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JOHN SLOAN/A Printmaker. By James Kraft. Washington, D.C. The International Exhibitions Foundation, 1984, \$7.50. Kraft is aided by Sloan's widow, Helen Farr Sloan, who provides a very valuable section called "An Artist's Words: Some Unpublished Comments By John Sloan, 1944-50" in which Sloan at age 80 talks about his career and covers subjects of prime interest to even those Americanists who have no special bent for the visual arts. He tells of the time, for example, when technological change forced visual journalists such as 'my friends Glackens, Luks and Shinn' out of their jobs as "reporter-artists" because newspapers could print photos. For Sloan, Henri was the liberator." Speaking of himself and his friends, Sloan says "Whitman was a very important influence on our thinking in the '90s."

Sloan maintained newspaper connections longer than most of the others because he was illustrator as well as "reporter-artist," but the change in the newspaper world eventually got to him, too. He says of the balance of his life, "I have always supported my independent work as a painter and etcher by illustrating and teaching. By the age of 50 I had sold only eight paintings and very few of the prints I had made for myself." His conclusion is far from bitter. Since he was not dependent on his "serious" work for an income, he was, as he saw it, freer to do what he felt he should, unconfined by fads, movements or commercial pressures. "I have never lived from my painting until I was past seventy," is in no sense a complaint.

Sloan is interesting politically, too. Despite his Socialist Party membership and his work for *The Masses*, ties which are very interesting in terms of political, social, cultural, economical and intellectual history, Sloan insists that he was never an idealogue. "Sympathy for people, I am all for that, but not ideology." Such folks were the bane of more theoretical European radicals, but Sloan's idiosyncracy here matches that in his sense of career, as well as those of other Americans of his era.

To understand him well, then, one must needs be an old-fashioned interdisciplinarian; to so understand him is to understand large characteristics of his era.

The book also contains a bibliography, a number of good reproductions and, of course, a catalogue of the show with brief notes, many in Sloan's words, about each piece.

But the experience of the show is powerful and convincing. Beyond the obvious sense in which many of Sloan's prints document the look of places and periods, or reflect attitudes, they are the result of a strong vision and an independent artistic sensibility. Your Faithful Editor caught the show in Kansas City; it is going to be on the road for quite some time—the remaining itinerary is: December 8, 1985-January 19, 1986, Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, Cedar Rapids, IA. 1986 dates: February 9-March 23, Duke



Robert Henri, Peinter (1931) (Courtesy of the International Exhibitions Foundation, Washington, D.C.)



Connoisseurs of Prints (1905) (Courtesy of the International Exhibitions Foundation, Washington, D.C.)

University Museum of Art, Durham, NC; April 13-May 25, The Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, OH; June 15-July 27, Anchorage Historical and Fine Arts Museum, Anchorage, AL; August 17-September 28, The Edmonton Art Gallery, Edmonton, Alberta; October 19-November 30, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, CA; December 21, 1986-February 1, 1987, Fort Lauderdale Museum of the Arts, Fort Lauderdale, FL. 1987 dates: February 22-April 5, Beaumont Art Museum, Beaumont, TX; April 26-June 7, OPEN; June 28-August 9, Oklahoma Art Center, Oklahoma City, OK; August 30-October 4, Wichita Falls Museum and Art Center, Wichita Falls, TX. Catch it if you can!

Of CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN SCIENCE POLICY. Edited by James C. Petersen. Cambridge: University of Massachusetts Press, 1984, \$23.50 cloth; 9.95 paper, Ham Cravens says the following: In recent years there has been much public criticism of professional expertise as the only guide to public policy which deals with issues of science, technology and medicine. This is in line with the dominant notions of our age, which assume the whole is no greater than the sum of its parts, and the general anti-bigness, anti-tradition, anti-history tone of much public discussion. As you know, that has been growing in intensity since the 1950s. We even see it now in the new classical economics as compared with the now old-fashioned Keynesian economics of the 1920-1960 era. With regards to science, technology and medical policy there has been considerable skepticism directed towards the experts (consider the films Dr. Strangelove [1964] and The Hospital [1970] as premier examples). In a sense the present volume is a reflection of that

