

For Members Only

i

LADY GODIVA. The sacrifices made by scholars' wives are well known to readers of these pages. Recently, however, we heard of one who suffered physical discomfort and mental distress above and beyond any call of marital duty. Let Curt F. Bühler tell the story: "For the past dozen years, she has read in *MS* practically everything I have written (except this) and I have constantly benefited by her good taste and sound critical judgment. . . . In March 1950 we were in Naples, and I considered it a moral obligation to inspect the remains of the Baths of Pozzuoli, which had for several years claimed much of the time I had available for research. So off we went to the 'Phlegraei Campi.' At 'La Solfatarà'—enveloped by its heavy sulphurous fumes—the custodian suddenly remarked that if we wore anything made of nylon, we had better take it off, since the fumes caused the material to disintegrate and disappear. It was then that my wife discovered that everything she had on, except for her shoes, was made of nylon." We halt the story here, not to draw the curtain, but to assure the anxious reader that the caretaker had exaggerated the potential effect of sulphur fumes on nylon. (Dr. Bühler is now an "authority" on this subject, having in his files a long letter from the Nylon Division of the Du Pont Co.) Nevertheless, we salute Mrs. Bühler as our favorite near-martyr to the cause of scholarship, who disproved the dictum of Tertullian (on "Women's Dress"): "Fear is the foundation of safety."

HIDDEN ASSETS. In these days of so many hidden taxes, should we not more often reassess our hidden profits? There are some to be counted even as a result of membership in a learned society. Your seven dollars paid to the MLA each year buys you far more than nearly 2,000 pages of *PMLA* and the privilege of participating in an annual meeting. You have bought also the services of many persons concerned to help you as a scholar—to make it possible for you to study with some awareness of the studies of others, to make it possible for you to publish in a time of high printing costs, to facilitate your work in a few direct but dozens of indirect ways. Many a scholar thinks of himself as a "lone wolf," and in a sense each of us must forever work alone. But lone wolves can lose their jobs during national emergencies, can need financial assistance for research, can need help in finding a publisher, can even need criticism from their fellows. Moreover, modern society being as complex as it is, the lone wolf is not consulted when decisions directly affecting his welfare are made by the ACLS, by Fulbright committees, by UNESCO, by the American Council on Education, by several international organizations, etc. But MLA members are not unheard in these remote places. By your support of your national society you have made it possible for your interests to be represented. These hidden assets are seldom publicized; but, believe us, they are very real.

HINT. Your Secretary is glad to try to answer questions sent him by members on matters of scholarship, publishing, grants in aid, etc. Sometimes he can. He mentions this only because he realizes that there are still a great many members like Alice, who said (remember?): "No, it'll never do to ask; perhaps I shall see it written up somewhere."

FOLGER. Among the research fellows who studied in the Folger Library during the summer were Rhodes Dunlap (Iowa), Pearl Hogrefe (Iowa State), John H. Long (Morehead State Teachers'), Lucyle Hook (Barnard), W. Lee Wiley (North Carolina), Emmett L. Avery (Washington State), and F. L. Bergmann (DePauw).

SHAKESPEARE. Three MLA members were on the program of the fifth Shakespeare conference at Stratford, August 16-22: Hardin Craig (Missouri), Leo Kirschbaum (Wayne), and Arthur C. Sprague (Bryn Mawr).

IN PRAISE OF IMPRACTICALITY. Let all lovers of useless truth remember the late Mrs. Bessie L. Bissing, who, observing the millions of dollars being given for research which *might* result in better paint or penicillin, in bigger bombs or ghastlier gasses, wrote as follows in her will: "The Donor requests the Johns Hopkins University to use the income so received by it to establish 'Gustav Bissing' travelling or resident fellowships in Mathematics, Physics, Ancient Languages or other similar subjects, having no contact with gainful pursuits. These fellowships are to be awarded to

More about Printing in Europe

WITH the discontinuance of the ACLS-Carnegie grants in aid of publication, two of those left on the beach were William Roach (Univ. of Pennsylvania) and Robert H. Ivy, Jr. (Bowdoin Coll.). *Continuations of the Old French Perceval of Chrétien de Troyes*, Volume I, had been published with the help of a \$1,900 subsidy. What to do with Volume II, a very big book which was to make 630 printed pages? Where Volume I (somewhat smaller than its successor) cost \$3,770.22 in 1949 for 500 copies, Volume II was estimated by the same printers at \$5,530, including binding and an allowance for alterations. Since Volume I has enjoyed the usual slow sale fated for books which appeal almost exclusively to research libraries the authors were faced with three alternatives: to do something different; to dig into their own pockets for a large sum they could not afford; to bewail their fate. They chose the first alternative—with results so favorable that it seems reasonable to retail them here.

