

masa bulletin

BUSY BUSY BUSY is how they keep MASA officers these days, and so your faithful editor for the second straight year came away from the annual spring meetings somewhat frustrated at not having been able to get to more papers. Those he heard he thought were splendid; undoubtedly some will turn up in revised form in future issues of *American Studies*. Good papers, good company, a well organized program, good restaurants to try—K.C. is a good town for eating—and a presidential address at the end so good it made one forget the loathsome hotel banquet meal. ("What do you want for eight dollars—a rare hot roast beef sandwich?")

At any rate, Forrest Berghorn, Linna Place, and William Jones are to be commended—indeed, they *were* commended. The program follows:

FRIDAY, APRIL 1

GENERAL SESSION: APPROACHES TO AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT, Forrest J. Berghorn, University of Kansas, Chairperson.

"Oral History," Thomas J. Lewin, University of Kansas.

"American Society Through the Arts," William C. Jones, University of Missouri, Kansas City.

"Material Culture," Arthur C. Townsend, University of Kansas.

"Social History," Mark H. Rose, University of Kansas.

ORAL HISTORY: AN APPROACH TO CULTURE, Thomas J. Lewin, University of Kansas, Chairperson.

"Written Documents as Oral History: An Example From the Vatican," Robert Garfield, De Paul University, Chicago.

"A Methodology for Assessing the Reliability of the W.P.A. Slave Narrative Collection," Rodrick A. McDonald, University of Kansas.

"Thomas Hardy in the Ozarks: The Fiddle and the Oral Tradition in Arkansas and Missouri," Douglas C. Wixson, University of Missouri-Rolla.

"The Big Thompson Disaster," David McComb, Colorado State University.

ORAL HISTORY: NON-ELITE PERSPECTIVES, Norman R. Yetman, University of Kansas, Chairperson.

"Listening to Indians," Samuel I. Myers, St. Louis Community College.

"The Black Cowboy, Oral History, and The Cattleman," James F. Hoy, Emporia State College, Kansas.

"The Rites of Passage: From Steerage to Dago Hill," Gary Mormino, Millikin University, Decatur, Illinois.

MATERIAL CULTURE: THE ROLE OF HISTORICAL MUSEUMS IN CONTEMPORARY AMERICA

"The Role of Historical Society," Arthur C. Townsend, University of Kansas, Moderator.

"The University and the Museum," Bernard Mergen, George Washington University.

"The National Museum and Higher Education," Wilcomb Washburn, Smithsonian Institution.

MATERIAL CULTURE: TRADITIONAL SURVIVALS IN THE MODERN WORLD, Steven Friesen, Kauffman Museum, Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas, Chairperson.

"The Advice of Folk Tradition," Howard Wight Marshall, Connor Prairie Pioneer Settlement, Nobelsville, Indiana.

"The Persistence of Traditional Craft Technique in Modern America," Linna Funk Place, University of Kansas.

"Literary Application of Foodways Ethnography: The Cather Example," Roger Welsch, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

SATURDAY, APRIL 2

SPECIAL SESSION (Breakfast Buffet): TEACHING AMERICAN STUDIES, Eric Sandeen, University of Iowa, Moderator.

"Teaching American Decades and Seminars in High Schools," Brooke

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Workman, West High School, Iowa City.

"American Studies and the Social Sciences in the High School Curriculum," Carl Zell, Shawnee Mission N.W., Kansas.

"American Studies in the Junior College," Ernest Grundy, Kearney State College, Nebraska.

"Evaluating American Studies Programs," Richard Hernstadt, Iowa State University.

"Introductory American Studies Courses in Four Year Colleges and Universities," Susan McQuin, University of Iowa, Frances Kaye, University of Iowa, Robert Kent, University of Kansas.

SOCIAL HISTORY: THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT I, Mark H. Rose, University of Kansas, Chairperson.

"Towns and Downtowns in Early America," Ruth E. Sutter, Diablo Valley College, Pleasant Hill, California.

"The Alley Community: Washington, D.C., 1850-1950," James A. Borchert, University of California-Santa Cruz.

SOCIAL HISTORY: THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT II, Mark H. Rose, Chairperson.

"Public and Private Places in 19th and 20th Century Cities," Perry R. Duis, Chicago Historical Society.

"Urban Imagery in Historical Perspective," Allen J. Share, University of Louisville.

"The Shape of Things That Are: Who Planned Chicago?," Glen E. Holt, Chicago Historical Society.

SOCIAL HISTORY: FAMILY IN AMERICA, David D. Van Tassel, Case Western Reserve University, Chairperson.

"The Family in Black American Temperance Novels," Roger Whitlow, Eastern Illinois University.

