



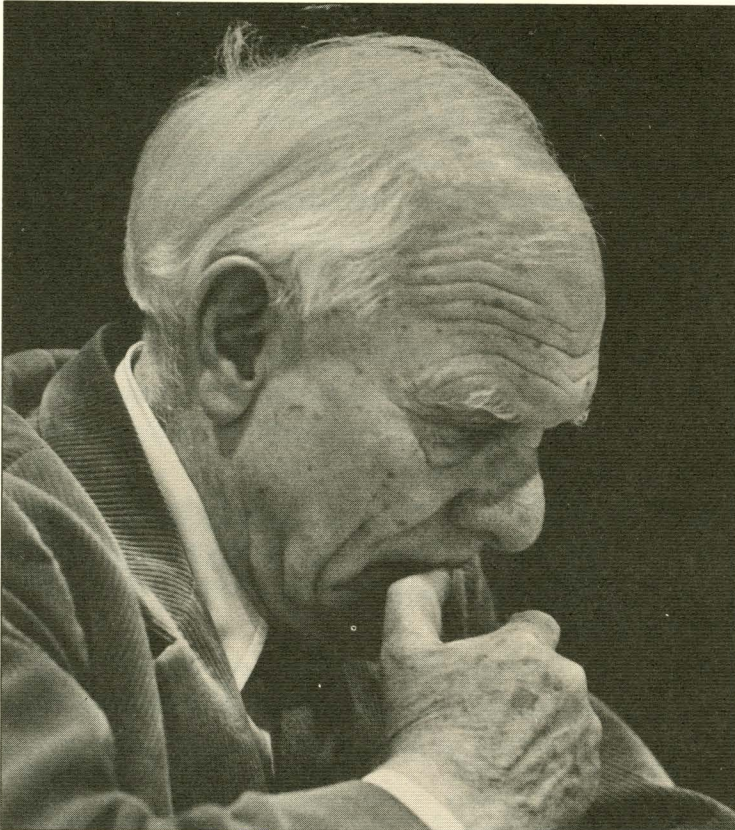
Caxtonian

A Newsletter of The Caxton Club of Chicago

Volume II, No. 3

March 1994

Muggeridge Collection --- A Secret Treasure at Wheaton College



Malcolm Muggeridge, 1979. Photo by Ed Breen

The Malcolm Muggeridge Collection at Wheaton College is one of the best-kept secrets on the campus of this distinguished, small private college in Wheaton, Illinois.

Muggeridge, the eminent British journalist, social commentator, author and broadcaster, had a media career that spanned the 20th century. Before his death in 1990, Muggeridge, impressed by the college's integration of faith with communications, gave his extensive archives to the Buswell Library.

The fascinating materials include his correspondence, novels, scripts, articles, book reviews, diaries, photograph collection and a vast array of materials written about him. The archives are open to the public throughout the academic year, Monday through Friday, from 9am to noon, and from 1pm to 4pm. No appointments are necessary, but researchers should call either Larry Thompson, director, or David Malone, assistant to the director, at 708/752-5705, to make their needs known.

Myrna R. Grant

Editor's Note: Dr. Grant is professor of Graduate Communications, Wheaton College. On April 27, 1991, she presented a paper to The Caxton Club, "Malcolm Muggeridge: A 20th Century Iconoclast."

Ripple Effects in Shadowlands

Many Caxtonians will recall Professor Lyle Dorsett's visit to The Caxton Club about four years ago, when he spoke about the riches of The Wade Center at Wheaton College. That was followed by a subsequent field trip, April 27, 1991, to the Buswell Library and The Wade Center at the college. But probably few know that Dr. Dorsett was the first biographer to capture Joy Davidman-Gresham in his biography, *And God Came In*.

That book was one item in a series of events that brought actress Debra

Winger to Wheaton College to meet with Lyle Dorsett and to research the character of Joy Davidman-Gresham, whom she plays in the new film, *Shadowlands*. Winger co-stars with Anthony Hopkins, as they recreate the love match between Joy Davidman-Gresham and C. S. Lewis, whose collected works and many household effects (including the wardrobe made famous in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*) are a part of The Wade Center at Wheaton College.

Shadowlands is a must-see for Caxtonians.

Thomas Joyce

Gem of the Prairie

Sidney Berger (almost a Caxtonian by marriage) departed Chicago to head the Special Collections of the University of California, Riverside. But his attention remains firmly fixed in the Midwest, particularly Iowa City, home to handprinter Kim Merker. Merker apprenticed under type-master Harry Duncan. He has printed under the imprints of Stone Wall Press and of Windhover Press. Merker's work will be displayed at the Newberry starting March 10, 1994. Mr. Berger will preview Merker's achievements at the dinner meeting, March 16. Mr. Merker himself will attend this meeting.

