

## american studies column

YOUR FAITHFUL BUT FAR-FLUNG editor reports from Asunción, Paraguay that he attended the organizational meeting of the Paraguayan American Studies Association, October 1, 1985 in the "Sala Multiuso" of the Centro Cultural Paraguayo Americano. Officers are Richard Carlisle, President; Ana F. Mannarini, Secretary. A March 1986 meeting was planned in a discussion which recapitulated the classic debates in American Studies. There will be several smaller activities between October and March. A run of *American Studies* is in place in the CCPA Library.

BUT THIS JOURNAL was already represented in Asunción when Yr. Faithful Editor arrived. Our special issue on the contemporary situation of Native American people (Fall, 1965, 6:2) and the two revised and expanded book-reprints of that issue contained an important explanation of the phenomenon of Pan-Indianism, written "from the inside" by an officer of the National Indian Youth Council, S. Hill Witt (Shirley Hill Witt, "Nationalistic Trends Among American Indians"). Hill is also, so far as anyone knows, the first Indian woman to hold an anthropology Ph.D. She is the U.S. Cultural Affairs Officer in Paraguay and Director of the CCPA (see previous item).

GRIER'S WHITMAN: The notebooks and unpublished prose manuscripts of Walt Whitman, edited by Edward F. Grier, are being published by New York University Press. Volumes 17 through 22 in the *Collected Writings of Walt Whitman*, edited by Gay Wilson Allen and Sculley Bradley, Grier's *Whitman* gathers together autobiographical notes, reminiscences and views on nearly everything American. The editorial work was truly a labor of love. Grier has been associated with *American Studies* from its inception and served as Chairman of the Editorial Board from 1959 to 1975.

CORRECTION/APOLOGY. The Editor apologizes for omitting the affiliation of a recent contributor. Isabelle White, author of "The Uses of Death in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*," (Spring,

1985), is a member of the English Department at Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond.

MAX SKIDMORE, A LONG-TIME associate of this journal, has recently written, with co-author Marshall Carter Tripp, the fourth edition of *AMERICAN GOVERNMENT. A BRIEF INTRODUCTION* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1985). As one would expect, it is well written and concise.

AFRO-AMERICAN RELIGIOUS HISTORY will be the topic of an NEH four week summer institute at Princeton University, June 22 to July 18, 1986. Directed by Professors Albert Raboteau (Princeton) and David Wills (Amherst), the institute provides generous stipends for faculty and participants. For further information write Professors Raboteau and Wills at Princeton University, Center for Visitor and Conference Sources, Prospect House, Princeton, NJ 08744. Deadline for application is March 1.

STONES AND STICKS are the interest of the Association for Gravestone Studies. Founded in 1977 to promote interest in gravestones, the association sponsors research, publications, an annual June conference, as well as a scholarly journal, *MARKERS*, and a newsletter. For membership write Rosalee F. Oakley, AGS Exec. Secretary, 46 Plymouth Road, Needham, MA 02192.

THE SECOND COMING OF OSIRIS is a welcome sight. Sponsored by the History of Science Society, OSIRIS is a companion volume to ISIS. It appeared for 1936 through 1968, and volume 1 of the second series appeared this year. The special volume, edited by Sally Gregory Kohlstedt and Margaret W. Rossiter, is devoted to essays on "Historical Writing on American Science." Subscriptions are available through the Department of History and Sociology of Science, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104.

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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.

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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 of 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

Project. The project publishes the informative newsletter, acts as a clearinghouse on Indian periodicals and publications and is preparing three chronological volumes to be published by Greenwood Press. Daniel F. Littlefield, Jr. and James W. Parins head the project. To get on their mailing list write *American Native Press*, 501 Stabler Hall, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, 33rd and University Avenue, Little Rock, AR 72204.

