XAVIER HERBERT
a bibliography
Occasional Papers No. 6

XAVIER HERBERT

a bibliography

compiled by David Sansome

NORTHERN TERRITORY LIBRARY SERVICE

Darwin 1988
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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A particular debt is owed to Marianne Ehrhardt and Lurline Stuart whose checklist of Xavier Herbert (676) has been used as a prime source for early publication details of short stories and reviews of *Capricornia*. I would also like to thank Jim Andrighetti of the Mitchell Library, Lien Yeomans of the Fryer Library, University of Queensland, Denis Rowe of the University of Newcastle Archives, staff of the National Library Of Australia, State Library of South Australia and Australian National University Library, Carol Pagett of the Cairns Municipal Library, Trish Huck of Darwin Institute of Technology Library, Jill Forner of ABC Archives (Darwin), Irene Whickam of Alice Springs Public Library, Arleen Wetter, Robyn Pill, Jenny Armour and staff of State Reference Library of the Northern Territory. Finally, a special thankyou to Christine Turner and Donna McMahan for preparing the typescript.

D.S.
June 1988
### ABBREVIATIONS

**C**  
*Capricornia*

**DE**  
*Disturbing Element*

**e.p.**  
*end paper*

**LTL**  
*Larger than Life*

**n.d.**  
*no date*

**no.**  
*number*

**NUC:H**  
*National Union Catalogue of Library Materials for the Handicapped*

**p.**  
*page (s)*

**PFMC**  
*Poor Fellow My Country*

**port (s).**  
*portrait (s)*

**SE**  
*Seven Emus*

**SW**  
*Soldiers' Women*

**XH**  
*Xavier Herbert*

*item not seen by compiler*

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**Note:** entries are arranged in chronological order.
WRITINGS OF XAVIER HERBERT

A  BOOKS

CAPRICORNIA: A NOVEL

   595 p., e.p. map.
   2000 copies printed, including 50 numbered copies on pure
   rag paper.

2 *Capricornia: a novel  Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1938.
   x, 549 p., e.p. maps.

3 Capricornia: a novel  3rd Australian edition. Sydney,
   Angus & Robertson, 1939.
   x, 549 p., e.p. maps.

   x, 549 p., e.p. maps.

5 *Capricornia: a novel  4th Australian edition. Sydney,
   Angus & Robertson, 1941.
   x, 549 p., e.p. map.

6 Capricornia: a novel  New edition: 5th Australian
   x, 510 p., e.p. map.

7 Capricornia: a novel  With a forward by Carl van Doren.
   New York, Appleton-Century, 1943.
   xvi, 649 p., e.p. map.

8 *Capricornia: a novel  Toronto, Ryerson, 1943
   649 p., e.p. map.

9 *Capricornia: Roman  [Translated into Swedish by] Sten
   Soderberg.
   Stockholm, Fitzes Bokforlags Antiebolog, 1944.
   758 p., e.p. map.
   Reprinted 1944, '2nd edition'.

10 Capricornia: a novel  6th Australian edition. Sydney,
    Angus & Robertson, 1944.
    x, 510 p., e.p. map.

11 *Capricornia: a novel  7th Australian edition. Sydney,
    Angus & Robertson, 1946.
    x, 510 p., e.p. map.

12 *Capricornia  [Translated into Danish by]
    2 v., 275p., folded leaf of map.
| **27** | Capricornia: a novel [With a Publisher's Note.] Penrith, N.S.W., Discovery Press, 1972. viii, 448 p. (Modern Australian Library) |

**SEVEN EMUS**

| **33** | Seven Emus | Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1959. 147 p. |
37 Seven Emus
176 p. (Flamingo)
Paperback.

38 Soldiers' Women
490 p.
Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1961.

39 Soldiers' Women
490 p.

40 Soldiers' Women
Reprinted 1963, 1964 (twice), 1966

41 Soldiers' Women
412 p. (Fontana)
Paperback.

42 Soldiers' Women
496 p. (Flamingo)

43 Disturbing Element
271 p.

44 Disturbing Element
271 p.

45 Disturbing Element
271 p. (Fontana)

46 Disturbing Element
280 p. (Flamingo)
Paperback.

47 *Disturbing Element
[Braille]
Queensland, Queensland Braille Writing Association, n.d.
6v. (interpoint braille)
Annerley, (NUC:H)
LARGER THAN LIFE

Contents: 'Sequel to a Song', 'A.T.C. Barragoola', 'Keeping the Peace', 'Mercy Flight', 'Rocky the Rig', 'The Flying Fat Boy', 'Come on, Murri!', 'An Eagle Called Ned Kelly', 'The Best Laid Plans', 'Femme Fatale', 'Rise and Fall of Jeremiah Stacey', 'Michaelos is a Miser', 'Look Into My Eyes!', 'Miss Tanaka', 'Moonshine', 'Marrying Money', 'Once a Police...m, 'Day of shame', 'Kaijek the Songman', 'Last Tosa'.