At the beginning of 1950, editor Roach found himself in France on a Guggenheim and got in touch with the well-known firm of Protat-Frères at Mâcon (Saône-et-Loire), taking his cue from the fact that this is the printer for *Romania*. With the results, he says in a letter to the firm's director, he was "bien content"—one can believe it since the estimate he got was \$2,114.00. After checking with editor Ivy at Bowdoin, and with the help of a grant from the Univ. of Pennsylvania, it was decided to proceed. With a down payment of \$700 in dollars the operation commenced, resulting in galleys in a steady stream during subsequent weeks, one set of which was always on thin paper so that it could be air mailed by the printer to editor Ivy. This continued smartly enough so that the last corrected page proofs were returned to Protat the last day of August 1950, and we have editor Roach optimistically asking his printer if "il y a des chances que je reçoive un exemplaire du livre avant mon départ du Hâvre, fixé pour le 20 septembre?" (He didn't get it.) When the book did come (on October 12, 1950) it was handsomely printed, less than the estimate, and encumbered with only \$75 worth of alteration charges—phenomenally low for this kind of book, loaded as it is with variants, and made possible by almost letter-perfect copy and by an hourly charge for alterations of 80¢. Yes, 80¢. (It has since risen somewhat.)

What about the cost and trouble of importing the books? There was no tariff since the text is in a foreign language. The shipment was handled via Rouen and prepaid by the printer, but the cost of shipping was covered by return of the French "taxe à la production," which does not apply to exports. Brokerage and forwarding from the port of entry (Philadelphia) to destination was provided by a firm engaged in this business, and cost \$22.30. It is pleasant to note that the books arrived on the S.S. *American Planter*.

This tale has not been told to persuade everyone to deal with Protat or with any other foreign printer, since obviously the circumstances here were unique. But the fact remains that Roach and Ivy reduced the cost of this book by something more than half by being willing to adapt themselves to the circumstances. This is by no means always possible, nor is it likely to be easy. Given a big book, a very small edition, and difficult composition the foreign printer, however (if he be a good one), is worth considering when all other doors are shut.

HENRY M. SILVER
Adviser on Publications
American Council of Learned Societies

such persons as seem to give promise of possessing unusual powers and of desiring to use them for the advance of pure knowledge for its own sake and regardless of technological, medical, commercial or other utilitarian applications. This request is made in the hope that such fellowships may tend to keep alive this University spirit as it existed in the very earliest years of the University's foundation, when truth was felt, by seekers for it, to be profoundly worth while and seemed to evoke an enthusiasm which increased the farther it was removed from the region of the so-called practical or possibly eventually useful." These, we submit, are words that posterity (not excluding university presidents) should not willingly let die.

COMMITTEE OF AWARD. The ACLS Special Committee on Fellowships to make the awards under both the new emergency scholarships (Rockefeller) and the supplementary Faculty Study Fellowships (Ford Foundation): Harcourt Brown (Brown Univ.), Leon Howard (UCLA), Hayward Keniston (Michigan), Arthur E. Murphy (Cornell), Joseph R. Strayer (Princeton), and Berthold Ullman (North Carolina). The first three are MLA members. Concerning the emergency fellowships, Elmer Davis said over ABC on April 10: "This is an attempt to preserve some of the scholarly and humanistic values that are essential to a civilized society. It is worth noting that the Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy, in its recent report on atomic spying, observes that the most dangerous and destructive men—Fuchs, May, and Pontecorvo—though all highly trained scientists, had an unusual lack of contact with the liberal-arts disciplines. That is, they never made an effort to find out what human life and civilization are about. There are of course innumerable scientists with just as narrow a training who are not traitors to their country; nevertheless it seems a good idea for the [American] Council of Learned Societies to try to preserve those humanistic studies that give us an idea of what civilization means, and has meant, which is a great part of what we shall be fighting for if we have to fight."

