Foster the job transporting books fifty years ago!

Foster did not attend the dedication festivities in 1941, but he notes that both the Library and the General Library Building have undergone many changes during the past fifty years. "The original building was beautiful," he remembers. "The students considered it the 'ultimate'."

Soon after Pearl Harbor, Foster was called to active duty as a second lieutenant in the United States Army. He served in a combat division in the South Pacific and, at war's end, resigned with the rank of lieutenant colonel. After earning his law degree from Vanderbilt Law School and becoming a CPA, Foster became managing partner of Touche Ross & Company, from which he retired in 1979.

Since 1980, Foster has served as adjunct professor at Vanderbilt's Owen Graduate School of Management, where he teaches "Management and the Law" each semester. He also supports the Jean and Alexander Heard Library as a member of the Friends of the Library and the Heard Library Society.

libraries, manuscripts, or other materials of exceptional quality that will enhance the University's programs. All new planned bequests documented by June 30, 1994, will count toward The Campaign for Vanderbilt goal of \$50 million for new planned bequests.

If you would like to receive a copy of this

brochure or other information on supporting the Heard Library through a planned gift, please contact William R. Mott, director of library development, (615) 322-7102 or Amy Wingard Templeton, director of planned giving, (615) 343-3113.

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## FOOTNOTES

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### Covington publishes research guide



Covington

Many readers may recall that the winter 1990 *Chronicle* featured a story about Paula Covington and the Latin American research she was doing for a book funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Covington is the Jean and Alexander Heard Library's Latin American and Iberian bibliographer, as well as a lecturer in Latin American Studies.

In August the Central Library held a reception celebrating Covington's submission to Greenwood Press of her manuscript, *Latin America and the Caribbean: A Critical Guide to Research Sources*, which is scheduled for publication later this year.

As editor and author of this fifteen-chapter book, Covington says it was written for scholars, students, and librarians. The book contains essays on the social sciences and humanities, bibliographies that serve as research guides, and a resource section which surveys important Latin American collections in the United States.

Fifty authors contributed to the book, including four others from Vanderbilt: Enrique Pupo-Walker, Centennial Professor of Spanish; Maureen Costonis, associate professor of dance history; Leonard Folgarait, associate professor of fine arts; and Ronald Spores, professor of anthropology. Marshall Breeding of the library systems division provided significant pre-publication computer software and publishing design work. Covington says she hopes the book will be an important interdisciplinary guide for reference librarians and bibliographers directing research efforts in Latin American studies.

### Cook's book on the Bard



Cook

Ann Jennalie Cook, professor of English, has written a new book about courtship and marriage in Shakespeare. Published recently by Princeton University Press, *Making a Match* has been called "an excellent study of courtship through Shakespeare's days and plays" in a recent review in *The Tennessean*.

"One emerges from Cook's study with a sharpened sense of how matrimonial practices in Renaissance England differed from our present protocols," observed John N. McDaniel, dean of liberal arts at Middle Tennessee State University, in his review.

"But even more important is the contribution that *Making a Match* makes to our understanding of Shakespeare's dramaturgic methods—the subtle ways in which the plays reflect or subvert courtship conventions for purposes of art."

A former member of the Friends board, Cook and her husband, John Donelson Whalley, are also members of the Heard Library Society. In addition to her academic duties at Vanderbilt, she serves as chair of the International Shakespeare Association (ISA), an organization of several thousand Shakespeare scholars from around the world. Cook recently presided over ISA's World Congress in Tokyo, which was attended by more than 700 delegates from forty countries.





Books:  
The perfect  
holiday gift

**T**his holiday season, remember those special friends with a gift that gives twice by purchasing a book for the Jean and Alexander Heard Library in their honor. We will send an attractive gift card to your honoree, indicating that you have made such a gift. Your book will carry a special bookplate inscribed with your name and theirs.

It's easy to give: just send this form today with your check for \$40 payable to Friends of the Library. We'll do the rest. Your gift will reflect your thoughtfulness and honor your friend's commitment to learning.

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Enclosed is my donation in the amount of \$40 for the purchase of a book for the Heard Library in honor of

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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I understand that my honoree will receive acknowledgment of this gift.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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