trend, and no more. We have a baker's dozen of essays in less than 240 pages, written by social scientists who wish to instruct us on why and how citizens should participate in the making of science, technology and medicine public policy. For the uninitiated this could be a useful primer, especially for consciousness-raising. The essays do not go into enough depth to allow the unwary reader to understand the complexities of the issues of policy-making. Nor do they really outline how to make policy; for those interested in such matters, it is probably wiser to join valuable organizations such as the Sierra Club. Nor are there sufficiently lengthy bibliographies to guide those interested in pursuing the matter. There has been a lot printed in recent years by scholars interested in "Science, Technology, and Society," much of it poor. The present volume seems not so much incompetent as inadequate for much further use by scholars or activists. One could almost say that its major utility is that it permitted more than a dozen scholars to add a line or two to their c.v.'s. For someone like myself who believes that the issues are complex but that expertise is responsible to the public, at least morally, I find this book something that is not very helpful.

For American Studies scholars and teachers who want to catch up on the growing secondary literature on the history of American science, Cravens has a more favorable opinion on a new historiographical volume, HISTORICAL WRITING ON AMERICAN SCIENCE, Edited by Sally G. Kohlstedt and Margaret W. Rossiter: It is a special thematic issue of Osiris, the newly-revived monograph journal of the History of Science Society (second series, Vol. 1, 1985), available from the Isis editorial office,

History and Sociology of Science Department, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104, \$29.00 hardbound, \$15 paper. There are fifteen substantive "state of the art" essays, including several on such classic themes as science and religion and science in medicine; on the histories of particular sciences, such as astronomy, geology, biology and the social sciences; and on newer areas, such as native knowledge in the Americas, science and technology and science and war. An essay on access to sources concludes the volume. While the point of view of most of the essays is more towards the history of science than towards American Studies, an American Studies scholar can nevertheless easily identify the large and growing literature and find material for courses or areas for research from an American Studies perspective or perspectives. The bibliographic citations include both the older and the post-1970 literature, with emphasis on the latter, and provide a convenient guide or point of departure.

Dale Goldsmith reports to us from McPherson College on THE BIBLE AND POPULAR CULTURE IN AMERICA. Edited by Allene Stuart Phy. Chico, California: Scholars Press, 1984, \$15.95. This collection of essays suggests the breadth and depth to which the Bible has permeated our popular culture in humor, literature, the media, salesmanship and art. The book is a reminder that popular conceptions of the ancient texts reflect contemporary American views much more than they transmit the jeremiads of the prophets and the solace of the gospel. The art and literature express our ideals; the music resonates our nostalgia; selling Bibles door to door engenders the Protestant work ethic. Phy's introduction gives a hint of the wealth of material in American life that could be turned into reading that is both tantalizingly enjoyable and critically informative. Much of this book, however, is dull; it often reads like a catalogue of undigested data. Chapters on the media and children's literature are exceptions in their attempts to explain "why" Americans prefer their peculiar renditions of the Bible.

VOICES OF JACOB, HANDS OF ESAU: Jews in American Life and Thought. By Stephen J. Whitfield. Hamden, Connecticut: Shoe String Press, 1984, \$25.00. Daniel Breslauer reports that this loosely constructed anthology of essays is of greater use to the student of ideas than to the historian. Its strongest section consists of three essays which focus on how American Jews perceived evil in the wake of the Nazi Holocaust. Whitfield shows how the Holocaust became a prism through which to define a new ultimate evil, totalitarianism, and then only gradually-and especially after 1967 and 1973became a symbol of continuing anxieties about Jewish survival and the justification of ethnicity. Other sections look at selected issues of American Jewish assimilation and self-affirmation in America and at popular culture. The latter essays are impressionistic rather than deeply analytical. The final section on the Jew as Southerner is illuminated with insights but disappoints those looking for sustained historical investigation.

