

COMMITTEE

<u>Chairman:</u> Frank Thistlethwaite (St. John's College, Cambridge)	(1959) ^{*†}
<u>Deputy Chairman:</u> H. G. Nicholas (New College, Oxford)	(1961)
<u>Acting Secretary</u> (August, 1957 - September, 1958): Professor Esmond Wright (Department of History, The University, Glasgow, W.2)	(1959)
<u>Treasurer:</u> Dr. Dennis Welland (Department of English, The University, Nottingham)	(1961)
Professor H. C. Allen (University College, London)	(1961)
Dr. William Brock (Selwyn College, Cambridge)	(1961)
Marcus Cunliffe - Secretary on leave (Department of American Studies, The University, Manchester, 13)	(1960)
Professor J. A. Hawgood (Birmingham University)	(1960)
G. H. Moore (Department of English, The University, Manchester, 13)	(1960)
R. H. Pear (London School of Economics)	(1959)
S. Gorley Putt (Commonwealth Fund, 35 Portman Square, London, W.1)	(1959)
<u>Editor of the "Bulletin":</u> George Shepperson (Department of History, The University, Edinburgh, 8)	(1960)

(^{*†} indicates year in which committee-members are required to vacate their places or offer themselves for re-election)

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Mr. Herbert Agar; Professor D. W. Brogan; Professor A. L. Goodhart;
Sir Hector Hetherington; Dame Lillian Penson; Mr. S. C. Roberts.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Literature and Politics. The complaint is sometimes heard that the British Association for American Studies is dominated by historians. But it has always been the object of the Bulletin to provide for all aspects of American studies in which members are interested. It is hoped that the space given to American literature and politics in this issue will show that the B.A.A.S. is something more than a supplement to the Historical Association.

Fourth Annual Conference. Members' attention is drawn to the enclosed form about the B.A.A.S. Conference which will be held at University College, Oxford, immediately after Easter 1959. This Conference will be the first of the large-scale conferences which the Association has held and early preparations are necessary for its success. With this in mind, the 1959 Conference Secretary, Professor H. C. Allen, University College, London, has drawn up this form. Members who are interested in taking part in this pioneer B.A.A.S. venture are asked to get in touch with Professor Allen by means of the enclosed form as soon as possible. Professor Allen would also like to hear from members of any persons whom they think may be interested in the Conference.

Newspaper Survey. One of the by-products of the Survey of Sources for American Studies in the United Kingdom is a list of American newspapers up to 1940 that are held by libraries in Great Britain and Ireland. This list, which has been compiled by Dr. Bernard Crick and Mrs. Anne Daltrop, is ninety

foolscap pages in length and should prove an invaluable research tool. It will be issued as a separate supplement to the Bulletin in the autumn and all B.A.A.S. members will receive a free copy. Dr. Crick will welcome any criticisms, corrections and suggestions from readers of this newspaper survey. These will be taken into consideration in any revised version of the newspaper survey which may be issued.

Canadian members. The Association now has one individual and two institutional Canadian members. Other B.A.A.S. members, such as Professor J. Wreford Watson, a distinguished geographer of Canada, are known to be interested in the "Dominion of the North". The Bulletin welcomes articles, comments and correspondence on the part which those members with primarily Canadian interests can play in the development of the Association.

The "American Studies" concept. At least two members have suggested that the Bulletin should conduct a symposium on this subject. The Editor would be interested to hear members' views on this. He would also be pleased to receive brief notices of American studies programmes in the United States and this country. An example is provided by the following notice which was received recently:- "The American Studies programme at Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia, is concentrating on regional differences in American culture, with special attention to the American South. The relationship between landscape, architecture and literature is being explored, with students compiling data on all eighteenth century houses in the Valley of Virginia. Marshall Fishwick, who is in charge of the programme is completing a volume on the cultural history of the 'Fifth Dominion', Virginia." A selection of such notices in the Bulletin, from time to time, would keep members informed of the latest developments in those quarters in which "American studies" is a more organic concept than it is at present in most British universities, colleges and schools.

Past "Bulletins". The Association has received a number of requests for past issues of the Bulletin. No copies of Numbers 1-4 are available and there is only a limited supply of Numbers 5-6. If sufficient requests are received, however, it may be possible to re-duplicate past issues or to provide microfilm copies.

An urgent request for Bulletins 1-4 has been received from Mrs. Anna Hackel who is now engaged in B.A.A.S. administrative work in connection with the Rockefeller awards. Any member who is able to supply Mrs. Hackel with any or all of these Bulletins is asked to get into touch with her at Skepper House, 13 Endsleigh Street, London, W.C.1.

James Branch Cabell. The death of this Virginian author last May makes Mr. Desmond Tarrant's article on him in this Bulletin very topical. Do members feel that Mr. Tarrant's evident enthusiasm for Cabell is a symptom that a Cabell revival is at hand? There is no doubt that very conflicting opinions on this are possible; and the Bulletin would be interested to hear them.

The Secretaryship. During the past academic year, while Mr. Marcus Cunliffe has been in the United States, Professor Esmond Wright has carried out the duties of B.A.A.S. secretary. Members of the Association will wish to record their appreciation of his services. Professor Wright has borne the burden of this office during his first year as holder of the Chair of Modern History at Glasgow University - a fact which should increase the Association's gratitude to him.

Members are asked to continue to send secretarial correspondence to Professor Wright until further notice. It is hoped that Mr. Marcus Cunliffe will be back in the autumn; but members will be notified of this later.

Next issue. The next issue of the Bulletin will feature British regional influences on America and will contain articles on the Cornish, Irish, Welsh and Scottish effects on the United States.