POOR FELLOW MY COUNTRY


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<td>(interline braille) (NUC:H)</td>
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<td>Dream Road, an extract from PFMC see (127).</td>
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Rewritten as 'Michaelos is a Miser!' (86).


74  Reprinted in the The Publicist, 1 December 1938: 8-11.

75  *'Look Into My Eyes' Australian Journal, LXIX, 1934: 30-35.  
Reprinted in LTL.

76  *'Rise and Fall of Jermiah Stacey' Australian Journal, LXIX, 1934: 137-43.  
Reprinted in LTL.

77  Revised and reprinted as 'The Rise and Fall of Jeremiah Laffin' in * Tales by Australians edited by E.M. Fry.  
Transcribed into German by Richard Wagner as 'Aufsteig und Fall des Jeremiah Laffin' in * Eine Frau in Busch und Andere Australische Erzählungen edited by Frank Auerbach.  
Biographical note: 408.


Reprinted in LTL.


84  'Kajjek the Songman' Bulletin, 20 August 1941: 4-5.

85  Reprinted in Coast to Coast 1943 edited by Frank Dalby Davison.  


87  *Caught From Time: a Selection of Australian Prose edited by Ken Levis.  
Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1961: 60-69.
LTL.


96 *'Last Toss' Herbert': 675. Reprinted in LTL.

97 *'The Flying Fat-Boy' Reprinted in LTL.


99 'The Last Australian' Meanjin, XIX, no.4, 1960: 361-66. Rewritten as 'Day of Shame' in LTL.

100 'Femme Fatale' Reprinted in LTL.


105 'Michaelos is a Miser!' Bulletin, 23 September 1961: 38-42. A revised version of 'The Miser' (68). Reprinted in LTL.


C EXTRACTS FROM NOVELS

EXTRACTS FROM CAPRICORNIA

114 *[Speech by Andy McRandy]* The Australian Abo Call, no 2: 4.


122 *'Extract from Capricornia' The Jindyworobaks edited by Brian Elliott. St Lucia, University of Queensland Press, 1979: 292-93. From Chapter 24 of C.


EXTRACTS FROM SEVEN EMUS


EXTRACTS FROM I AND THE LITTLE WIDOW
(unpublished novel)


126 *'I, the Little Widow & the World' Meanjin, XIX, no 1, 1960: 36-48.
EXTRACTS FROM DISTURBING ELEMENT


EXTRACTS FROM POOR FELLOW MY COUNTRY

128 'Dreaming Road' Meanjin, 34, no. 2, June 1975: 137-49.
From Chapter 8 of PFMC.

118 p. Chapter 8 of PFMC.
Also published in a special edition of 180 copies, bound in half-calf with an original print by Ray Crooke.

48 p. Includes extracts from PFMC.

From Chapter 25 of PFMC.

OTHER WRITINGS: ARTICLES AND PUBLISHED LETTERS


134 'Mr Herbert's Reply' Northern Standard, 8 March 1938: 3.

135 Letter to the editor, in reply to A.C. Weedon, 'White or Black' Northern Standard, 4 March 1938: 10.

137 *'Autobiographette' The Publicist, 1 June 1938 : 9.

138 'I sinned Against Syntax' Meanjin, XIX, no.1, 1960 :31-35

139 *'My Road to Ruhens' Observer (Sydney), 24 December 1960 : 4-6.


144 J. Lomas, 'Herbert and the "Pommies"' Bulletin, 8 March 1961 : 58 ;


146 'How "Capricornia" was Made' Bulletin, 8 March 1961 : 51-52.