Alan Gribben, compiler of Mark Twain's Library: A Reconstruction, reports on a recently published study of another author's private library—Arthur F. Kinney's FLANNERY O'CONNOR'S LIBRARY: Resources of Being. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1985, \$25.00. The 712 titles of this collection are now housed in the Ina Dillard Russell Library of Georgia College in Milledgeville. Certain volumes are strangely missing, concedes Kinney, including Thomas Merton's Prometheus: A Meditation, Norman Mailer's The Deer Park and Joyce Cary's novels, not to mention O'Connor's copies of Chaucer, Shakespeare, Austen, the Brontes, Hardy and many other standard authors whose works she knew and admired. Nor does this catalog take account of books borrowed from friends and libraries. But Kinney helpfully categorizes, describes and indexes what is assembled at Georgia College, even quoting passages that O'Connor marked in Martin Buber's Eclipse of God, John Henry Cardinal Newman's Apologia pro Vita Sua, William James' The Varieties of Religious Experience, C. G. Jung's Modern Man in Search of a Soul, Mark Van Doren's Nathaniel Hawthorne, Ring Lardner's Collected Short Stories, T. S. Eliot's Collected Poems and hundreds of additional titles in theology, literature, history and other fields. O'Connor recalled that her serious reading began with a volume of Poe's tales, but insisted that "when I went to graduate school at Iowa I had never heard of Faulkner, Kafka, Joyce, much less read them. Then I began to read everything at once." Flannery O'Connor's Library is a competent appraisal of the writer's working library collection, and it is good to have such books issue from university presses as well as from commercial firms.

LETTERS OF ELIZABETH PALMER PEA-BODY: American Renaissance Woman. Middletown, Connecticut: Wesleyan University Press, 1984, \$35.00, Alex Kern says, is a carefully edited book, a storehouse of information on Transcendentalism and great bedside reading because the letters are short.

Harold Orel reports on J. Kenneth Van Dover's MURDER IN THE MILLIONS: Erle Stanley Gardner, Mickey Spillane, Ian Fleming. New York: Frederick Ungar, 1984, \$12.95 cloth, \$7.95 paper. Three creators of super-sellers are here treated with intelligent respect. Of the 201 novels that have sold over 2,000,000 copies in this country, Gardner wrote twenty-five, Fleming wrote twelve. Spillane alone, with his eleven Mike Hammer novels, has sold more than 150,000,000 copies. This is an incredible record, one that tells us more about the audience ("inarticulate readers") than about the novels them-selves, which Van Dover admits are repetitive and formula-ridden, filled with commonplaces about good and evil, often sadistic and not to be confused with genuine literary art. The beginnings of a significant socio-cultural investigation are sketched in the Introduction, but the major part of the text summarizes, skillfully but lengthily, the plot of "the inaugural novel" of each author, and then reviews the later novels ' marily as they diverge from or develop the formulas of their prototype." (A few surprise

endings are revealed.) The reader cannot help wondering why Van Dover did not break free from the tedium of this publisher-imposed format, and explore more fully the ways in which Gardner, Spillane and Fleming have modernized the fairy tale as defined by Bruno Bettelheim in *The Uses of Enchantment* (1975), a work that he respects highly.

Winifred Morgan at Edgewood College shares her thoughts about a new edition of the 1912 classic THE PROMISED LAND: The Autobiography of a Russian Immigrant. 2nd ed. By Mary Antin. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 1969; rpt. 1985, \$35.00 hardbound, \$12.50 paper. Broken roughly into two parts, Antin's autobiography contrasts constrained life in her native Russia with the physical, emotional and intellectual freedom of the United States. However, Antin delineates the confinement of Jewish life within the Russian Pale with so much dramatic detail that her vivid descriptions and close analyses of existence there have more vitality than the fairytale constrast she sets up in the second half of the book. In fact, her Americans are so stereotypical that one questions the depth of her experiences. Claude Brown's Manchild in the Promised Land thus might provide a particularly instructive comparison with Antin's Promised Land. Where Brown's parents accepted the North and Harlem as a realization of their prayers, Brown and his generation found only a new kind of desert. Antin's autobiography, on the other hand, argues that America does deliver on its mythic promise. In part as a reminder of that promise, Antin's autobiography deserves continued reading.

