

American Imagination Given Expansion by Author Faulkner

(Editor's note: United Press International asked Kenan Professor of English C. Hugh Holman, of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N.C., a noted specialist in English and American literature, for his appraisal of the late novelist William Faulkner.)

By C. HUGH HOLMAN

Written for United Press International
William Faulkner is dead, and we are all the poorer for his passing. Yet the expansion which he gave the American imagination is a permanent fact.

We are different and better people because he took the materials of the southern United States and fashioned from them in love, compassion, anger and pity a universe of great scope, strong purpose, and artistic integrity. Between 1929 and 1936, when Faulkner's genius was at its flaming peak, he imprisoned his vision of human experience in a group of fine short stories and a series of magnificent experimental novels, each of which sought and found a new way of expressing his view of the human dilemma.

Rest in Stories

Almost certainly his permanent fame will rest on these short stories and on "The Sound and The Fury," "As I Lay Dying," "Light in August," and "Absalom, Absalom!" For they represent a seven years' achievement of startling great magnitude.

His later works — notably the Snopes Trilogy and the recent comedy "The Reivers" — have adopted the more relaxed manner and less demanding form of folk humor, and showed a diminution of his imaginative powers. Yet even they are lesser works only when set against the magnitude of his achievement in the early thirties.

The awarding of the Nobel prize for literature to Faulkner in 1954 was a crowning recognition of his accomplishment, and the last decade of his life has been spent as a major figure in world literature.

Most Impressive

Yet it is basically appropriate that the end of his long career came in Oxford, Mississippi, where it began, a place whose soil and soul seeded his best work from its beginning.

For startling though his command of novelistic techniques was, unusual and com-



WILLIAM FAULKNER
'The Poorer for His Passing'

elling though his use of rhetoric was, and almost frightening though his ability to see into human motive and emotion was, it was in weaving a great expression of the human spirit out of the southern American experience that he wrought his most impressive accomplishment.

In more than 20 volumes of short stories, short novels, and novels, he recorded the southern experience as it impinged upon the denizens of his imaginary Yoknapatawpha county, in Mississippi, and in so doing presented American literature with a mass of work of Balzacian scope and power.

Faulkner's Hall-Mark

The south's experience of defeat, disaster, and lost dignity, linked with a sense of order and human responsibility, were shaped in Faulkner's hands into something very close to a cosmic view of history, a view that sought with passionate intensity for meanings that transcend and explain facts and particularities. This intensity was, together with his fertile imagination, Faulkner's hall-mark — one that

expressed itself in technical experiment, in impassioned rhetorical language, and in the sense of being larger than life which the citizens of his mythical county possess.

For the denizens of Yoknapatawpha loom larger than life, immense in feeling and movement. Upon them sweep howling winds from long shadows — across their state, their region, their nation, and finally their world. Basically simple earthy folks of the south, when the furies possess them, they tend to become Gods and demigods. In a world ashamed of feeling, inhibited about moral commitment, and embarrassed by rhetoric, Faulkner dared to present a cosmic dream of history, to picture the glory and the tragedy of man.

In accepting the Nobel prize Faulkner expressed his confidence that man would not only endure but that he would prevail. In this sad moment of the passing of his earthly body, we look at the living world which Faulkner's imagination created for us and echo that confidence as a faith well merited and expressed.

Garner Hauper Gives Trip Impressions

(Editor's note: Initial impressions of an American Field service summer have been sent to Medford by Garner Hauper Jr., who is spending his summer in Stor Delgun, Norway. Hauper, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Garner T. Hauper, 222 Valley View dr., has completed his trip across the United States and Atlantic to his summer home. Americans Abroad, AFS, is sponsoring the Medford student's exchange. In the first letters to his family, Garner describes his journey which began June 10 in Portland.)

By GARNER HAUPER JR.

I had a ball in Washington, D.C. Mrs. Edwin Durno met me at the station and I spent the day with Dr. Durno in the Capitol building.

I learned a great deal about how our country is really run. I saw Congress convene, heard debates in both Houses, and attended a committee meeting. Mrs. Durno gave me a deluxe tour of the building. She and Dr. Durno were certainly wonderful to me.

New York was a blast! I went on the circle island tour, on the tour of the United Nations, up 102 stories of the Empire State building, and to Times Square, of course. Times Square is really bustling and beautiful.

I was impressed with New York, in fact, it is just fabulous. On our last night, the Oregon delegation walked down town and had its final fling, a pizza dinner.