147 Slightly revised and reprinted as *'How I wrote "Capricornia" Observer (Sydney), 18 March 1961 : 22.

148 Response to an article by *Olaf Ruhens, 'Where Editors Fail' Observer (Sydney), 4 February 1961 : 5.


154 'Tom Flynn of Rum Jungle'  

155 'A Town Like Elliott: "There is NO Solution to the Aborigines Problem"
Replies by:

156 Kylie Tennant, 'Place like Tranby: Part 1 of How Wrong is Xavier Herbert? : The Case for the Aborigines'

157 Ken Brindle, "Name One Town": Part 2 of How Wrong is Xavier Herbert? The Case for the Aborigines'

158 L.P. Fox, 'A Town Like Elliott'

159 A Bertram Chandler, 'A Town Like Elliott'

160 Michael Sawtell, 'Town Like Elliott'

161 Sheila Tassell, 'How Wrong is Xavier Herbert?'

162 'May His Spirit not be Disturbed by Hacks'
Tribune, 5 June 1967: 5.  
Henry Lawson Memorial number.

163 *'The Writing of Capricornia'
Speech delivered at Writers Week, Adelaide Festival of Arts, March 1962.  
Transcript of (228).

164 'Xavier Herbert: A Communication'

165 'The Agony - And the Joy'
Overland, nos. 50-51, Autumn 1972: 65-68.

166 'The Signing of the Peace Treaty'

167 *'An Evening with Xavier Herbert'
Transcript from an A.B.C. television programme, broadcast 12 January 1976 ( ).

168 [Letter to the Editor]
The National Times, 11-17 May 1980: 27.  
Reply to (345).
E MANUSCRIPT MATERIAL

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

(Canberra, A.C.T.)

Xavier Herbert Papers

169 Capricornia
640p. Typescript and holograph.
MS 758 [Box 1]
The text differs from the published version (1).
After Chapter 1 are handwritten and typed pages of earlier
drafts. Following Chapter II is another draft of that
chapter with a different title. On the verso of the
manuscript are handwritten and typed drafts of other
chapters, two short stories (The Beauty of Barbara
and Giants of Iron) and a scenario (The Skywriter).

170 The Facts of the Publication of Capricornia for the
Historical Record
30p. Typescript.
MS 758 [Box 1]
Written by XH in response to articles by Olaf Ruhen and P.R.
Stephenson published in the Observer (Sydney) and Bulletin.
(146 - 151).

171 Correspondence from Xavier Herbert to Arthur Dibley (1934-
38) 139 letters, 8 telegrams.
MS 758 [Box 2].

172 Letter from Arthur Dibley to Xavier Herbert.
MS 758 [Box 2].

173 Letter from J.J. Miles to Xavier Herbert (31 August 1937).
MS 758 [Box 2].

174 Six photographs
(1934-38)
MS 758 [Box 2].

175 Letters from Xavier and Sadie Herbert to the National
Librarian relating to the Dibley correspondence.
MS 758 [Box 2].

176 Letters from Xavier Herbert to 'Philippa'
MS 758 [Box 2].

177 Diary of Xavier Herbert (1951)
MS 758 [Box 2].
Hugh Anderson Papers

178 *Letters from Xavier Herbert to Hugh Anderson.  
    MS 1021.

Eleanor Dark Papers

179 *Letters from Xavier Herbert to Eleanor Dark.  
    MS 4998. (Restricted)

Frank Dalby Davison Papers

180 *Letters from Xavier Herbert to Frank Dalby Davison.  
    MS 764. (Restricted)

David Rowbotham Papers

181 *Letters from Xavier Herbert to David Rowbotham.  
    MS 6021.

Dal Stivens Papers

182 *Letters from Xavier Herbert to Dal Stivens.  
    MS 4713. (Partly restricted)

Philip Whelan Papers

183 *Letters from Xavier Herbert to Philip Whelan.  
    MS 2449.

FRYER LIBRARY, UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND  
(St Lucia, Queensland)

Sadie Herbert Collection

184 *Literary Logs  
    Coll. 83  [Boxes 1-4]

185 *Yeller Feller  
    Notebook for the unpublished novel.  
    Coll. 83  [Box 14]

186 *Soldiers' Women  
    Notebook  
    Coll. 83  [Box 14]

187 *Mars, the Moon and Destiny  
    Typescript and related papers  
    Coll. 83  [Box 14]  
    Later published as SW.
188  *Soldiers' Women  
Typescript and related papers  
Coll. 83  [Box 14]

189  *The Little Widow  
Typescript  
Coll. 83  [Box 15]

190  *Disturbing Element  
Manuscript, typescript and related papers  
Coll. 83.  [Boxes 11-13]  
Originally titled: Winged Horses.  

