



### The Seditious '60s

Some novels are dangerous: **A CONFEDERACY OF DUNCES** by the late **John Kennedy Toole** is one of them. Set in the wild and woolly New Orleans of the late '60s, Toole's narrative (a brilliant and uncanny reincarnation of Swift and Rabelais) perfectly captures the aromas and accents of the city in a majestic and ambitious farce that can be savored by any reader who remembers just how wrenching and disorienting the '60s really were. After the author's suicide in 1969, his mother tried to sell his manuscript for years, in vain. Only when novelist Walker Percy read the ms and recommended it to a local publisher (Louisiana State University Press) did Toole's charismatic genius finally see the light of day. Grove's new paperback edition (\$3.50) should give this novel, still dangerous and terrible fun, the audience it deserves. (SD)