VICTORIAN LUNCHEON. The place: Hotel Tuller, Detroit; the time: 12:30, Friday, Dec. 28; the price (tentative): \$2.55 including tip and tax. Interested members of the Victorian Group should write for reservations to Karl Litzenberg, 2212 Angell Hall, Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

DISSERTATIONS. We have a suggestion to make about them. When the graduate student submits his topic for approval, why not require him also to submit a definite statement of the *nature and extent* of his intended audience? Before undertaking any writing, he should be quite clear about whom he is writing for, and should have the benefit of advice from his teachers on this as well as on his topic. The addition of this formal requirement in every graduate school would, we think, have some happy consequences: it would decrease the disillusion of young scholars, it would give more point to scholarly writing and thus improve its quality, it would force more people to think sanely about what they are doing, and it might even, in time, end the writing of long dissertations addressed to nobody in particular except, perhaps, the few, yet-to-be-appointed, formal readers. We are personally ready to approve some dissertation subjects addressed to only sixty-eight persons on earth—but only after the student fully realizes that he is writing for no more than sixty-eight persons and has been advised to address himself directly to them and not to that vague audience known in the profession as "fellow scholars." We hold that the informed choice of a definite audience is as important a matter in graduate work, in any field, as is the informed choice of a definite topic. We suggest that members who agree, and who are in a position to manifest their agreement, first enforce this rule as individuals, then seek departmental sanction for it, and then, after a little experience with the results, go to work on the graduate dean. Of course if any graduate deans read this paragraph, they might try out the idea on a number of departments at once. We shall report here in future issues on any departments which adopt such a rule and notify us.

TWO COPIES. A member, ordering three MLA books, commented: "The Aubin book [*Topographical Poetry in 18th-Century England*—\$1.75 to members] is valuable. The style, with its refreshing and sound humor, is unique. The bibliography alone is worth the price of the book. I cannot understand why the printing was not sold out at the former full price. This is my second copy: one for home and one for my desk at school."

For Members Only—Continued

SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING. An involved argument we have heard several times was expressed again in a recent letter from a member: "For a long time I have thought that *PMLA* prints too many articles. About one quarter of each issue could profitably be omitted, not because it isn't sound work and well enough written but because it isn't of enough importance to anybody. The money thus saved would publish one more book each year, and in these days of vanishing subsidies that is something to think about." We are a little puzzled by the plea that we stop publishing articles that aren't "of enough importance to anybody" in order to publish books that aren't ditto. Books of importance to a number of people do not require subsidy, even now. Moreover, every article published in *PMLA* is approved for publication by at least one member of the Editorial Committee because he considers it "important" in his field. In practical terms, omitting one quarter of each issue would mean forcing all fourteen members of the Editorial Committee to raise their standards considerably—something they *think* they have done and are doing. *PMLA* has never had so many MSS submitted to it as it now receives—and we have no "backlog": we still publish promptly.

FELLOWSHIPS. Two Newberry Library Fellowships have been awarded recently: one to Howard Mumford Jones and Walter Rideout for the preparation of a volume of selected Sherwood Anderson letters; the other to Marguerite Young for a biography of James Whitcomb Riley.

MEDIAEVAL ACADEMY. At the 26th annual meeting, held at the Dumbarton Oaks Research Library (Washington, D.C.) on April 24-25, William E. Lunt (History, Haverford College) was elected President (*vice* Fred Norris Robinson); Harry Caplan (Classics, Cornell), Third Vice President (*vice* Grace Frank); Charles W. Jones (English, Cornell), Clerk (*vice* Albert C. Baugh); and Francis L. Utley (English, Ohio State), one of four new Councillors.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY. As we write, the post is vacant. John H. Fisher, Assistant Professor of English at N.Y.U., who worked closely and effectively with us from July 1, 1949, resigned on June 1 of this year. We parted from him with deep regret. He was, you will remember, author of the article on "Serial Bibliographies in the Modern Languages and Literatures" which appeared in the April issue and which prompted one member to write to him: "The soaring excellence of *PMLA* I suppose reaches some manner of climax in the current bibliographical number." Fisher handled most of the details of the 1949 and 1950 conventions, and was useful to the Association in many additional ways, both directly and indirectly. It was his presence on our staff which made it possible for the Secretary to compile the *MLA Style Sheet*. We wish him well as he returns, at his Department's request, to full-time teaching and research.

ACLS NEWSLETTER. In February we informed members that they could get on the mailing-list of this interesting *Newsletter* simply by sending a postcard to the ACLS, 1219 16th St. N.W., Washington 6, D.C.—giving a name and address but sending no money. Early in May we learned that "about fifty requests" had been received in the ACLS offices as a result. We confess our disappointment. Every MLA member should inform himself about scholarly activities in the humanities apart from his own "field." But we cannot subscribe for you; you will have to care enough to invest a postcard and a moment of your time.