A recent contributor perused AT HOME ON THE RANGE: Essays on the History of Western Social and Domestic Life. Edited by John R. Wunder. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1985, \$29.95. Angel Kwolek-Folland says this collection of essays argues that adaptation of the familiar to new surroundings was the formative element of western society. It thus takes issue with the Turnerian notion that the frontier experience caused the creation of totally new social and domestic forms. The essays cover the period from the late nineteenth century to World War II, and suggest that "frontiers" must be evaluated on their own terms, and within the context of the historical culture which settles them. The studies include the frontier experience of distinctly different areas and peoples: the domestic life of Native Americans, the early Mexican settlement of Texas, the social roles of white middle-class women, the debate between "horse lovers and tractor boosters," the positive reactions of women to the western landscape and the pioneer as a consumer of mass-produced material goods and technology. The quality of writing and method varies somewhat from essay to essay.

Here's what Dixon Thompson of the University of Calgary says about CULTURAL ADAPTATION TO MOUNTAIN ENVIRONMENTS. Edited by P. D. Beaver and B. L. Parrington. Southern Anthropological Proceedings No. 17. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1984,

\$16.00 cloth, \$7.50 paper. These proceedings show that throughout the world, mountain environments tend to be relatively less habitable and less politically influential because of lower biological productivity, limited arable or useable land, communication and transportation problems and the fact that they are on the economic and political periphery. Three strong advocacy and analytical-predictive pieces (an overview and cases in the Central Andes and Appalachia) outline possible biophysical, cultural or economic changes in mountain environments which deserve attention. The other nine interesting pieces are historical/descriptive, with a focus on Appalachia.

Of the published works dealing with rephotographic surveys, William C. Johnson reports that SECOND VIEW: The Rephotographic Survey Project. By M. Klett, et al. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1984, \$65.00, is without a doubt one of the best for providing the reader with both examples and an overall perspective of the procedure's utility. The authors have returned to and rephotographed over 120 scenes in the western United State originally photographed during the late nineteenth century. As evidenced by a recent bibliography, there has been a proliferation in recent years of works reporting on the results of repeat photography. Klett and his associates are certainly talented photographers who acquired the specific expertise required in the undertaking of a rephotographic survey; they did well in seeking advice and assistance from individuals, such as H. E. Malde, for this task. Repeat photography may be conducted for a number of reasons: geologic, geomorphic, botanical, cultural and aesthetic evaluations. This volume, however, is concerned "with the mechanical and conceptual aspects of the process rather than the interpretation of individual re-photographic pairs'' (2). Nonetheless, their work is more than that: the essays by P. Berger and others make it far more than a series of paired photographs.

"An impeccably researched, precisely argued study of pioneer land attitudes and land tenure, agricultural initiatives, building patterns and family structure," is what our own John Stilgoe has to say about GRASSLAND, FOREST, AND HISTORICAL SETTLEMENT: An Analysis of Dynamics in Northeast Missouri. By Michael J. O'Brien, et al. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1984, \$25.00. He continues: using methods and conceptual frameworks from geography, anthropology, sociology and other disciplines-and exceptionally clear drawings, maps and tables—the seven authors present an incredibly detailed picture of northeastern Missouri from 1819 to the antebellum years. From their research evolves a theory of frontier settlement as an incredibly dynamic process, one revealed not only in rapid changes in land use and crop production, but in increasingly intricate patterns of land-based wealth. As an attempt to decipher the forces that shaped the artifacts catalogued during the building of a vast reservoir in the Salt River valley, the book succeeds admirably, offering a model not only for further research in "frontier history," but for interpretation of the built environment.

James Shortridge reports favorably on two specialized but useful geographical works: BIBLI-OGRAPHY OF GEOGRAPHY; Part II: Regional; Volume 1. The United States of America. By Chauncy D. Harris. Chicago: University of Chicago, 1984, \$8.00. Harris is the foremost authority on geographical bibliography. In addition to his previous works on general sources in the social sciences, geography and on international serials in geography, he begins a series of regional volumes with this United States study. I find the book useful. Harris limits himself to bibliographies, reference works and sources of data, but still has 144 pages of entries. There are four sections: general aids, physical/ environmental studies, economic/cultural studies and studies of American subregions. Annotations are included to help one assess the relative value of sources, although the notes tend to be more mechanical than evaluative. A special feature is the first inventory of the numerous relevant bibliographies distributed by the National Technical Information Service. This book is thorough within its limits, comprehensive enough to be useful even to experienced geographers. Its greatest value, though, may be as a guide to the geographer's perspective for other scholars interested in American studies.

