

masa bulletin

SCOPE OF THE VENTURE as of April, 1975:

1.) Since we began counting last spring, the journal has received 241 submitted articles. Of these, it has accepted sixteen, all but one after one or more extensive revisions by the author.

We continue to make it a policy to provide contributors with detailed critical comments, even in cases in which we are not able to use their articles.

2.) In the past year, we have accepted articles by authors who list their affiliations with the following universities: the University of Arizona, California State University at Hayward, the University of California at Los Angeles, San Diego State University, Yale University, Florida Atlantic University, Florida State University, Bradley University, the University of Chicago, the University of Maryland, Michigan State University, the City University of New York, the University of Pennsylvania and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

3.) Our reviews this year have been written by reviewers at the University of Alabama, El Camino College, the University of Miami, Indiana University at Indianapolis, Iowa State University, the University of Northern Iowa, the University of Kansas, the University of Maryland, the University of Missouri at Columbia, the University of Missouri at Kansas City, Southwest Missouri State University, Washington University, the University of Nebraska, Sarah Lawrence College, Duke University, the University of Akron, the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University and the University of Texas at Arlington.

4.) In addition to the regular members of our editorial board, we have used consultants at Tuskegee Institute, the Hagley Museum, the Smithsonian Institution, Florida Atlantic University, the University of Chicago, the University of Illinois, Eastern Illinois University, Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, the Latin School of Chicago, Indiana Univer-

sity at Indianapolis, the University of Iowa, Iowa State University, the University of Northern Iowa, the University of Kansas, the University of Maryland, Gustavus Adolphus College, the University of Nebraska, the University of Akron, the University of Pennsylvania, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Brown University and the University of Washington.

5.) We have subscribers in all fifty states, and in the following foreign countries: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, the People's Republic of China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, the German Democratic Republic, Guatemala, Honduras, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Korea, Lebanon, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Mozambique, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Rhodesia, Rumania, El Salvador, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Turkey, the Union of South Africa, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom, Uruguay, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

ANNUAL THANKS AND WELCOME go, respectively, to Roy C. Male of the University of Oklahoma and Theodore R. Hovet of Northern Iowa University, the first, on the completion of four years of faithful unpaid labor; the latter on the occasion of his joining our editorial board. The editorial and executive boards of MASA invited Max Skidmore of the Political Science Department at Southwest Missouri State University to serve another four year term on our staff.

SON OF SHAO-HSING CHIU: These oriental intelligences are of interest to certain MASA regulars; we offer them here because one must cherish traditions. They constitute a translation, somewhat literal, of certain timeless assertions

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—"But they say pretty much the same thing on anything you buy," protests the translator—put forward beyond the scope of Truth-in-Packaging.

Glutinous rice lagered [e.g., aged for a long time]
Shao-Hsing wine's
mash thereby is ferment-formed—
the method [of its manufacture
is] venerable
preserved for ages—
its pure flavor fragrant—
a prince among wines—
drinking it comforts and cheers,
prolongs life, placidity and health.

Shao-Hsing in modern Chekiang
province

It won't do to be too skeptical! The Adprose is scarcely more rhapsodic on the topic than was the great scholar Hung Liang-Chi (1746-1809) of the Ch'ing dynasty (quoted in *The Great Sino-Japanese Dictionary [Dai Kanwa Jiten] of Morohashi Tetsuji* 27361:25) who proclaimed it, "... the highest form of Chinese wine," "... the best of Chinese wine," and averred that it "was already famous in the Liang dynasty" [about the sixth century].

SOCIAL SCIENCE HISTORY: A new Social Science History Association plans conferences, "special interest networks, data resource and curriculum development and related action." Information from Jerome M. Clubb, Center for Political Studies, University of Michigan, P.O. Box 1248, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106. Robert Swierenga, Department of History, Kent State University (Kent, Ohio 44240), editor of the association journal, is ready to receive submissions.

ROMANTICISM AND THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION is the title of a special Fall, 1976 issue of *Studies in Romanticism*. Essays by interdisciplinarians solicited. Deadline: May 1, 1976; details from Morton Paley or Charles Stone, III at Boston University, zip 02215. Speed counts.

WESTERN ILLINOIS University and *Essays in Literature* solicit papers, 2,000-8,000 words long, on Lindsay, Masters and Sandburg, for a Bicentennial book. John E. Hallwas is editor; WIU is in Macomb, Illinois, zip 61455. Write for details. Deadline is December 1, 1975.