SCHMALTZ. On May 8 a member wrote: "I wonder just how many readers of the *Style Sheet* noticed and commented upon the priceless *schmalzy* footnote sample 14 on p. 19. Orchids and Hallelujah to you for a good go at making a distressing subject less stuffy."

FORTHCOMING. The Mediaeval Academy announces two books for October publication: Jacob Hammer's *A Variant Version of the "Historia Regum Britanniae" of Geoffrey of Monmouth*, and a translation by R. J. Deferrari of *De Sacramentis* by Hugh of St. Victor. Accepted but with publication dates not yet scheduled are K. J. Conant's *Cluny*, Hugh MacKenzie's *Papal Relations, 1216-72*, W. E. Lunt's *Accounts Rendered by Papal Collectors in England, 1317-78*, F. S. Crawford's edi-

tion of the Latin text of Averroes' commentary on Aristotle's *De Anima*, and Part I ("The Primary Chronicle") of S. H. Cross's translation and edition of *The Old Russian Laurentian Chronicle*.

NOSTRADAMUS? Looking through some old files we encountered the document printed in part below. The date mentioned in it, 1981, is an obvious typographical error—though we cannot infer the correct year, for many of the statements are certainly made by a confused person and seem more fantastic than factual. Still, the piece struck us as a curiosity and we publish it as such. Space limitations prevent our giving it in full. ". . . We in Departments of American Culture, therefore, although we find ourselves academically strong in this year 1981, should not become complacent, but should profit by the lessons of our own history. It is scarcely a decade since departments of English largely disappeared from the academic scene and the study of British literature became, as it should always have been, a part of the study of our own civilization. But we should remember that English departments were strong once, in the days when they absorbed the foreign language departments by the shrewd device of giving courses in many literatures in translation, and finally making foreign languages what even the American language once was—an incidental or peripheral offering in the curriculum. . . . For that matter, even some of the modern foreign languages, very early in this century, were academically respectable if not very important departments. For a time they seemed to promise the vitality and human significance which had been found lacking in Latin and Greek, but their pretences and conflicting claims were not long in being recognized. French, German, and (later) Spanish were in particular defended as cultural studies—to the neglect of Italian, Indian, etc. They were defended as practical studies—to the neglect of Russian, Chinese, etc. They were defended as intellectual disciplines . . . Like these claims, the totally unrealistic claim of English departments to teach students to read and write—obviously the business of all departments in a college or university—was finally exposed. We in American Culture should not forget these things, for . . ."

AUMLA. The Australasian Universities Modern Language Association held its second congress in Sydney August 13-17. At the first congress, which convened in Melbourne last year (Aug. 14-18), 80 percent of all modern foreign language staffs in Australian universities attended, with nine institutions represented. A scholarly journal was then proposed and may now be inaugurated—details of the second congress had not reached us by the time this issue of *PMLA* went to press.

CELEBRAZIONI. The seventh centenary of Italian poetry and language was appropriately celebrated at Palermo during the second week of June under the auspices of the Società Scrittori e Artisti (Largo Santa Sofia 6, Palermo, Sicilia).

TRAVEL. Your Secretary gave the annual Phi Beta Kappa address at the University of Michigan on April 20, and visited with former colleagues at Ohio State University on April 21-24. He was in Washington on May 27-31, attending meetings of the ACLS and the (Fulbright) Committee on International Exchange of Persons. During June he again attended the annual meeting of the American Association of University Presses and took part in a panel on scholarly writing. Early in September he was in Richmond, Virginia, participating in a conference of printers and editors sponsored by the ACLS.

FUTURE MEETINGS. In December of 1952 we shall meet again at Boston; in 1953, at Chicago. Probabilities, beyond these definite dates: in 1954, at New York; in 1955, at Cincinnati. The Executive Council has asked the Secretary to suggest appropriate places for another *September* meeting, and he will be glad to receive proposals from members.

APPEAL. We are ever grateful to members thoughtful enough to drop us a line and inform us of the deaths of other members. Learning of our losses is often a difficult thing to do. In March of this year we were told that a person we had congratulated on achieving his fiftieth Association year (Feb. *PMLA*, p. ii) had died in February of 1942 (*sic*). Meanwhile, exactly fifty issues of *PMLA* had been sent to, and silently received at, his address. When we first became Secretary we had a similar

MLA STANDING COMMITTEES

(Each member's term ends on July 1 of the year indicated.
Asterisks designate chairmen.)

