

# Further Adventures of Woodward & Bernstein

By JOYCE ILLIG

BOB WOODWARD AND Carl Bernstein have signed a new contract with Simon & Schuster for a book that will focus on the last 100 days of Nixon in the White House. This second book developed through the many sources the two reporters have established since they began covering Watergate for The Washington Post.

They will use their White House sources to tell about the former president's life in depth and detail during those last days. Woodward and Bernstein are said to have an important story that hasn't yet been told. They will begin trying to piece it together very soon during a leave of absence from The Post, and expect to have the manuscript, which should run between 400 and 500 pages, in next spring.

They received a \$300,000 advance and a 60-40 split on the eventual paperback sale. Simon & Schuster owns foreign rights but the reporters retained movie rights and serial rights.

SENATOR WILLIAM PROXMIRE is readying two book proposals for publishers' consideration. One is said to be a traditional whats-right-with-America book. The other is on banking and currency, which the senator from Wisconsin has made his special interest while chairing the Appropriations Subcommittee on Housing and Urban Development, Space, Science, Veterans; and

JOYCE ILLIG reports frequently on the publishing scene for Book World.

while serving on the Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Senate Standing Committee, the Appropriations Senate Standing Committee, and the Joint Committee on Defense Production.

There are plenty of publishers already interested in bidding on the banking book, figuring from the start that every banker will have to get the book.

WHEN CLARK MOLLENHOFF, the Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter who is the Washington bureau chief for the Des Moines Register and Tribune, nailed Henry Kissinger with a crucial question on wiretapping prior to the emotional Salzburg outburst, Mollenhoff commented: "Well, that's what happens when sacred cows meet raging bulls." And raging bull, or a derivative, has been used to describe Mollenhoff ever since.

For more than 20 years Mollenhoff has doggedly campaigned against governmental corruption. When he himself joined the Washington bureaucracy in 1969 as President Nixon's ombudsman, his colleagues were stunned. He left the job 10 months later and resumed his tenacious investigative reporting. Why? Some reasons should turn up in the book he's writing for W.W. Norton, tentatively titled *Game Plan for Disaster* and due next spring.

Parts of this book have been brewing since Mollenhoff left the White House, but he didn't sign the contract until a few months ago. Half of the manuscript has already been handed to his editor, Eric Swenson, vice-president and executive trade editor at Norton.

The first part is on the period when

## Book Business



he was in the White House. The last deals with events since the Watergate break-in and his first column, in which he said that unless Nixon did something about it, he was going to end up with troubles worse than Teapot Dome.

Mollenhoff feels that if he'd written the book two or three years ago, he would have been denounced for painting too much a picture of an isolated, insulated and controlled president:

"When I started to work on this book a long time ago, you had to assume that the public generally believed that Ehrlichman and Haldeman were fine public servants."

EARLY THURSDAY morning Harcourt Brace Jovanovich issued a statement announcing that Leon Shimkin, chairman of Simon & Schuster, and William Jovanovich, chairman of Harcourt Brace, had terminated the merger negotiations between the two companies "in view of the depressing influence of the present financial markets."

Jovanovich could not be reached for comment. Shimkin said that the stock market was the ostensible reason. When asked if another reason might not have been Jovanovich's statement in New York Magazine that Jovanovich would be "boss," once the merger took place, Shimkin said, "It's only part of the story." He also said that there would be another opportunity for a merger and that it was just a question of time. □