

'Kidnapped' book returns

Robert Louis Stevenson's novel "Kidnapped" has found its way back to the University of North Alabama's Collier Library after 59 years and one month of bondage in some boxes of personal items belonging to a former student.

Ernest Deal, the chairman of the board and chief executive officer of First City Bancorporation of Texas in Austin, Texas, recently returned the book to UNA President Robert L. Potts with a tongue-in-cheek note attached.

It noted, "In opening boxes at our new Austin home, I found this edition of 'Kidnapped,' apparently checked out by my mother in 1932 or so. What is your past-due policy? I may need legal counsel—if so, you're dealing with Karl Tyree. Please deal through him."

(Tyree, the grandson of former UNA president Dr. Henry J. Wiltingham, is a retired Florence attorney and housing official.)

The book, which was printed by The MacMillan Company in 1923 with an introduction by Winthrop College professor John Thompson Brown, was checked out on February 27, 1933. Collier Library was then called the Flor-

ence State Normal School Library. (UNA was the first state-supported normal, or teachers college, south of the Ohio River.) Dr. Garry Warren, dean of information technologies at UNA, determined that the novel was 21,568 days overdue.

President Potts responded to Deal, also tongue-in-cheek, that the library fine, at 10 cents a day, is \$2,156.80. Technically, the fine is only \$10.