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE (See Cover Page 2.)

COMMITTEE ON BOOK PUBLICATIONS

GERALD E. BENTLEY, *Princeton University*, 1952
BERTRAND H. BRONSON, *University of California*, 1952
CURTIS C. D. VAIL, *University of Washington*, 1953
JOHN M. HILL, *Indiana University*, 1954
HARRY LEVIN, *Harvard University*, 1954
HENRY A. GRUBBS, *Oberlin College*, 1955
ROBERT A. PRATT, *University of North Carolina*, 1955

COMMITTEE ON PHOTOGRAPHIC REPRODUCTIONS

FRANCIS J. CARMODY,* *University of California*, 1953 [Forms]
WILLIAM C. HOLBROOK,* *Northwestern University*, 1954
JAMES M. OSBORN, *Yale University*, 1952
CHARLES S. SINGLETON, *Harvard University*, 1955
HEINRICH E. K. HENEL, *University of Wisconsin*, 1956

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

JAMES L. CLIFFORD, *Columbia University*, 1952
GEORGE R. HAVENS, *Ohio State University*, 1953
HENRY NASH SMITH, *University of Minnesota*, 1954
WALTER REICHART, *University of Michigan*, 1955
J. MILTON FRENCH, *Rutgers University*, 1956
The Secretary of the Association*

COMMITTEE ON HONORARY MEMBERS

H. CARRINGTON LANCASTER,* *The Johns Hopkins University*
WILLIAM GUILD HOWARD, *Harvard University*
PERCY W. LONG, *New York University*
JOHN VAN HORNE, *University of Illinois*
ERNEST HATCH WILKINS, *Oberlin College*

NEW VARIORUM SHAKESPEARE COMMITTEE

HYDER E. ROLLINS, *Harvard University*, General Editor
JAMES G. McMANAWAY,* *Folger Shakespeare Library*, 1952
R. C. BALD, *Cornell University*, 1953
MADELEINE DORAN, *University of Wisconsin*, 1954
WILLARD E. FARNHAM, *University of California*, 1955

COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

ALBERT H. MARCKWARDT,* *University of Michigan*, 1952
RENÉ WELLEK, *Yale University*, 1952
HELMUT REHDER, *University of Illinois*, 1953
JAMES THORPE, *Princeton University*, 1953
HERBERT DIECKMANN, *Harvard University*, 1954
MARGARET GILMAN, *Bryn Mawr College*, 1954

COMMISSION ON TRENDS IN EDUCATION

(Terms end on December 31 of the year indicated.)

THOMAS C. POLLOCK,* *New York University*, 1954
FREDERICK B. AGARD, *Cornell University*, 1952
FRED BENJAMIN MILLETT, *Wesleyan University*, 1952
THOMAS M. PEARCE, *University of New Mexico*, 1952
JOHN C. BLANKENAGEL, *Wesleyan University*, 1953
WILLIAM CLYDE DEVANE, *Yale University*, 1953
E. D. GRIZZELL, *University of Pennsylvania*, 1953
STEPHEN A. FREEMAN, *Middlebury College*, 1954
KATHRINE KOLLER, *University of Rochester*, 1954

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL COOPERATION

HELEN C. WHITE,* *University of Wisconsin*, 1955
HARRY R. WARFEL, *University of Florida*, 1952 (Secretary)
GEORGE P. BORGLUM, *Wayne University*, 1952
EINAR HAUGEN, *University of Wisconsin*, 1952
AMADO ALONSO, *Harvard University*, 1953
HOWARD LEE NOSTRAND, *University of Washington*, 1953
RENÉ WELLEK, *Yale University*, 1953
THOMAS GODDARD BERGIN, *Yale University*, 1953
JACQUES ALBERT FERMAUD, *University of Minnesota*, 1954
GILBERT CHINARD, *Princeton University*, 1955
JOHN VAN HORNE, *University of Illinois*, 1955

For Members Only—Continued

experience, and we have since learned of deaths of members two or three years after the event—when someone finally became embarrassed by the steady arrivals of the journal. We appeal to all members to keep us informed.

