

## masa bulletin

DES MOINES IS WHERE we are holding the 1980 MASA meeting, utilizing the same facility—Living History Farms—recently used by the Pope. (There goes the neighborhood.) MASA meetings are generally fun: the scale is right, the papers are good and the usual academic pecking-order seems not to function. What to do in Des Moines? Colleagues say Living History Farms itself is interesting; I can add that the city has an absolutely first-class art museum which includes the loveliest sculpture gallery I know. It's free and not many blocks from an interstate. Program details are available from Theodore R. Hovet, English, UNI, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613. The dates, by the way, are April 17-19.

IMPERIALIST EXPANSIONISM or bureaucratic ineptitude (check one) has caused Arkansas to become part of the MASA region. We are told that the ASA has never gotten much of a foothold in the state; our own contacts there are surprisingly sparse. It will be interesting to see whether that situation changes.

NO REVIEW: By editorial policy, *American Studies* does not review collections, anthologies, textbooks, reprints and most reference works. Three recent books in our No Review carton suggest that No Review is certainly not the same as No Interest: Daniel Casey and Robert Rhodes, eds., *Irish-American Fiction/Essays in Criticism* (New York: AMS, 1979), \$24.50 hard, \$7.95, soft; Edward Papenfuss et al., eds., *A Biographical Dictionary of the Maryland Legislature, 1635-1789*, Volume I, A-H (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins, 1979); Taylor Stoehr, ed., *Free Love in America/ A Documentary History* (New York: AMS, 1979), \$30.00. This latter book covers more than its title suggests (indeed, the first 300 pages are by the way of background materials). Social historians will question some of the things Stoehr says in his prefaces, but the primary materials are of prime interest to any student of the nineteenth century.

CANADIAN work in American Studies grows rapidly. Had Your Faithful Editor the money or a university which pays travel expenses, he would have been in Vancouver November 1-3, 1979 for the fifteenth annual conference of the Canadian Association for American Studies, which sounds as though it was excellent. Among the folks on the program with whom *American Studies* has had contact were Sam Girgus, William Goetzmann, Park Dixon Goist, Evelyn Hinz and John Teunissen, to all of whom we say, "Hi, y'all," and "Sorry we couldn't make it." The Canadian Association publishes a fine journal, too.

INTERDISCIPLINARY as all get-out is the call for papers for a conference called "American Pioneer Landscapes: Origins and Evolutions." It's sponsored by the Center for Great Plains Studies and will be held in Lincoln, Nebraska, April 30 and May 1. That gives plenty of lead time; "historians, historical geographers, folklorists, literary critics, art historians, anthropologists, economic historians" and folks from other appropriate disciplines are invited to submit stuff. Questions go to Patricia Lambert Swann, Center for Great Plains Studies, Oldfather Hall, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, Nebraska 68588.

GREAT PLAINS QUARTERLY breaks ground January 1981. Interdisciplinary, interested in arts, history, social science. Send manuscripts and questions to Frederick C. Luebke, Editor at the same address as in the item above.

LANDSCAPE: Bonnie Loyd, Managing Editor of a magazine so-called, writes to tell us of a couple of articles which sound on our frequency, one on alley landscapes of Washington, the other on urban street lighting. Sounds very interesting; Yr. Faithful Ed. will have a look at *Landscape* and report back in a future MASA Bulletin.

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**SYMBOLIST PAINTING** in America is the topic of an unusual and sizable show at the Spencer Art Museum in Lawrence; it runs January 20-March 2, 1980. There's a posh and informed catalogue by Charles Eldredge, who invented the topic and assembled the paintings. The show is formally titled "American Imagination and Symbolist Painting," and explores connections between American and more familiar European strains of symbolism. From it you learn things about predecessors of puzzling twentieth century artists like Dove and O'Keefe. Y. F. E. gets into the act slightly, twice, once as musician and interlocutor on opening day, again as part of a gallery tour on February 3. Worth a trip to Kansas, especially if you don't yet know the museum.

**WINTERTHUR PORTFOLIO** is now a quarterly with the subtitle, *A Journal of American Material Culture*. The editor, Ian M. G. Quimby, solicits analytical, interdisciplinary broad essays and welcomes extensive illustrations. Kenneth L. Ames, same address, handles book reviews. It all sounds very good.

**ARETE PRESS** now exists. It's a publisher of "scholarly books and monographs in the humanities, particularly English and American literature." Inquire before you submit; the address is English, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio 44106; the editor is Gary Lee Stonum.

**INDIANA MONEY** is available to doctoral students writing dissertations on Indiana history or the history of the region. The loot—\$3500 each for two dissertation grants—comes from the Indiana Historical Society. For more information, you write Gayle Thornbrough, IHS, 315 West Ohio Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46202.

**BALTIMORE TOPICS** are on the agenda for a meeting on Friday, April 25 sponsored by the Regional Economic History Research Center, Eleutherian Mills-Hagley Foundation. William Mulligan, Jr., P.O. Box 3630, Greenville, Wilmington, Delaware 19807 has further poop.

**AN AMERICAN SCOTCH-IRISH FEDERATION** exists, has a couple of publications, and wants to make itself known. The contact person is J. F. C. Moore, ASIF, 111 Montclair Avenue, San Antonio, Texas 78209.

**HERE IS A LIST** of good folks who helped us evaluate manuscripts in the last six months or so. We print it to say "Thanks," and also so they can clip it out to show to appreciative and supportive administrators: Ivan Barrientos, University of Kansas; Richard Berendzen, American University; Bill Blackbeard, San Francisco Academy of Comic Art; Betsy Bowden, Pennsylvania State University; Matthew J. Brucoli, University of South Carolina; Howard Chudacoff, Brown University; Victor Contoski, University of Kansas; Joan Dean, University of Missouri-Kansas City; John Duffy, University of Maryland; Marvin H. Eyler, University of Maryland; Charles Fanning, Bridgewater State College; Alfred Habegger, University of Kansas; Grace Ann Hovet, University of Northern Iowa; Aileen Kraditor, Boston University; Robert McColley, University of Illinois-Urbana; Raven McDavid, The University of Chicago; Christine Mc Hugh, University of Nebraska-Omaha; Paul Metcalf, Chester, Massachusetts; Norton Mezvinsky, Central Connecticut State College; Russel B. Nye, Michigan State University; Jerome Rodnitzky, University of Texas-Arlington; Seth Scheiner, Rutgers University; Lillian Schlissel, Brooklyn College; James Seaver, University of Kansas; Elmer Suderman, Gustavus Adolphus; Eldon Turner, University of Florida-Gainesville.