

All Spotlights

Saturday, October 6, 1962. **Jack receives an honorary doctorate from the University of Dijon, Dijon, France**, in absentia, as presented by Professor Henri Antoine Talon, professor of English language and literature, of the Faculty of Humanities and supported by the Rector Marcel Bouchard. The honor is conferred during a ceremony at the opening of the University of Burgundy as the Rector celebrates the return of the faculties. The ceremony also confers honorary degrees on people who have been distinguished by their talents and their work in the science and the humanities. Jack had reviewed a book on poetry by a professor from Dijon in August 1940.

Monday, July 8, 2019. **On July 18, 1959, C. S. Lewis wrote to Miss Doris Allan, Secretary for the Commission to Revise the Psalter**, about having to take a later train that will get him to Selwyn College too late for the start of the meeting. At the request of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lewis is serving on the Commission. **This is one of a half-dozen letters, previously undiscovered, that this June (2019) I found at the Church of England Record Centre, researching Lewis' service on that Commission.**

September 2, 2019. **Lewis gives the Skemp Memorial Lecture, a biennial lecture in English literature, at the University of Bristol on "Addison"** (previously it was unknown where this lecture was first given) on October 7, 1943, for which he was paid the fee of £20 and expenses of £1 10s. It likely took place in the Reception Room of the Wills Memorial Building because the usual place, the Great Hall, had been damaged during the war. The lecture time was 5:30 p.m. He had been invited for the previous year but had been unable to give the lecture. The invitation appears to have been made by the Vice-Chancellor, Thomas Loveday.

October 23, 2019. Roger Lancelyn Green dines with Jack in Magdalen College on March 10, 1949, and they talk until midnight, perhaps as a part of an Inklings meeting. **Jack reads two chapters of a children's story to Roger, undoubtedly *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*.** Roger likes the story very much.

November 18, 2019. **William Stevenson spoke at the second meeting ever of the Oxford Socratic Club.** But both his first and last names are common names, appearing nowhere else in Chronologically Lewis, and it is difficult to track down someone named William Stevenson. However, I discovered him listed in the *Socratic Digest* as the speaker at that second meeting. He is **Dr. William Stevenson**, and at the time he was **the Assistant Director of the Institute of Experimental Psychology in Oxford.**

March 4, 2020. I recently ran across the date of **October 19, 1960, the day that T. S. Eliot recommended to the Book Committee of Faber & Faber (a London publisher) that they publish *A Grief Observed*.** He suspected Lewis as the author, although the book was published initially under a pseudonym.

May 6, 2020. **On April 15, 1918, Second Lieutenant Jack Lewis is wounded** in the back of his left hand, on the left leg from behind and above the knee, and in the left side just under the armpit by an English shell on Mount Bernenchon **during the Battle of Arras** near Lillers,

France. This is also the battle during which Jack takes sixty Germans prisoner near the village of Riez du Vinage.