PUBLICATION PAINS. Getting out an issue of *PMLA* is like no other experience we are acquainted with. We do it six times a year, but we can't say that we grow used to it. Publication may seem to authors like giving birth to a child (an experience we know only at second-hand, although we *did* count the seconds), but to an editor the labor pains come first—the irrational cravings and occasional nausea, the fits of alternating pride and depression, much later. Over a three- to five-month period we collect materials for any given issue, “styling” or copy-editing when we can find the time (spending an average of two to four hours on each article). The issue is then made up and sent to the printers about four months ahead of the actual publication date. Time elapses; we think of other things, including the next issue. Then galley proof arrives, in several batches, and for three weeks we wait for authors to return their corrected galleys. Despite instructions both from us and from the printers, some authors return galleys to the printers (in Wisconsin) instead of to us, thus causing delays. An article had to be omitted from the June issue this year (did you notice its size?) because the author did not return the galleys on time. While we wait, we read the galleys ourselves for obvious typographical errors. After we have returned the master set of galleys to the printers (for the sake of clarity and consistency all authors' corrections are examined and, if reasonable, copied by the Editor), we wait another three weeks for page proof. This we handle ourselves (unless an author makes a good case for proofreading his pages), usually within four or five days—during which time little else can be attended to. Another three weeks and the issue is “published”—we receive an advance copy. A week or so later we receive our copy, as a member, by ordinary mail. In the same mail we often receive the first of the complaints, from the Middle West, where members have received their copies a few days before. Take the April issue for example. We received our advance copy during April, although as a member we received it on May 7, along with several letters calling attention to omissions, errors in classification, etc. During the week of May 7-11 we were damned for many things and were informed that the Style Sheet was “a first toe-hold of totalitarianism”; to make matters worse, we ourselves discovered that through some clerical inadvertence the research in progress entries sent us by twenty-eight members (including some prominent ones) had been omitted from the 1951 compilation. We were feeling pretty disconsolate until a letter arrived from a retired member well known to us (and to many of you), saying in part: “These issues 1, 2, and 3 of *PMLA* for 1951 are splendid products. They contain more that a young or old scholar ought to know than any other three pieces of print seen by me in my steady reading of journals. It is reason of gratitude to you and your helpers from all persons at work with humane studies, this new life in *PMLA*. The proof reading of No. 3, the April issue, was a test of your printer and preparation of that copy a greater test of your own staff. That number is a contemporary encyclopedia of scholarship in these fields.” As you read this, we are working with the December proofs, and not feeling a bit like a galley-slave.

PROMOTIONS. We assume that every member who has changed his academic address this fall has notified the MLA Treasurer. (Of course if he hasn't, he won't be reading these words for some time.) Members who achieve promotions in rank are often slower to inform us, although this is a matter of considerable interest to friends and acquaintances, prospective employers, and such. We shall be glad to report in the December *PMLA* the promotions of all members who drop us a line before November 1. We may note here the recent appointment of Leonard Beach as Dean of the Graduate School of Vanderbilt University.

THESES. Each June, William Marion Miller (Miami Univ., Oxford, Ohio) circularizes all the graduate schools in the U.S. and Canada for the doctorates awarded in all the fields of foreign languages during the past year, and publishes the results in one of the fall numbers of the *Modern Language Journal*. (A similar compilation for Spanish theses only appears in *Hispania*.) Prof. Miller is Director of the Placement Bureau of the American Association of Teachers of French.

HONORS. The Haskins Medal of the Mediaeval Academy has been awarded Roger Sherman Loomis (Columbia) for his book, *Arthurian Tradition and Chrétien de Troyes*. . . . Gilbert Chinard (Princeton) has been made a Commander of the Légion d'Honneur. . . . Newton Arvin's biography of Melville won the 1951 National Book Award for nonfiction. . . . The late E. K. Brown's *Rhythm in the Novel* won the 1950 Canadian Governor-General's creative nonfiction award. . . . A \$2,000 Bancroft Prize was awarded to Henry Nash Smith (Minnesota) for his *Virgin Land*.

QUERY. A good many meetings we absent ourselves from with felicity; but one we would have invited ourselves to, had we known about it in time, was a conference on Italy's contribution to western culture, sponsored by the Italian Department of Columbia University on April 7. The reason: as a mere English teacher, listening innocently to countless arguments for supporting the foreign languages in university curricula, we often wonder why, if some of the arguments are sound (and if the arguers are consistent), a great culture like Italian has been so neglected in this country. French, German, Spanish have long enjoyed incomparably favorable positions in American education. Exclusive of musical colleges and seminaries, probably no more than 150 colleges and universities in the U. S. teach Italian, and few of these offer more than two years' instruction. If one of the chief reasons for learning foreign languages is to know cultures which have contributed significantly to our common heritage, why is there such neglect of the language of Dante, Petrarch, Boccaccio, Machiavelli, Galileo, and Croce?

