

MASA BULLETIN

● In terms of number of manuscripts received--indeed, in terms of good manuscripts received--the Journal is in fine shape. But there are two kinds of article we want and don't get. First, one which follows this general formula: "Here is some recent work which I have been doing. I think such-and-such about so-and-so. I think I'm right because of this-and-that. And this is important for the entire field because we are beginning to see X, not Y. Recent work in this and related subjects has been going in that direction; it is typified by A's book on B and C's fine study of D. For people not in the field, the importance of all this is that. It is related in the following ways to work going on in other disciplines." In short, your editor conceives of the Journal as a place where people in the various areas of American Studies can brief themselves on the direction of thought in the many fields in which they cannot personally read everything published. How many of us in English departments are still repeating historical generalizations which the good historians outgrew twenty years ago? And vice-versa? And how many of us know what historians of American science now think about the old cliches about the strengths and weaknesses of American research? Issues of this sort are what men in the different disciplines talk about among themselves; they are what make them feel their own work significant. Too seldom do they realize that these issues are precisely that portion of their work which should be communicated to "the outside world." We invite articles of a brave and generalizing sort.

Second: we have run several articles under the general heading, "New Resources for American Studies." The first, for example, dealt with the impressive collections and facilities of the Truman Library. We want more.

- ASA is after the names of scholars, students and friends abroad who would appreciate free books--ten chosen from a list of fifty. The ASA office at the University of Pennsylvania has forms. I saw several of these packets in the homes of appropriate people in Argentina; the selections are good and the recipients grateful.
- A Max Weber Centennial Commission is at work planning an April, 1964 symposium in Kansas City. Weberians and others, regardless of academic discipline, interested in participating are invited to contact its headquarters, 716 Railway Exchange Building, 706 Grand Avenue, K.C., Missouri. Wayne Wheeler and Jerzy Hauptmann serve as co-chairmen.

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- Here's bad news: with the editor safely out of the country, the Editorial Board held a sneak meeting (under cover of night, no doubt) at which the treasurer (perhaps with the aid of spirituous beverages) conned its members into raising prices. A low blow, no? Here are the new rates: As of now, back issues cost \$1.00 per copy. As of January 1, 1964, the price will be \$1.50. Moral: if you want a complete file, act fast. Worse: While Volume IV (1963) will still cost only \$1.50, Volume V (1964) will set you back \$2.50.

- A number of the libraries connected with the various bi-national cultural exchange centers in foreign cities already subscribe to the Journal. My own experience in six cities in Argentina suggests that those which do not would like to; they simply do not know the magazine. If you know men connected with these institutions, we would appreciate your suggesting the Journal to them; we will help by sending literature. These libraries are lively and useful places, and they are heavily used; it would be nice to be in more of them.

- The program of the annual meeting at the University Center of the University of Kansas City, Saturday, April 6, 1963:
 - 9:30 a.m. "Old Harp Singin'. A Southern Mountain Tradition" (Demonstration Lecture): Jack Ralston, University of Kansas City
 - Commentators: Ernest Manheim, University of Kansas City
 - Gordon Stevenson, Kansas City Public Library
 - 10:45 a.m. "Religion and Politics in Mid-America: Presidential Voting in Missouri, 1928 and 1960": Richard A. Watson, University of Missouri
 - Commentators: Howard Neighbor, Park College
 - Robert Branyan, University of Kansas City
 - 12:15 p.m. Lunch. Presidential Address: Richard L. Herrnstadt, Iowa State University
 - 2:00 p.m. "Using Carnegie Slides in Depicting American Culture" (With special attention to the impact of Industrialization): William H. Pierson, Jr., Williams College
 - Commentators: W. Howard Adams, Governor's Council on Fine Arts for Missouri
 - George Ehrlich, University of Kansas City
 - 3:15 p.m. visits to Nelson-Atkins Art Gallery, Linda Hall Library of Science and Technology and the card catalogue of the Snyder American Collection of the University of Kansas City General Library