191  *Poor Fellow My Country  
Typescripts and related papers  
Coll. 83  [Boxes 5-10]

192  *Poor Fellow My Country  
Publisher's typescript  
Coll. 83  [Boxes 73-75]

193  *Short stories and poems  
Coll. 83  [Box 16]

194  *Miscellaneous writing, speeches, letters to editors  
and transcripts of interviews.  
Coll. 83  [Boxes 20 and 60]

195  *Correspondence  
Coll. 83  [Boxes 26-55 and 71]

196  *Correspondence with Laurie Hergenhan  
Coll. 83  [Box 66]

197  *Press cuttings  
Coll. 83  [Boxes 21-22 and 57]

198  *Photographs  
Coll. 83  [Box 56]

199  *Sketches and drawings  
Coll. 83  [not boxed]

200  *Flying diaries and notes  
Coll. 83  [Boxes 23-24]

201  *Papers relating to pilot licence and flying  
Coll. 83  [Box 58]

202  *Pharmacy papers  
Coll. 83  [Boxes 23-24]
*Financial records, contracts and agreements  
Coll. 83 [Boxes 25, 61-63, 70 and 72]

*Papers relating to Sadie Herbert's trip abroad (1962)  
Coll. 83 [Box 59]  
See also (224 - 227)

MITCHELL LIBRARY, STATE LIBRARY OF NEW SOUTH WALES  
(Sydney, N.S.W.)

Angus & Robertson Records

*Seven Emus  
Carbon typescript  
ML MSS 3269 Box 141.

*I and the Little Widow  
Typescript  
ML MSS 3269 Box 141

*Soldiers' Women  
Typescript  
ML MSS 3269 Box 141

*Larger Than Life  
Typescript  
ML MSS 3269 Box 141

*Correspondence between Xavier Herbert and Angus & Robertson (1938-65)  
ML MSS 3269 (Restricted).

*Dustjacket designs for Capricornia  
PXD 359 2427A (watercolour), 2427B (sample), 2427C (another version).

*Dustjacket designs for Seven Emus  
PXD 359 2428A (watercolour), 2428B (proof).

*Six photographs of Xavier Herbert.  
PI

Miles Franklin Papers

*Letters from Xavier Herbert to Miles Franklin (1936-51)  
ML MSS 364 v.28 pp 435-66.

Letters from Miles Franklin to Xavier Herbert (1938)  
Carbon typescript  
ML MSS 3659/1
215 *Letters from Sadie Herbert to Miles Franklin (1943)  
ML MSS 364. v.37 pp 471-72.  

Hal Porter Papers

216 *Twelve letters from Xavier Herbert to Hal Porter (1963-74)  
ML MSS 794

217 *Letter from Sadie Herbert to Hal Porter (1963)  
ML MSS 794

P.R. Stephensen Papers

218 *Correspondence between P.R. Stephensen and Xavier Herbert  
ML MSS 1284 Boxes Y2141 - Y2142

219 Proofs of preliminary pages of Capricornia (1938)  
8p.  
ML Mss 1284 Box No Y2122

220 Three dustjacket designs for Capricornia (1934)  
ML MSS 1284 Box No Y2122

AUCHMUTY LIBRARY, UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE  
(Newcastle, N.S.W.)

Vice Chancellor's Records

221 *Letters by and about Xavier Herbert, Writer in Residence  
(1975).  
A6514 (xi) (Restricted)

NORTHERN AUSTRALIA COLLECTION, STATE REFERENCE LIBRARY OF  
THE NORTHERN TERRITORY  
(DARWIN, N.T.)

222 Nineteen negatives: 16 portraits of Xavier Herbert at Ross  

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS LIBRARY  
(Urbana - Champaign, Illinois, U.S.A.)

Wells Collection

223 *Letter from Xavier Herbert to H.G. Wells  
Letter H244 Quoted in (411).
OTHER MATERIAL

The following items are at present privately held but will eventually be deposited at the Fryer Library, University of Queensland:

224 Portion of Xavier Herbert's War Diary, (1943).
   5p. (4 Leaves).

225 *Diaries (1981 - 83)

226 *Me and My Shadow
   400 p. manuscript; Typescript of first 38 pages.

227 Flight log book; Flight Crew Licence.

F RECORDINGS

Sound and Television recordings of Xavier Herbert

228 *The Writing of Capricornia Speech delivered at Writers Week, Adelaide Festival of Arts, March 1962.
   Sound cassette
   Held by State Library of South Australia.
   Published transcript (161).