SPECIALIZATION. We have lately seen so much sneering at the specialist (has it become fashionable?) that we are moved to comment. As we hear the sneerers, they divide nicely into two groups: those who speak scornfully of the "specialist" (period) and those who are always careful to say "narrow specialist." Our second class of critics has an interesting phrase there. What exactly is a *broad* specialist? Can it be that they mean to refer to someone who, in their totally uninformed opinion, should have picked another subject for specialization? Or do they refer merely to persons who, their subject aside, have become useless or unbalanced or otherwise unfortunate human beings? As faithful readers of this section know, we do not condone the kind of narrowness which produces pedantry. But we submit that there are infinitely fewer "narrow specialists" than there are narrow non-specialists. We suspect, moreover, that those who sneer at the "specialist" (no adjective) are absurdly over-rating their target and hence betraying their own ignorance or their own lack of confidence. The powers of the true specialist could hardly be more limited: there is usually only *one* subject about which he knows more than anyone else on earth. He can influence to their advantage only those very few persons who are intent upon learning more about his particular subject. He is therefore harmless so long as he sticks to his specialty. We reserve our own sneers for those with scanty knowledge of a variety of subjects who nevertheless expect for their words the same deference which seekers after knowledge will always accord the man who takes pains to know what he is talking about. We have neither sneers nor praise for those who, as the saying goes, "know more and more about less and less"; it is an empty sally; we never met such a person and never expect to meet one. But we have met (as who has not?) a depressing number of persons who know less and less about more and more.

PEDANTRY. Perhaps, as Anna Goodykoontz reminds us (writing from Istanbul), William Cowper's *The Task*, Book VI, provides a helpful distinction between pedant and true scholar:

Knowledge dwells
In heads replete with thoughts of other men;
Wisdom in minds attentive to their own.
Knowledge, a rude unprofitable mass,
The mere materials with which Wisdom builds,
Till smoothed and squared, and fitted to its place,
Does but encumber whom it seems to enrich.
Knowledge is proud that he has learned so much;
Wisdom is humble that he knows no more.

PERIODICAL POST BOY. With its ninth issue, this newsletter changed its frequency from thrice to twice yearly. Price: \$1 for the period 1951-53 (6 issues);

Nominations to the Executive Council

DURING November all members will receive a postcard Ballot containing the names of ten nominations to the Executive Council for the term 1952-55. Seven of these nominations were made by the present Council, and for the guidance of members we give below some biographical data about each.

STUART ATKINS, age 37, born Baltimore; A.B. and Ph.D. Yale; at Harvard since 1941 (assoc. prof. since 1948); taught at Dartmouth 1938-41; with Air Force (field commission); author *The Testament of Werther in Poetry and Drama* (1949) and other studies in German, English, and comparative literature.

CHANDLER B. BEALL, age 49, born Northport, N.Y.; A.B. and Ph.D. Hopkins; at Oregon since 1929 (prof. since 1936); taught at South Carolina, Hopkins, Amherst, Maryland, George Washington; editor *Comparative Literature* and author of studies in Italian literary influences in England, France, and Spain.

WILLIAM CHARVAT, age 46, born New York City; B.S. and M.A. N.Y.U., Ph.D. Pennsylvania; at Ohio State since 1944 (prof.); former Guggenheim fellow and Huntington research associate; author of books on American literary history and studies of the economics of authorship.

J. MILTON FRENCH, age 56, born Randolph, Mass.; A.B. and Ph.D. Harvard; at Rutgers since 1940 (as dept. chairman); taught at Lafayette, N.Y.U., Dartmouth, Harvard, Akron, Queens; Acting Dean of College 1944-45 and Chairman of University Committee on Educational

Policies 1940-48; author of books on Wither, Lamb, the Theophrastan Character, and Milton.

JULIAN HARRIS, age 54, born Henderson, N.C.; A.B. North Carolina, A.M. and Ph.D. Columbia; at Wisconsin since 1924 (prof. and dept. head; formerly chairman Div. of Humanities); President of AATF; Chevalier de la Légion d'honneur; author of textbooks and of articles on Old French literature and on the teaching of French.

C. GRANT LOOMIS, age 50, born Worcester, Mass.; A.B. Hamilton, M.A. and Ph.D. Harvard; at California (Berkeley) since 1941 (assoc. prof); taught at Tufts and Harvard; an editor *Western Folklore*; author of studies in Germanic, comparative literature, and folklore.