A LETTER we sent recently in response to a question from a contributor is perhaps some general interest to prospective

contributors. A long excerpt from it follows:

You write, "perhaps they [the commentators] mean to say my discussion is not socially or culturally important? It's hard to believe that a serious student of art history could believe that in all good faith." The confusion, I think, centers in the word "culture." American Studies people tend to use it in the "small c" sense in which anthropologists use it, as opposed to the "capital C" kind of culture which means, essentially, the arts, philosophy and so forth. Now *American Studies* automatically rejects articles, no matter how good, which address themselves only to problems in the history or criticism of high culture, not because we're not interested, or, for that matter, because we are not committed to the arts ourselves, but rather because we conceive of the history and criticism of such fields as being the province of journals in literature, art history, music and so forth. We deal with the high arts only when the discussion is focused on the relationship between Culture and culture. Thus we usually say "no" even to articles, for example, which relate literary movements to major trends in intellectual history, because we usually (I say "usually" because we're not completely consistent on this score) feel that intellectual history journals are the proper place for such pieces.

Since few art historians are trained in social or cultural history, they have a very hard time understanding what we want; it's a problem we've faced since the early days of our magazine. We are serious in saying that the most important movement or tendency in art history is of interest to us only to the extent to which the author can relate it to a larger body of theory about the structure of American society or the nature of American culture. That's our real subject, and we welcome approaches to it from all angles, from sociological nose-counting to the analysis of literary texts.

It is accurate to say that we have a strong bias in favor of articles which reach social or cultural conclusions through examination of such arts as painting, music, architecture, cinema or other arts. We receive a good number in literature, but too few in the rest.

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OKLAHOMA STATE has a new interdisciplinary Ph.D. program, run out of the English department. Students earn a doctorate in English built upon "three examination areas from English and American literature and two from one or two other disciplines." An interdisciplinary dissertation is possible, too.

NEW *AQ* SERVICE: Leila Zenderland writes to tell us that *American Quarterly* will begin to list book length American Studies research-in-progress each August.

UNPAID, UNSUNG: Editorial board members are unpaid, but at least named on page one. Those non-members who helped by reading articles for *American Studies* in the past months should at least be acknowledged gratefully. They are Bruce Adams, Tuskegee Institute; James C. Austin, Southern Illinois University—Edwardsville; Hennig Cohen, University of Pennsylvania; George Ehrlich, University of Missouri—Kansas City; Norris Hetherington, University of Kansas; Warren A. Jennings, Southwest Missouri State University; David Katzman, University of Kansas; Sidney Kronus, University of Illinois—Urbana; Regina Morantz, University of Iowa; Harold Orel, University of Kansas; Calder Pickett, University of Kansas; Stitt Robinson, University of Kansas; Kenneth M. Roemer, University of Texas—Arlington; Beth Schultz, University of Kansas; Leonard J. Simutis, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; Haskell Springer, University of Kansas; Susan Suchman, University of Iowa; Frank Tirro, University of Kansas and Lynne E. Withey, University of Iowa.

TESTIMONIAL FROM A SATISFIED USER: "I have never enjoyed myself more among a gathering of academics, in ten years of graduate work and teaching, than I did with MASA. The lack of pretensions among the people and the diversity and importance of the papers made it a memorable experience for me. Somehow, by hook or crook, I am going to try to get to Missouri next year."

And here is the program for that conference:

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 1975
2:30-3:45

SOCIAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE IN THE
MIDWESTERN SMALL TOWN

"Junction City, 1890-1915." *A motion picture and discussion.*

Roy E. Gridley, University of Kansas

4:00-5:00

ASPECTS OF COWBOY CULTURE

Moderator: Theodore Agnew, Oklahoma State University

"Cultural Influences on the Lexicon of the American Cowboy"

James S. Hedges, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

"Sport on the Great Plains in the Nineteenth Century: The Origins of Rodeo"

James F. Hoy, Emporia State College

POLITICAL ATTITUDES ON THE PLAINS

Moderator: Max J. Skidmore, Southwest Missouri State University

"Midwestern Populists and Edward Bellamy: 'Looking Backward' into the Future"

Christine McHugh, Roosevelt University

"The Irish National League in Lincoln, Nebraska: Late Nineteenth Century Radical Chic"

Thomas A. Kuhlman, Creighton University

FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1975

9:00-10:15

NEW APPROACHES TO FRONTIER STUDIES

Moderator: Hamilton Cravens, Iowa State University

"Expeditionary-Sedentary Frontiers: A Proposal for Comparative Frontier Studies"

Jerome O. Steffen, University of Oklahoma

"Settlement on the Canadian Prairies: Towards a More Realistic Township Model"

John L. Tyman, Brandon University

"The Myth of the Pioneer Mother: Attitudes of Frontier Women Toward the Western Frontier Experience, 1850-1890"

Lillian Schlissel, Brooklyn College of C.U.N.Y. (Read *in absentia*.)

