

YEARBOOK OF GERMAN-AMERICAN STUDIES

Volume 30

1995



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General Information

The Society for German-American Studies was founded for the purpose of encouraging and advancing the scholarly study of the history, language, literature, and culture of the German element in North America. This includes coverage of the immigrants and their descendants from Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and other German-speaking areas of Europe. Members of the Society include representatives from various academic disciplines and others who share a common interest in German-American studies.

The *Yearbook* is published annually. The editors welcome contributions in English or German on all aspects of German-Americana from members of the Society. The manuscript should be prepared so that it can be read anonymously by the members of the Editorial Board, with the author's name appearing on a separate sheet only. For submission, four copies of the manuscript prepared in accordance with the University of Chicago Press *Manual of Style* are requested. All manuscripts and correspondence concerning the *Yearbook* should be addressed to the Editors, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045-2127. Inquiries regarding book reviews for the *Yearbook* should be addressed to Jürgen Eichhoff, Max Kade German-American Research Institute, S-324 Burrowes Bldg., Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802. The *Newsletter* appears four times a year. Items for the *Newsletter* should be submitted to La Vern J. Rippley, Saint Olaf College, Northfield, MN 55057.

The SGAS annual membership dues, which include subscription to the *Yearbook* and the *Newsletter*, are \$20.00 for regular members. Membership applications to the Society for German-American Studies should be made to the Treasurer/Membership Chair of the Society, William Roba, Scott Community College, 500 Belmont Road, Bettendorf, IA 52722. The Society for German-American Studies is open to membership from individuals, societies, libraries, and organizations.

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## FROM THE EDITORS

In addition to contributions from SGAS members in the United States, this volume of the *Yearbook* also features research by colleagues in Canada, Finland and Israel, attesting the international interest in German-American studies.

The works of Charles Sealsfield continue to fascinate scholars. New facets of his depiction and understanding of American society are being discovered. Jerry Schuchalter exemplifies this in his linking of Sealsfield's views and the frontier thesis of Frederick Jackson Turner. Discoveries of another kind are depicted in Paul Schach's description of the expedition of Maximilian Prinz zu Wied along the Upper Missouri.

In a meticulous study of sources and historical circumstances, Gerhard Friesen takes us back to the period of the American Revolution to establish the authorship of letters by a Hessian officer. The lack of criteria for the critical evaluation of the dialect literature produced by the descendants of the Colonial Pennsylvania Germans is of concern to William Fetterman.

Two articles treat the legal entanglements of German-Americans during the two world wars. Arnon Gutfeld portrays the impeachment trial in Montana of a judge of German descent in 1918, while Charles Barber sheds light on the struggle of the North American Sängerbund to retain its tax-exempt status in 1944.

Two reports conclude this volume. Maynard Brichard discusses the influence of German archival practices in America. Reinhart Kondert presents a critical overview of the literature dealing with German immigration and settlement in Louisiana.

At the request of the Executive Committee of the Society, this volume of the *Yearbook* includes the full text of the current SGAS Bylaws for the information of our membership.

Finally, the editors welcome Jürgen Eichhoff, Director of the Max Kade German-American Research Institute at Pennsylvania State University, to the editorial staff of the *Yearbook*. He will take over the editorial responsibility for our book review section. The editors are indebted to Jerry Glenn, University of Cincinnati, who initiated the book

review section ten years ago and brought to that task a high degree of scholarship and professional skill. We have thoroughly enjoyed our close working relationship with Jerry and understand his desire to focus on other scholarly pursuits.

*Max Kade Center for German-American Studies*  
*at the University of Kansas*  
Lawrence, Kansas  
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