Thomas Joyce

Caxtonian

The Caxton Club of Chicago
Founded 1895



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Musings...

In his lifetime, Malcolm Muggeridge became the icon of iconoclasm. *Time* observed in 1982, "For the better part of this century, . . . the great gadfly of British letters, has unleashed his rapier prose on much that civilized man has too foolishly held dear, . . ."

The *Sheffield Morning Telegraph* in 1981 called him "St. Mug -- the laughing prophet of gloom." When he died in 1990, he was recognized in England and America as one of the last of the great intellectuals honed in the written word of print media and polished and amplified to brilliance in the spoken word of electronic media.

He was, in fact, one of the five or so great minds that it has been my pleasure to know personally. During the last dozen years of his life, we periodically communicated by letter and phone. I came to know him as a gargoyle-faced pilgrim, whose questing insight and wit made him a beloved raconteur. His favorite story in those years became the "divine drama" through which the "Word became flesh and dwelt among us" -- as he loved to say it.

As I now write, I am amazed at the intricacies in relationships, past and present, and their conclusions, which bibliophilia has brought to life. It's almost as if we "seed" the future for an unknown harvest, an abundance always greater than anticipated, through our daily, careful cultivation of friendships. Let me illustrate by giving details of this Muggeridge friendship.

The story begins with a call in 1978 to my office in Indiana from an old friend, Chicago physican, Dr. Robert R. Schenck, informing me that he and others from Chicago wanted to sponsor Muggeridge on a lecture tour to Indiana and asking if I could arrange it.

I called Muggeridge, who was then Visiting Professor at the University of Western Ontario. Certainly, Muggeridge told me, he'd be pleased to come to America in April 1979. He would accept no remuneration, and he would pay his own way.

I met him at the Fort Wayne airport, April 3, 1979, and spent most of the next three days as his host. I learned that Wheaton College had requested he extend his tour for two days, and he had agreed; thus, late in the afternoon, April 5, I drove him to the Marion, Indiana, airport, where we waited, talking, until the private plane arrived, topped its fuel supply, and carried him to Wheaton.

A member of the party from Wheaton I met that day was Myrna Grant, whom I met again 12 years later, when she addressed The Caxton Club on Muggeridge. I did not recall until discussing the lead story for this *Caxtonian* that we had met in 1979. It was on that Midwestern trip when Muggeridge decided to donate his papers to Wheaton and be forever linked with C. S. Lewis.

I have a certain satisfaction in the wonderfully serendipitous nature of such tales (and life), as we find ourselves cobblestones if not milestones on our journey in this bookish business, then and now.

Robert Cotner
President

Literacy Chicago's Book Auction

Literacy Chicago's 1994 Celebrity Book Auction will be held April 19, 1994, in the lobby of the R. R. Donnelley Building, 77 W. Wacker Drive, Chicago, from 6pm to 8:30pm. The evening will include a silent and live auction, music and refreshments. A VIP reception will precede the main event in R. R. Donnelley's Gaylord Donnelley Library.

Previous events have focused on autographed copies of new books. Among items already received for the 1994 auction are: manuscripts from *M.A.S.H.* and *Murder She Wrote*, and books autographed by Dave Barry, Lee Iacocca, Robert Fulgham, Caspar Weinberger, Ronald Reagan, James Earl Jones, Leon Uris, Margaret Atwood, Terry Waite, and others.

This year, we are striving to enlarge the market by including older collectible

books and manuscripts. Contributions from Caxton Club members' collections or from local rare and antiquarian dealers would be very welcome.

In addition to books, the auction also will include tickets for domestic and international air travel and sporting events, and a sailing party on Lake Michigan.

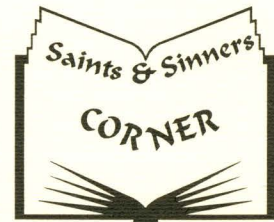
For further information about book contributions or tickets (general admission or VIP) please contact Susan Levy, at R. R. Donnelley, 312/326-8102.

Susan Levy



*"Pray for what you want,
but work for what you
need."*

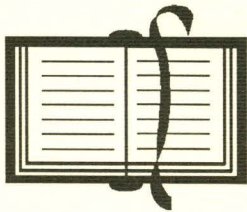
*-Editor's Fortune Cookie
February 10, 1994*



A Notable Passing... *The New York Times* (Jan. 21, 1994) reported that David Kirshenbaum, 99, "a dealer in rare books and manuscripts who was regarded as the dean of American booksellers," died, January 19, 1994. He was owner of Carnegie Book Shop on East 59th Street near Lexington Avenue until 1982, when it was closed.

Bound to be Good... After serving in what he calls "a rewarding period as Collections Conservator at the Northwestern University Library," Caxtonian Scott Kellar has returned to the private world of bookbinding and conservation. He is located at 2650 W. Montrose Avenue, Chicago, and offers a full range of bookbinding and conservation treatments, as well as a range of other services in the book arts.

