

Betty Smith

Atmosphere Of South Helps Northern Writer

By JACK CREECH

"If I hadn't come to the South, I doubt if I would have ever written 'A Tree Grows in Brooklyn,'" writer Betty Smith said as she began to reminisce about her early years in New York.

Mrs. Smith has lived in the South for 25 years, spending most of her time in Chapel Hill where she lives now.

"It never occurred to me that all of the world wasn't poor, that there could be a better life. The buildings in New York and the fast pace distressed me. Once I lost a nickel for the subway and had to walk for hours till mother came to pick me up. Here in the South the people are better mannered and the way of life is easier," she said.

In the South Mrs. Smith felt she could write about her experiences in Brooklyn and "make them like they should be."

had been scolded too."

Stresses Rewriting

Mrs. Smith said that good writing is rewriting. "It takes constant work and a strong ability to put yourself in another's position. I never could write an outline.

"My characters develop as I write. Often I'll write one page on the first day and then re-write it on the second day. You must make a mood to write, not be in one."

Mrs. Smith wrote for a time in an isolated fishing cabin near Nagshead. "I rose at daybreak and began to write. The sound of the sea and the wind kept me from getting lonely, and I really loved to write there."

Mrs. Smith says that William Faulkner is the most important

of the 20th century authors.

"His long sentences are hard to tackle but he has a great deal to say. The best book I've ever read was 'Crime and Punishment,' and I think I'd most like to write like Emile Zola."

"I never wrote for the critics but I studied the bad reviews as well as the good ones," she said, smiling.

"I remember one New York critic who said 'A Tree Grows in Brooklyn' was 'looking at garbage through rose-colored glasses.'"

"He said I had shown the poverty but hadn't shown a way out of it. Well, I don't have any thesis to make the world better. I don't feel competent to help and correct all the wrongs. I simply swim around in them."



Author Betty Smith—At Work

Audits Courses

While her husband was attending law school at the University of Michigan, Mrs. Smith was able to audit courses there. "I became especially interested in playwriting," she explained.

Upon winning the Avery Hopwood Award for her manuscripts Mrs. Smith enrolled in the writing program. Later she came to UNC on a Rockefeller grant and worked with the Carolina Playmakers.

"I used to write one-act plays but I like novels much better. I can be completely by myself with no deadlines to meet and no one telling me what to write."

"One time when I was quite young I took great pleasure copying the print from a cowboy story into my own writing. I used to call it 'my book,'" she recalled.

"I kept a notebook with the good things that happened to me during the day on one side of the page and the bad things on the other. I used to see if the two columns would balance out. And once when mother scolded me I realized that she must have been a child once and

Today's Calendar

All Campus Calendar items must be submitted in person at the DTH offices in GM by 2 p.m. the day before the desired publication date (by 10 a.m. Saturday for Sunday's DTH). Lost and Found items will be printed on Wednesdays and Saturdays only.

TODAY

1966 Symposium Program Committee — 4 p.m., Faculty Lounge, Morehead Building.

Mathematics Colloquium — 4 p.m., No. 383 Phillips Hall, Dr. J. D. Zund, "Some Identities for the curvature tensor in non-Riemannian geometries."

CWC — 6:30 p.m., Lenoir Hall, Dinner with APO.

Today is the last day to make reservations for luncheon talk by Michael Novak on "The Thought of Gabriel Marcel." Cost \$2, pay in Y-office.

Peace Corps — 8 a.m. to closing, information booths at Lenoir Hall and Y-Court. Placement tests at noon, 4 p.m., and 7 p.m. at 08 Gardner. Applicants must submit completed questionnaire at time of test. Movie at Carroll Hall — 7 p.m., "A Mission of Discovery."

BRIEFS

Billiards Tournament beginning March 8, sign up this week in billiards room.

Guitar lessons sign-up extended until March 8, \$2.50 for 10 lessons. Sign up at GM Information Desk.

Women students requiring dormitory space for a summer

Firecracker Tossers Fined

Two students received indefinite residence hall probation plus \$10 fines from Men's Council Court Thursday night in separate cases involving the use of fireworks.

Another case which had been tried in a previous semester was appealed to the court for removal of sentence. The court voted to grant the appeal.

In the first case, the involved resident was convicted of throwing firecrackers from a residence hall window while a celebration was taking place outside.

The second defendant was convicted of possession of fireworks and tossing a smoke bomb into a room.

Literary Critic

To Speak Friday

Dr. William York Tindall, literary critic from Columbia University, will speak to the English Club Friday at 8 p.m. on "The British Novel Since the War." Interested students and faculty members are invited to the meeting in the Faculty Lounge of the Monogram Club. Coffee will be served at 7:30 p.m.

Tindall will discuss such writers as William Golding, Lawrence Durrell and C. P. Snow.

We Need Hungry Dollars

If you have a dollar or two that is hungry — that isn't satisfied to be just a little down payment on something — bring it around to the Intimate.

Our bargain section is full of handsome books priced down where a dollar really buys something, and back in the old book section, the 97c and 72c shelves have just had their prices clipped again, and are loaded with lean meaty books to draw hungry dollars.

Come treasure-hunting!

The Intimate Bookshop

119 E. Franklin Street
Open 'til 9 p.m.

Typing Room

The Campus Affairs Board has set up a room, 200 Hanes, where students bring their typewriters to do typewritten work.

The room will be open Monday through Friday from 7:30-10:30 p.m.

WARNING!

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ACROSS	1. Resort	4. Cry of a dove	7. Store	8. Calyx of a strawberry	10. Dart	11. Work: Physics	13. Forms, as froth	15. First-rate	16. Single person	17. Eng. explorer	19. Bomer anath.	20. Emcee	Sullivan	21. Substance used in soap making	22. Overacts	24. The holm oak	26. Game played on horseback	27. Underwater obstacle	28. A saying	29. Toward	31. Spirit: Egypt. myth	32. Close, as eyes of a hawk	34. Storage area	35. Climbing plant	37. Mitigate	39. Musical instrument	41. Gardener's tool	42. Inspires wonder	43. Elevations: golf	44. Confederate general	45. Perched	9. Self-propelled engines	10. Astringent fruit	12. Headland	14. Spawns of fish	18. Exhibit	21. Supports	23. Alcohol radical	25. Music note	26. Straw beds	27. To ricochet	28. Observe	30. Extraordinary personal: as if eaten	33. Appearing as if eaten	34. Produce boat	36. Jolly	38. Notion	40. Born
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