THE CONFLICT OF CULTURES

Moderator: Joseph R. Millichap, Tulsa University

"The Noble and Ignoble Savage: The Racist Rationale for the Westward Movement"

David C. Stineback, Union College

"Dakota Philosophy"

George W. Linden, Southern Illinois University—Edwardsville

"Paradoxical Attitudes Toward the Non-Anglo-Saxon in the Hamlin Garland Autobiographies"

James Robert Payne, New Mexico State University

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10:30-11:45

TEACHING THE PLAINS EXPERIENCE

Moderator: Nancy Walker, Stephens College

"Images of the Frontier Great Plains: A Focus for Interdisciplinary Teaching"
Carol G. Barrett, University of Wisconsin—River Falls; Nicolas J. Karolides, University of Wisconsin—River Falls; James T. King, University of Wisconsin—River Falls

"The Uses of Literary Landmarks: Hannibal and Red Cloud"

Donald C. Irving, Grinnell College

"Mari Sandoz and Her Sense of Place: The Use of Geography and Landscape in Presenting *Old Jules*"

CULTURAL ADAPTATION TO THE ENVIRONMENT

Moderator: Norman R. Yetman, University of Kansas

"The Social Cost of Minority Group Behavior in the Yonland"

Carl F. Kraenzel, University of Texas—El Paso

"Utopias Revisited: The Hutterites and the Old Order Amish in the Great Plains"

Dorothy Schwieder, Iowa State University; Elmer Schwieder, Iowa State University

"The Conservative Cultural Function of Great Plains Windmills"

Anne M. Marvin, Office of New York State History

1:00-2:15

SOCIAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE IN THE MIDWESTERN SMALL TOWN

"Junction City, 1890-1915." *A motion picture and discussion.* (Second showing.)

Roy E. Gridley, University of Kansas
Response: "Socio-Technological Change (1890-1915): Junction City and the Nation"

Forrest J. Berghorn, University of Kansas

LITERATURE AND A SENSE OF PLACE: HISTORY, MYTH AND IMAGE

Moderator: Sara Jane Gardner, Hastings College

"General Charles King and the Fictional Representation of Garrison Life on the Plains"

Kathryn D. Whitford, University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee

"The Use of Hugh Glass as Mythic Hero in Neihardt and Manfred"

Sally McClusky, Eastern Illinois University

"*Ceremony at Lone Tree and Badlands: The Starkweather Case and the Nebraska Sandhills*"

Ginny Brown Machann, University of Texas—Austin

2:30-5:30

WORKSHOP ON MUSEUMS AS INTERDISCIPLINARY EDUCATIONAL LABORATORIES

Moderator: Roger Welsch, University of Nebraska—Lincoln

Panelists: Jan Brunvand, University of Utah; Louis Gorr, Fairfax County, Va., Park Authority; Harold Holoun, Stuhr Museum; Paul Petrescu, Institute of Art History, Bucharest, Rumania; Linna Funk Place, National American Studies Faculty

2:30-3:45

LITERATURE AND A SENSE OF PLACE: THE CULTURAL CONTEXT

Moderator: Alexander Kern, University of Iowa

"Toward a Theory of Agrarian Literature: Garland, Cather and Rolvaag"
Gwen S. Argersinger, University of New Mexico

"New Virginia in Nebraska: The Cathers and Their Neighbors"

Paul D. Riley, Nebraska State Historical Society

"The Adaptation of Sources in Cather's *A Lost Lady*"

Lonnie Pierson, University of Nebraska—Lincoln

4:00-5:30

LITERATURE AND A SENSE OF PLACE: THREE POETS

Moderator: James C. Ballowe, Bradley University

Poetry Readings and Discussion: William C. Kloeffkorn, Nebraska Wesleyan University; Greg Kuzma, University of Nebraska—Lincoln; Don Welch, Kearney State College