The Caxton Chronicles



Any Caxtonian who has seen the recent film *Shadowlands* could not help being impressed with the pageantry and tradition at Oxford. Book and private libraries were featured throughout the film. And any Caxtonian who has visited the Marion E. Wade Collection at nearby Wheaton College has shared in what is probably the greatest collection in the world of books and manuscripts by and about C. S. Lewis, Oxford Fellow, 1925-54.

A dedication to books and libraries has been a cornerstone of Caxtonian traditions since the days of the club's founding fathers. Most of them had large private libraries filled with the best books of the day. The founders also intended that The Caxton Club have its own library for use by the members.

The Caxton Club also aspired to having its own club rooms, including space for a library. When the club moved into its first rooms in the University Club late in 1895, the Council immediately made provisions for the library. W. Irving Way, of the noted Chicago fine press of Way & Williams, was named first librarian. Magazines devoted to printing, illustration, and the description of books were located on the reading tables for members. In the ensuing years, members donated books and other periodicals were purchased. By the turn of the century, the library had grown to several hundred volumes, most of which were bibliographical in character.

From 1899 to 1917, when the Club was located in sumptuous quarters in the Fine Arts Building, Caxtonians enjoyed a library that grew to about a thousand volumes. In following years, when the Club moved several times giving up its

own club rooms, the library went into storage.

When the Club moved again into its own rooms in the Wrigley Building in 1927, the library was resuscitated briefly. These were cramped quarters, however, and many of the books remained in storage. The Club left the Wrigley Building in 1933. All the books were crated and stored at the Lakeside Press, where they remained forgotten for another quarter of a century.

In 1960, the books were removed from storage and sold to Caxtonian Louis H. Silver for \$2000. He kept a few books, gave a few to the Newberry, and gave the balance to DePaul University. The Caxton Club library was no more.

Frank J. Piehl

Book Marks

Luncheon Programs

All meetings, unless otherwise noted, are held in the Mid-Day Club, 56th floor of the First National Bank of Chicago, Madison & Clark, Chicago. Luncheon and discussion, 12:30pm.

March 4.

Michael Koenig will discuss Theodore Low DeVinne, the most eminent printer of the late 19th Century and early 20th Century.

April 8. (2nd Friday due to Good Friday)

Caxtonian Glen N. Wiche will discuss, with slides, the life and work of George J. Macy, 1900-1956, founder of The Limited Editions Club.

*Ed Quattrocchi
Leonard Freedman*

Welcome New Members

Following are new club members and the persons responsible for their membership.

Colleen Dionne
Nominated by Peter J. Stanlis
Seconded by Thomas Joyce

Diana Haskell
Nominated by Mary Ann McFarlane
Seconded by Karen A. Skubish

Majorie Rosenberg
Nominated by William Minter
Seconded by Scott Kellar

Charles Miner

Dinner Programs

All meetings, unless otherwise noted, are held in the Mid-Day Club, 56th floor of the First National Bank of Chicago, Madison & Clark, Chicago. Spirits-5pm; Dinner-6pm; Lecture-7pm

March 16.

Sidney Berger presents, "Kim Merker: A Retrospective Look at 35 Years of Fine Printing." Mr. Merker will attend.

April 20.

Larry Thompson. "The Margaret Landon Nobody Knows: The Hidden History Behind the Book Which Became *The King and I*."

Tom Joyce

Making and Keeping Dinner Reservations

Reservations for Caxton dinners are necessary. And folks who make them have a responsibility to either keep them or cancel in a reasonable time.

At the January dinner, 10 persons who had reservations did not show, while 20 persons without reservations did show. An extra table had to be prepared after the guests arrived. A similar story in February: This time it cost the club more than \$200. Though 73 persons made reservations, only 61 actually attended. We reduced our dinner order to 68

expecting some no-shows, but we still had to pay for the seven unused meals.

We must inform the Mid-Day Club the day before the dinner the number of meals to be served. We are allowed 10 above our reservation, but we have to pay for what we reserve.

In order to accommodate all guests and to save club funds, the Council urges all members to be more conscientious in making and keeping dinner reservations.

RC

Reservations for luncheon programs are requested. Reservations for dinner programs are required. Please make them by calling 312/943-9090, ext. 204, no later than 24 hours prior to the event.

The First National Bank of Chicago's parking garage, 40 South Clark Street, offers a special parking rate after 5pm to guests of the Mid-Day Club. When you leave, please tell the parking attendant you were at the Mid-Day Club and your parking fee will be \$7, or \$5 if validated at meeting.



The Caxton Club of Chicago
60 West Walton Street
Chicago, IL 60610