

Creative Writers - White
Judgements & rating of Jury -

Fellowship Com

CREATIVE WRITING

Southern Whites

Grade-A

- 1) Jack Conroy
- 2) Brainard Cheney
- 3) Marian M. Sims
- 4) Robert Ramsey
- 5) Edward Bell
- 6) Stetson Kennedy
- 7) Frank Goodwyn

Grade-B

- 1) May Justus
- 2) Harry Harrison Kroll

Grade-C

- ~~1) Frank Eppse Goodwin~~
1. 2) Thomas Boyd Ham *withdraw*
2. 3) Ernest Seeman *withdraw*
3. 4) Josiah Walker Bancroft *(only one not really fellowshipp material)*

Misc.

- 1) Dreyer (History)

His position in history would compare with Ham and Goodwin in creative writing--perhaps a notch lower.

- 2) Bywaters (Art and writing)

I find it hard to place him--not knowing art--but his reputation is mostly local.

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Comment: Of the creative writers above, only Bancroft is really below par. Conroy and Cheney are much alike in age and accomplishments, and both are former Guggenheim fellows. Sims belongs beside them in age and accomplishments--except for the fellowship. On the other hand, she has made considerably more money than either of them. They have had the reviews; she has had the sales. Her proposed book is given in fuller detail than theirs. Her need seems to be much less pressing. Bell is just about as good as these three, and he is younger. Ramsey and Kennedy are new stars, but excellent risks, most excellent. I would never be guilty of eliminating a single one from this group (except Miss Sims), and I don't envy the folks who have to choose between them.

Interesting to note is the number of these white Southerners who are re-thinking the Reconstruction period.

CREATIVE WRITING

Negroes

Grade-A

- 1) Langston Hughes
- 2) Claude McKay - ? Yes and No!

Grade-B

- 1) Owen V. Dodson

Grade-C

- 1) Ernestine B. Robinson
- 2) Maggie C. Rodriguez
- 3) John W. Sutton

(two not sent to Comm.)

Comment: Hughes, McKay and Dodson, in my opinion, rate consideration-- none of the other three. Hughes is miles ahead of the other two, everything considered, but Dodson is a prospect, and McKay used to be a sort of genius.