"Jennie Gerhart: The Novel as Mirror of and Window to Family History," James Kaufmann, University of Iowa.

"Families Moving Westward," Paul T. Bryant, Colorado State University.

PRE-WORLD WAR I AMERICA THROUGH THE ARTS, William C. Jones, Chairperson.

"The Politician in the 19th Century Novel: The Making of a New Folk Hero," Jean O. Johnson, George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia.

"The Fiction of Female Culture and Women's Place: Louisa May Alcott's Little Women," Janet Sharistianian, University of Kansas.

"Role Conflict in Scout Novels," Jay Mechling, University of California-Davis.

MODERN AMERICA THROUGH THE ARTS, Stuart Levine, University of Kansas, Chairperson.

"Abraham Cahan's Rise of David Levinsky and the Breakdown of Ethnic Community," Jules Zanger, Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville.

"Freedom and Retribution: John O'Hara's Use of Alcohol," Charles Bassett, Colby College.

"A Dance Upon the Ice of a Frozen Pond: Setting and Theme in the Films of Robert Allman," Leonard J. Leff, Bellevue College.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

"American Studies: Escape from the Ivory Tower?," Max J. Skidmore, President of the MASA.

LYDIA MARIA CHILD, "advocate of women's rights, author of fiction and books on household management, defender of the Indians, and an active anti-slavery worker and newspaper editor" is the subject of a microfilm edition, the editors of which solicit help in locating relevant correspondence. Write Milton Meltzer and Patricia Barber, New Africa House, 303, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts 01003.

FOREST HISTORY: The society which studies same is giving away more prizes: Five hundred bucks to the author of the best book this year, plus the Blegen and Weyerhaeuser Awards of \$150 each for the best articles.

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA in October doesn't sound too bad. It's where the Popular Culture Association in the South holds its sixth annual meeting, October 6-8. Contact Thomas C. Hood, Sociology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee 37916.

A BARRAGE OF FLAK from Boston University's News Bureau contains several items of real interest for American Studies, to wit: B.U. has a new and extensive collection of Theodore Roosevelt papers; information is available from Howard Gotlieb, Mugar Memorial Li-

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brary, B.U., Boston 02215. The material culture-oriented American and New England Studies Program at B.U. has a new director, John Kirk, the fellow who's done the books on American furniture and furniture collecting. B.U. is offering this semester a new course in the analysis of historic buildings; it sounds lively.

FULBRIGHT-HAYS AWARDS are still available in surprising quantities, and the opportunities for people in American Studies are better than the opportunities in most fields. Announcements frequently cross our editorial desk. For a briefing on what current opportunities are like, write the Council for International Exchange of Scholars, 11 DuPont Circle, Washington, D.C. 20036.

TAPES, VIDEO-TAPES, MANUSCRIPTS and artifacts are all included in what sounds like an extraordinary collection documenting the history of the Jewish farm community at Farmingdale, New Jersey. A brochure on the collection is available from the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, 1048 5th Avenue, New York, New York 10028.

TWO WAY EXCHANGES of ideas and materials for the study of communal societies in general and the kibbutz in particular: that is the idea of the Tabenkin Institute for kibbutz studies, which asks our help in contacting "interested parties throughout the world." The contact people are Fred Eytan or Machon

Tabenkin, P.O. Box 16040, Tel Aviv 52955, Israel.

THANKS LIST: One is supposed to feel honored when one is asked by a scholarly journal to referee a submitted paper. Honor and the *nachas* which come from contributing to mankind's store of knowledge are about all it amounts to, though, since one generally forgets to list such service on one's Faculty Annual Report and one's *vita*. So *American Studies* runs lists of folks who helped in the last six months or so: Michael Butler, University of Kansas; Anna Cienciala, University of Kansas; Warren French, I.U.-P.U. at Indianapolis; Lewis Fried, Kent State University; Russell W. Getter, University of Kansas; Michael L. Gillespie, University of Nebraska at Omaha; Roy Gridley, University of Kansas; Clifford Griffin, University of Kansas; Francis Heller, University of Kansas; Bernard Hirsch, University of Kansas; Tom Lewin, University of Kansas; Howard Marshall, American Folklife Center/Library of Congress; Regina Morantz, University of Kansas; William Nichols, Denison University; Alma Payne, Bowling Green State University; Stow Persons, University of Iowa; Andrejs Plakans, Iowa State University; Linda Pratt, University of Nebraska at Omaha; Edward Ruhe, University of Kansas; Lillian Schlissel, Brooklyn College-C.U.N.Y.; Robert Smith, University of Kansas; Jerry Stannard, University of Kansas; Dickran Tashjian, University of California, Irvine; Charles Warriner, University of Kansas.