

OSWALD LETTERS TO BE SOLD HERE

MSS. Lead Week's Auctions
—Ceramics Also Listed

Collectors of Americana — both modern and historical — will find items of interest in this week's auctions.

Two letters that Lee Harvey Oswald wrote to his mother, Mrs. Marguerite C. Oswald, from the Soviet Union in 1961, which were never seen by the Warren Commission, will be in an auction Thursday at 7:30 P.M. at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. Mrs. Oswald is selling the letters to raise funds for an independent investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy. The letters and envelopes will be offered separately.

The sale, arranged by the Charles Hamilton Galleries here, also includes a Civil War letter signed three times by President Lincoln, the only triple signing by a President known. The letter, which endorses the nomination of Capt. Symmes Gardner as assistant quartermaster to the Senate, was sent to the Secretary of War, Edwin M. Stanton, in 1862.

Other items to be offered are three unpublished Ernest Hemingway typescripts of adaptations of short stories for stage readings that were never given, and a rare letter by Brendan Behan from Liverpool Prison that includes the phrase, "Your letter was as good as a pint to me."

Slack Period Ends

Sales are picking up in number, interest and variety at the Parke-Bernet Galleries, 980 Madison Avenue (76th Street), after the slack period that often follows the midwinter holidays.

For collectors of manuscripts and rare books, Wednesday's sale of a choice from the collection of Edward Lamb, a Toledo, Ohio, industrialist, offers several Washington and Jefferson items and letters by Thomas Paine. Included are a deed of more land for Mount Vernon, which by Washington's death had grown to 8,060 acres, and a letter to Col. Clement Biddle some

months after Washington's retirement to private life in 1797, in which the former President's franking privilege is apparently in question, because he told Biddle "that this postage should be paid at my cost . . ."

A love letter from 22-year-old John Tyler, the future President, to his wife-to-be, and a letter by Timothy Pickering about Gen. Charles C. Pinckney's commissioning of a full-length portrait of Washington by Gilbert Stuart for \$500, are also in the sale.

Three other auctions at Parke-Bernet will offer modern paintings, drawings and water-colors on Thursday, European ceramics on Friday and on Saturday English and Continental decorations and furniture and Oriental rugs.

In Thursday's sale, drawings include works by Emil Nolde, Modigliani, Picasso, Diego Rivera and Arthur Szyk. Among the paintings are early works by Dietz Edzard and pieces by Tsugouharu Foujita, Mané-Katz, Maximilien Luce and Jean Dufy.

The ceramics sale offers interesting tureens, boxes and dishes shaped like fruits and vegetables made at Strasbourg, Chelsea, Longton Hall and other factories, from the estate of the late Margaret Thayer Talbot of New York. There are also statuettes and groups by J. J. Kanedler of Meissen; figures from other German and English factories of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries; French and Russian porcelains, and a small group of sixteenth-century and seventeenth-century majolica.

Exhibition is now in progress. The galleries are closed Sunday and Monday.

The Plaza Art Galleries, 406 East 79th Street, will auction Thursday at noon French and English furniture of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, among other items, and room decorations in keeping. The exhibition will open tomorrow.

The Savoy Art and Auction Galleries, 18 East 50th Street, will offer at noon Saturday textiles collected by the late Kathleen Tysen, New York decorator, and French, Italian and English furniture.

Silver objects, Oriental rugs, chandeliers and an eagle-and-horse weathervane are among the decorations. Exhibition will open Wednesday.

Also on Saturday, at 11 A.M., the Lubin Galleries, 342 Third Avenue (25th Street), will auction a portfolio of prints by Salvador Dali and modern and 18th-century and 19th-century French furniture and porcelains silver and other decorations.