



MISTRAL Files Shed Light on Poet's Work

Continued from Page B-1 too, was excited, for she had known nothing of the trunks. Helen Otero drove her to the house daily from Isla Vista. It was decided that every and the lady scholar plunged into her voluminous once-in-a-lifetime find.

For two months she read, sorted, categorized, and made notes. She was astonished by the extent of the poet's correspondence, in five languages, with hundreds of admirers, artists and scholars all over the world. There were letters from such literary greats as Aldous Huxley, Paul Valery, and Thomas Mann.

"Her letter-writing alone must nearly have exhausted her. She was ill during her stay here, and originally came to be treated at a Santa Barbara clinic."

When her summer-long research was done, there came the question: What to do with the contents of the trunks?

Paul Sweetser, attorney and friend of Gabriela Mistral, determined that the poet's heir was Doris Dana, of New York. She had lived here briefly with Gabriela Mistral before they both moved East.

"I had thought the documents should be moved somewhere for safekeeping, possibly to the UCSB library. We contacted Miss Dana, and she flew here immediately. She

known nothing of the trunks." It was decided that everything would be taken to Miss Dana's home in New York, to be put on microfilm and placed in the Library of Congress.

"So the result is that what once was lost and forgotten in a garage will now be available to scholars everywhere," said Dr. Arce. "To know that I played a large part in this is very satisfying."

"For a scholar, there is no experience more rewarding."

[Artículos de prensa sobre el trabajo literario de Gabriela Mistral] [artículo] Magda Arce y Roque Esteban Scarpa.

Libros y documentos

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