**TAKING HUMOR SERIOUSLY** though sometimes lightly is the goal of the WHIM Humor Conference to be held at Arizona State University, March 28-April 1, 1986. For information on paper proposals, future WHIM conferences and past WHIMSY PROCEEDINGS, write Maria Allison, T.A.A.S.P., Leisure Studies, A.S.U., Tempe, AZ 85287 or Don Nilsen, W.H.I.M., English Department, A.S.U.

**ON THE BOARDS** appears a new theatre journal focusing on contemporary drama: *Studies in American Drama, 1945- Present*. It will appear as an annual and publish scholarly articles as well as interviews and theatre documents. The editors are Professor Philip C. Kolin, Department of English, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS 39406 and Professor Colby H. Kullman, Department of English, University of Mississippi, University, MS 38677.

**SONNECK LIKES HAMM.** Charles Hamm of Dartmouth College has received the first Lowens Award for his book *Music in the New World* (New York: W. W. Norton, 1983). Cited as a major contribution to understanding American music, the work treats popular and ethnic music with the same respect and weight as concert music. The Sonneck Society will hold its annual meeting at the University of Colorado, Boulder, April 17-20, 1986.

**THE EVER POPULAR** Popular Culture Association in the South will hold its annual meeting in Chattanooga, Tennessee, October 2-4, 1986. Paper and session proposals should be sent by May 1, 1986 to Professor James S. Hedges, Department of English, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, NC 28223.

**A PRIZE ARTICLE** on eighteenth-century American culture will receive \$300 and the James L. Clifford Prize from the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. Self-nominations are accepted. Send a copy of the article by February 1, 1986 to ASECS, R. G. Peterson, Executive Secretary, St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN 55057.

**THREE DAYS IN HONG KONG**, June 25-28,

1986, will be devoted to an American Studies Conference on the American Constitution. One page proposals for papers, three copies, should be sent to Dr. J. Barton Starr, History Department, Hong Kong Baptist College, 224 Waterloo Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong, by January 15, 1986. Travel grants may be available, and the Conference is sponsored by the American Studies Association of Hong Kong.

**PRAY ATTEND THE** Symposia on Re-Visioning America: Religion and the Life of the Nation, January 30-February 1, 1986 in Indianapolis. Sponsored by Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis, the symposia features a public lecture by Professor Martin Marty. For further information, contact Anne Fraker, Project on Religion and the Life of the Nation, Cavanaugh Hall 530, 425 Agnes Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202.

**ONCE AGAIN HEARTY THANKS** go out to those not on our board who have served as editorial consultants. Thanks to: Leonard Arrington, Brigham Young University; David G. Bromley, Virginia Commonwealth University; Don Byrd, SUNY-Albany; Eric Carlson, University of Connecticut-Storrs; J. Bunker Clark, University of Kansas; Albert Cook, University of Kansas; George Ehrlich, University of Missouri-Kansas City; Joseph Feeney, S.J., St. Joseph's University; James K. Folsom, University of Colorado-Boulder; Lawrence Foster, Georgia Institute of Technology; Alan Gribben, University of Texas-Austin; John Hancock, University of Washington-Seattle; Robert Handy, Union Theological Seminary; Robin Higham, Kansas State University; Bernard Hirsch, University of Kansas; Grace Ann Hovet, University of Northern Iowa; Theodore Hovet, University of Northern Iowa; Walter Hugins, SUNY-Binghamton; Elizabeth Johns, The Wilson Center-Smithsonian Institution; Alexander Kern, University of Iowa; Don Kirschner, Simon Fraser University; Kenneth LaBudde, University of Missouri-Kansas City; Karal Ann Marling, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities; John J. McDermott, Texas A&M; A. Michal McMahon, NASA, Washington, D.C.; Robert Minor, University of Kansas; James G. Moseley, University of South Florida; William Norris, University of Cincinnati-Batavia; Joyce Peterson, Florida International University; Albert Raboteau, Princeton University; John M. Reilly, SUNY-Albany; Ann Schofield, University of Kansas; James R. Shortridge, University of Kansas; B. Z. Sobel, University of Haifa; William M. Tuttle, University of Kansas; James Woelfel, University of Kansas.