KENTUCKY PLACE NAMES. By Robert M. Rennick. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1984, \$30.00. Place name literature tends to be either sentimental or tedious, but Shortridge says this Kentucky book avoids both pitfalls. It is solid and scholarly, yet very readable. The 2000 entries include all county and county seat names plus those of other large or historically important places and a sampling of smaller communities. An alphabetical arrangement allows easy reference and avoids the problem uncertain knowledge creates for typologies based on name origin. Rennick is aware of the wideranging scholarly utility of place names and provides meticulous documentation plus such unusual and useful features as local pronunciations and, when known, dates of the name's establishment. He is justifiably proud of his research, but frustrated at the lack of funds to do a comprehensive survey of the estimated 100,000 named features in his state. The book was published, in part, to stimulate interest in the larger project and to provide a methodology for future surveyors. It is an admirable model.

Ernst Stadler informs us that the International Language Village Program sponsored a series of conferences on the German immigration to America, with special emphasis on the Germans in Minnesota. The papers—both popular and scholarly—have been published under the title A HERITAGE FULFILLED: German-Americans. Edited by Clarence A. Glasrud. Moorhead, Minnesota: Concordia College, 1984, \$6.00. The conferences and publications, of which this is the last in the series, should go a long way in stimulating research and interest in this previously neglected subject.

J. Bunker Clark reports that R. Gerald Alvey's

DULCIMER MAKER: The Craft of Homer Ledford. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1984, \$18.00, would be of interest only to Appalachian dulcimer enthusiasts, with one exception: Part 3, "The Ledford Dulcimer in Context," consists of a fascinating essay on folk, popular and elite culture and how they interrelate. Of more interest is MUSICAL THEATRE IN AMERICA: Papers and Proceedings of the Conference on the Musical Theatre in America. Edited by Glenn Loney. Contributions in Drama and Theatre Studies, No. 8. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1984, \$39.95. This emanates from the joint conference by the American Society for Theatre Research, the Sonneck Society and the Theatre Library Association at Greenvale, Long Island, which Clark attended in April 1981. A must for anyone concerned with American drama or music, the subjects include colonial theater, minstrel shows, black musicals, revues, Kurt Weill and dance. Especially valuable and poignant, as the author has since died, is the keynote address, "The Condition of the American Musical Today," by Lehman Engel.

Dick Wright, he of the golden tenor and the lethal saxophone, checks in with reference news from The Jazz Scene. POPULAR MUSIC. Volume 7, 1970-1974/Volume 8, 1975-1979: Annotated Indexes of American Popular Songs. Edited by Bruce Pollack. Detroit, Michigan: Gale Research Company, \$50.00 per volume. It provides invaluable reference resources for anyone teaching a course which uses American popular music. Popular Music is also extremely valuable for the study and history of the popular song form. These two volumes contain information on the past decade in a year-by-year listing complete with a title index for each volume, a lyricists and composers index, plus a list of publisher names and addresses for each song. Included are significant popular songs from the areas of radio, movies, television, theatre and various other sources. The entry for each song gives full title and alternate title(s), if any; author(s) and composer(s); current publisher; country of origin (if foreign); title of musical, film or other production in which the song was introduced; performers who introduced or became identified with the song; the first or best selling recordings of each; other relevant data.

Raymond G. O'Connor, who served on submarines in World War II, looked at two books for us. PIGBOAT 39: An American Sub Goes to War. By Bobette Gugliotta. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1984, \$19.50. Life on board a small United States Navy submarine, the crew's families and social activities ashore are accurately portrayed in this lively journalistic account by the wife of one of the officers. Covering the period 1939 to 1942, when the vessel was scuttled on a reef in the Southwest Pacific, it faithfully recreates the atmosphere of peacetime and wartime experiences on the Asiatic Station. THE MILITARY, MILITARISM, AND THE POLITY: Essays in Honor of Morris Janowitz. Edited by Michel Louis Martin and Ellen Stern McCrate. New York: The Free Press, 1984, \$29.95. This collec-

tion in tribute to "the sociologist of the military" contains essays under the headings "Theoretical Perspectives," "Historical Perspectives" and "American and World Contemporary Perspectives." Contributors from many nations describe and analyze various dimensions of the military as an institution and its impact on society. These papers are scholarly, well documented and provocative.