229 *Xavier Herbert interviewed by Hazel de Berg.
   Tape no.88, Transcript MSS 888
   Held by National Library of Australia.
   Another copy held by State Library of South Australia.

230 *Xavier Herbert interviewed by John Iremonger.
   Oral History Collection TRC no. 397.
   Held by National Library of Australia.

231 *Interview with Xavier Herbert re attitudes to fitness and old age (1974).
   Tape. 74/7/406 Duration: 2 minutes 50 seconds
   Held by ABC Archives (Sydney).

232 *Interview with Xavier Herbert re PFNC (1975).
   Tape. 75/7/2069 Duration: 3 minutes 34 seconds
   Held by ABC Archives (Sydney).

233 *'Xavier Herbert's impression of the University of Newcastle, and Xavier Herbert's early life' (1975)
   T12
   Held by Auchmuty Library, University of Newcastle (N.S.W.)
"Xavier Herbert talks about his appointment as Writer-in-Residence to the University of Newcastle'.
Recorded by the author at Newcastle, N.S.W. in 1975.
4 sound cassettes.
Held by the Northern Australia Collection, State Reference Library of the Northern Territory.
Probably similar to (233).

'An Evening with Xavier Herbert' (1976).
Tape 76/7/232.
Held by ABC Archives (Sydney).
Soundtrack of the television programme.
Published transcript (167).

*Xavier Herbert's response to the presentation of the Miles Franklin Award (1976).
Tape 76/7/612 Duration: 5 minutes
Held by ABC Archives (Sydney).
Published reports (327 - 328).

*Interview re PFMC (1976)
Tape 79/7/625
Held by ABC Archives (Sydney).

*'Personal Imprint No. 2' (1977).
Xavier Herbert comments on the writing of Steel Rudd.
Tape 77/10/1477 Duration: 8 minutes
Held by ABC Archives (Sydney).

*Interview re PFMC and the physical regimen he followed in writing it (1977).
Tape 77/5/921 Duration: 15 minutes 32 seconds
Held by ABC Archives (Sydney).

*Comments at Queensland Rally (1977).
Tape 78/10/808 Duration: 6 minutes
Held by ABC Archives (Sydney).

*Xavier Herbert interviewed by Tim Bowden (Cairns, 1977).
Tape 77/5/921 Duration: 15 minutes 32 seconds
Held by ABC Archives (Sydney).

*Interview re his youth, views of Australia and his novels (1978).
Tape 78/7/568 Duration: 31 minutes 15 seconds
Held by ABC Archives (Sydney).

*Comments on Bastille Day (1978).
Tape 79/7/96 Duration: 2 minutes
Held by ABC Archives (Sydney).

*Xavier Herbert interviewed by Marcus Cooney (Canberra, 1978).
Tape 78/7/568 Duration: 31 minutes 15 seconds
Held by ABC Archives (Sydney).
245 'Poor Fellow My Country' [Author's reminiscences of white Australian's attitudes to aborigines] Convocation Address, Australia National University, 1978. Held by Australian National University Library (J. B. Chifley Building).

246 *Interview re wife's influence on his writing (1980). Tape 87/10/877 Held by ABC Archives (Sydney).

247 *Xavier Herbert interviewed on return to Darwin (1980). Tape 89 (television recording) Duration: 5 minutes 45 sec. Held by ABC Archives (Darwin).

248 *Comments re 2nd World Wilderness Congress, Cairns (1980). Tape 80/10/961 Duration: 8 minutes 45 seconds Held by ABC Archives (Sydney).

249 *Comments re Royal Birth (1982). Tape 82/7/661 Duration: 2 minutes 17 seconds Held by ABC Archives (Sydney).


251 *Interview re leaving Queensland (1983). Tape 83/10/536 Held by ABC Archives (Sydney).

252 'Last interview with Xavier Herbert' (1983). Tape 268 (television recording) Duration: 18 minutes 30 sec. Held by ABC Archives (Darwin) along with the edited version (Tape 123) which was broadcast. Another copy held by Northern Australia Collection, State Reference Library of the Northern Territory.

253 *Xavier Herbert Sydney, ABC, 1984 Sound cassette Duration: 10 minutes Copy held by University of Queensland Library.

254 Recording of Xavier Herbert Speaking at the N.T. Library Week Dinner, Alice Springs, 13th May 1984. Sound cassette Duration: 30 minutes. Held by Alice Springs Collection, Alice Springs Public Library. Published reports (377 - 378).