Although I did not see much of Montreal, I was impressed by its modernness and cleanliness.

I guess that I am really an "old salt" now after several days on the high seas. Our ship is a pretty nice one. I do not know the usual size of passenger ships, but I gather that this one is not too large in comparison with the newer luxury vessels. There are only AFS students aboard. It is quite clean, and our quarters are nice. I am in a dormitory-type room with nine other boys.

The boat is German. The crew is also German, and only a few speak English. It is quite fun to hear them jabbering in German. Sometimes it

is rather hard to get something across to them, though. The dining rooms are nice, and the service is unbelievable.

The waiters do everything except chew your food for you. I think the food is fabulous. In fact, I am getting tired of all the rich food. What I wouldn't give for a good 'ole hamburger or a peanut butter sandwich.

Every night there are dances going on in the fore and aft lounges, and there is usually a movie playing.

Our Norwegian chaperones are terrific. There is a man and a girl. They have taught us so much about Norway. I have one language class and two orientation classes each day. Believe it or not, my Latin really helps, especially with grammar and pronunciation. I am eager to get to Norway.

Today is my birthday and it turned out to be swell. At

dinner all of the "will be" Norwegians stood up and sang happy birthday to me. Then Solve, our man chaperone, came in with a big birthday cake, and Kris, the girl chaperone, with a big kiss. I am not sure which I enjoyed most!

I woke up early the morning we were to arrive in Rotterdam so I could watch the ship dock. Holland is beautiful, just as I had pictured it, flat, with an occasional rolling hill. Everything is green, there is much water, and many, many Holstein cattle. We did not see too many windmills.

Germany is pretty, also. I think that it is really prettier than Holland because it has more trees, but it isn't as individualistic as Holland. Everything over here is clean.

In the town it looks like the streets have been swept every day. There is no paper in the gutters. Denmark does not seem too different from the United States. On the other side of Copenhagen, however, it becomes more distinctive.

Arrive In North

Then came something, the like of which I have never seen before, Sweden and Norway! In these countries I undoubtedly saw the most beautiful scenery that I have ever seen. Sweden was all green farms, and I mean green. There were rolling hills and gorgeous forests. Norway is just the same, only more hilly and rocky. You have never seen woods like these.

We arrived in Oslo at 1 a.m. It was not dark. Jon, my "brother," and Asa Britt, my "sister," met me at the station.

It is a two-hour drive to Stor Delgun, the farm. Jon is typically Norwegian, blond and tall. He is polite and intelligent, and has a terrific sense of humor.

In fact, the whole family has a terrific sense of humor. Erik, my younger brother, is bigger than either Jon or I. He is about 6 feet 2 inches tall. Asa is really cool. She is what I would call my "good buddy."

My mother is really sweet, and does everything she can for me. My father is a very intelligent looking man and very considerate. I am afraid he is going to be hard to get to know because he does not speak much English, and he is so busy.

Go For Ride

Jon and I went for a ride on his scooter yesterday and I

also toured the farm. Dobloug is a fur breeder, and they have 5,800 mink and 210 blue foxes.

Jon and I are quite different from each other. We share some of the same interests, but he isn't interested in sports at all. Erik and I are very much alike. We both like to tinkering on engines, and around the farm he likes hunting and guns.

Today he and I worked all day in the fields with the farm hands. We were moving scads of rocks from the field where they will plant barley.

We three boys are rather like the Cartwright boys on the television show, "Bonanza." Jon is the intelligent Adam, I am the dumb but faithful Hoss, and Erik is like Little Joe, always getting into trouble.

Watershed Timber Cutting Commences

With the melting of the winter's snow and opening of roads, timber harvesting has started on the Ashland Watershed in the Rogue River National Forest.

The harvesting is part of the Watershed Management plan to remove hazard trees and snags, convert the old dying forest to a vigorous healthy stand, remove mistletoe infection, and increase water storage, forest officials said.

Harvesting methods vary according to the type of timber and the problem that is present. Some areas will be selectively logged, removing unhealthy trees, while other areas will be small clear cuts or group selection to remove focal infections or problems. Three of the small clear cuts have been located along the Ashland Loop rd. near Bull Gap. The areas were heavily infected and removal was necessary to prevent spread of infection. Careful attention is given to rehabilitation by saving of advanced tree reproduction and supplementary planting.

Management is necessary to insure a healthy ground cover and maximum supply of water, officials said.

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