Joe Gray Taylor sipped thoughtfully on THE SOCIAL HISTORY OF BOURBON: An Unhurried Account of Our Star-Spangled American Drink. By Gerald Carson. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1984, \$22.00, and reports it is a reprint of a highly readable account (1963) of the origins and uses of bourbon whiskey until the onset of prohibition, with

a final chapter which attempts, rather hastily, to bring the account up to the present. This is a popular book, but a sprightly style does not detract from its historical value. The author does not hesitate to pass on interesting anecdotes and legends if they are worth it, but always distinguishes between fact and fiction, between the probable and the improbable. The chapter called "The Great Whiskey Steal" is the best account this reviewer has read of the "Whiskey Ring" scandal of the Grant administration; chapters on "Whiskey Fun and Folklore" and "The Swinging Door" describing the pre-prohibition saloon are especially good. Incidentally, this reviewer discovered that despite a long and reasonably intimate acquaintance, he had never known before exactly what bourbon was.

## american studies column

(continued from p. 4)

AMERICAN CULTURE BETWEEN the Civil War and World War I is cultivated in a special issue of REPRESENTATIONS (Winter, 1985). The articles explore Civil War photographs, Thomas Eakins, gold and money, Edith Wharton and D. W. Griffith's *The Birth of a Nation*. Copies can be ordered from the University of California Press, 2120 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, CA 94720.

COUSIN SEASA is our relation in the Southeast. Formally the Southeastern American Studies Association, it includes North and South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Florida. A sample of abridged papers from their biennial conference at Chapel Hill last March has been published as RITUAL IN THE UNITED STATES. ACTS AND REPRESENTATIONS. The sampler affirms the health of American Studies in the region. A five dollar bill to American Studies Press, Inc., 13511 Palmwood Lane, Tampa, FL 33624 will buy the RITUAL.

MUCH FURTHER EASTWARD, around the globe in Nankang, Taipei is the Institute of American Culture, Academia Sinica, in the Republic of China. Published quarterly and founded in 1971, American Studies includes social science as well as literary and history studies. Recent issues include studies of Melville, Hawthorne, Faulkner and Ferlinghetti; U.S.-People's Republic of China relations; immigrant adaptation; supply-side economics and aging and social participation. Articles appear in either English or Chinese, with an abstract in the other language. The journal is an indication of a thriving interest in American Studies in Taipei.

THE LIFE OF A POET will be explored in the

special issue of American Poetry devoted to Robinson Jeffers, in 1987, the centennial of his birth. Critical essays, notes and documents of 25 pages or less should be sent to Tim Hunt, 22927 SE 287th, Kent, WA 98042 and Jeffers Issue, American Poetry, English Department, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131, no later than November 1, 1986. Professor Hugh Witemeyer is the Special Issues Editor.

GOOD SCHOLARSHIP WITH GENEROUS AID are the hallmarks of the Newberry Library in Chicago. With strong collections in American exploration, the American Indian, the West, family and social history and the literature of the Midwest, especially the Chicago Renaissance and active research centers that bring together groups of scholars, the Newberry is a welcome home for long-term and short-term projects. Dozens of residential scholarships are available in a variety or programs. For specific information write the Newberry Library, 60 West Walton Street, Chicago, IL 60610.

HISTORY OF TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE is the aim of a graduate program at Ames. With strong interdisciplinary and American components, the program emphasizes history of technology and agricultural sciences and technologies, but the history of the natural and social sciences may be studied as well. For further information write Professor Robert E. Schofield, Director, Program in History of Technology and Science, Department of History, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011.

EXTRA. READ ALL ABOUT IT in the American Native Press newsletter published by the American Indian and Alaska Native Periodicals