255 *Capricornia Victoria Park, W.A., Association for the Blind of Western Australia, 1984. 12 sound cassettes (NUC:H).

257 *Disturbing Element Burwood, N.S.W., Royal Blind Society of New South Wales, n.d. 3 sound cassettes (NUC:H).


260 *Seven Emus Hobart, Hear-a-Book Service, n.d. 5 sound cassettes (NUC:H).

II WRITINGS ABOUT XAVIER HERBERT

A GENERAL


262 'Abo. Corroboree' Northern Standard, 18 February 1936: 2. Corroboree was arranged by XH.


265 'Police Court. Abos. drinking metho' Northern Standard, 7 April 1936: 1. XH appeared on behalf of defendants.

266 'Abo. Customs. Mr A.X. Herbert's evidence' Northern Standard, 21 April 1936: 4. XH's evidence on behalf of defendants in a murder trial.


269 *'Xavier Herbert in Sydney' The Publicist, 1 October 1938: 14.
270 'White Woman who Shared Tribal Secrets. Mrs Xavier Herbert's Experiences Among the Aborigines'

Times, 1941: 335.

Times, 1944: 423.

273 *Morrisby, Camden 'Xavier Herbert and the World He Knows'

Times, 1947: 421.


277 Robertson, Constance 'Writers at Work'
The Sydney Morning Herald, 4 October 1958: 10. port.

Sydney, Angus & Robertson, 1958 v.5: 328, 336.

Melbourne, 1959: 376.

280 Hetherington, John 'Xavier Herbert: a Blend of Humility and Assurance as He Faces Life'
The Age, 6 May 1961: 18.

281 Revised and reprinted as 'Cottage at Redlynch' in

282 'Novelist Comes Out of the Wilderness'

283 'What Students Think'

284 Rowbotham, David 'Xavier Herbert Flexes His Arm Muscle ... It's Like Ironbark'

286 Simon, Peter 'Xavier Herbert Recalls Darwin's Colorful Past' The Territorian, 1, no.3, July 1963 : 52.

287 Robertson, Jillian 'Not For Delicate People, "I Don't Know How Bob Menzies Will Take It"' Bulletin, 19 October 1963 : 25, 27.


289 Thompson, John 'Remembrance of things past. 10) The Peril of helping writers' Meanjin, XXIII, no.1, 1964 : 98.


295 Cornford, Philip 'Far out in the North Queensland bush Xavier Herbert talks about his 70 years of life and the last book he will write ...' The Sunday Australian, 2 May 1971 : 33. port.


298 Heseltine, Harry *Xavier Herbert* Melbourne, Oxford University Press, 1973. 52 p. (Australian Writers and their Work) Reviewed :

300 Hadgraft, Cecil Australian Literary Studies, 6, no.4, October 1974: 438-440.
301 *Thorpe, Michael English Studies, LV, 1973: 550
306 Rowbotham, David 'Old 'Orrible Delivers an Octopus' Courier-Mail, 24 August 1974: 3.
309 'Novelist will be writer in residence' University News (University of Newcastle, N.S.W.), no. 100, 29 May 1975: 6
310 *Dunstan, Keith 'Life With the Octopus' The Sun (Melbourne), 12 July 1975: 19.
312 *The Western Australian, 26 July 1975: 21.
315 'I'm no colonial crawler : author' The Sydney Morning Herald, 20 August 1975: 15.
316 *Yeomans, John 'The Long-Distance Novelist' The Herald (Melbourne), 25 August 1975: 4.
317 Nicklin, Lenore 'Xavier Herbert Puts the Boot In' The Sydney Morning Herald, 6 September 1975: 12.
318 Sayers, Stuart 'When Xavier Herbert Comes to Town' The Age, 13 September 1975: 19.
319 Berryman, Nancy  'Blockbuster author 'a word miser' ' Sun-Herald, 14 September 1975 : 32.

320 *Pascoe, Michael  'The Quiet Woman Behind the Man of a Milion Words' The Courier-Mail, 16 September 1975 : 5.


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At first rejected by a number of publishers, the novel was typeset in 1934, but after the failure of that publishing company, the type was melted down. After several years of frustration the novel was finally published on the 26th January 1938, by The Publicist. Copies arrived in Darwin via the MV Merkur at the end of February 1938.

On publication it was instantly recognized as a classic of Australian literature. Herbert was awarded the Sequicentenary Literary Prize and later the Australian Literature Society's Gold Medal (1939). It has since been published in 23 printings, as well as various overseas editions including seven translations.


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