A. S. P. WOODHOUSE, age 55, born Port Hope, Ont.; B.A. Toronto, A.M. Harvard, D. Litt. (hon. caus.) Acadia, F.R.S.C.; at Toronto since 1928 (prof. since 1938, dept. head since 1944); past chm. Humanities Research Council of Canada; editor *UTQ* 1932-45; author of studies in 18th-century poetry and criticism, Milton, Puritan political thought, Spenser.

THREE other names *must* be added on the Ballot by the Secretary on November 1st (Bylaw II, item 3). These are "the three names receiving the most votes among those proposed by members of the Association." Any member may propose names. In recent years, few members have done so. To make this provision of the Bylaw function adequately, groups of members should concentrate on a nominee likely to secure a vote sufficient for election. In 1950, 887 votes failed to elect. But under a dozen proposals have sometimes sufficed to nominate.

write to W. O. S. Sutherland, Jr., Box 147, Chapel Hill, N.C. The April issue (9 pp.) contained a report on periodicals in the B.M. destroyed by air raids, a report on periodical materials in journals during 1950, a report on the progress of microfilming 200 scarce English literary periodicals (about 300 rolls of negative already made by University Microfilms—basic subscription price of \$500 to libraries for annual output of approximately 100,000 pages), and other interesting materials.

WILSON'S 17 POINTS. The H. W. Wilson Company's *International Index*, an offshoot from *Readers Guide*, offers a quarterly index of the following journals in our MLA field: *AJP*, *AL*, *American Speech*, *Books Abroad*, *ELH*, *JEGP*, *Mercure de France*, *MLN*, *MLR*, *MP*, *PMLA*, *PQ*, *RES*, *RLC*, *RR*, *Speculum*, and *SP*. Note that, among others, the following journals are for some reason, unknown to us, not indexed: *CL*, *FR*, *GQ*, *GR*, *Hispania*, *HR*, *Italica*, *Mediaeval Studies*, *MLQ*, *RPh.*, *SQ*, *SS*, *Symposium*, and *YFS*.

INCOMPLETE ANGLER. The following serial bibliographies were inadvertently omitted from Fisher's compilation in the April *PMLA*: 39a. Annotated Bibliography of Modern Language Methodology for [year]. Annually in *Modern Language Journal*, usually in first issue, for year next to the last (50¢ per copy, \$3 per year; Stephen L. Pitcher, 7144 Washington Ave., St. Louis 5, Mo.). Begun with inception of *MLJ* (1916), discontinued in 1946, but resumed in 1951 (for 1949). Classified, each entry annotated; covers U. S. publications. Editor: James B. Tharp (Ohio State Univ.); Mary Louise Gow, Helen W. Machan (Kent State Univ.), C. H. Nacci (Capital Univ.), A. W. Wonderley (Ohio State Univ.). 40a. A Checklist of Explication [year]. Annually in the *Explicator*, accompanying the Index for the previous year (25¢ per copy, \$1.50 per year; Box 3024 Rivermont Station, Lynchburg, Va.). Begun in June 1945. Covers explication of English and American literature. Editor (1950): C. C. Walcutt (Washington and Jefferson Coll.); *periodicals* A. L. Bader and Morris Greenhut (both Univ. of Michigan), M. S. Day and Fred S. Tupper (both George Washington Univ.), and J. H. Stubbs (Tulane Univ.); *books* John Hamilton (Univ. of Illinois) and W. F. Wright (Univ. of Nebraska). 49a. American Doctoral Degrees Granted in the Field of Modern Languages in [year]. Annually in *Modern Language Journal* (see 39a, above). Includes dissertations on all modern languages except English. Compiled by W. M. Miller (Miami Univ.). 57a. A Guide to the Literature of the Southwest. In each quarterly issue of the *New Mexico Quarterly* (\$1 per issue, \$3 per year; Univ. of N. M. Press). Classified and covers all fields, including literature. Compiled by Genevieve Porterfield.

ATQUE VALE. We welcome to the Editorial Committee for *PMLA* Professors Carlos Baker (Princeton), Dorothy Bethurum (Connecticut Coll.), Cleanth Brooks (Yale), Henry Hatfield (Columbia), and Leo Spitzer (Hopkins). Our warm thanks go to the two retiring members, Professors Albert C. Baugh and Orie W. Long.

WARNING. A member writes: "Your FMO suggestion that reprints [of "Literature in American Education," Dec. 1950 *PMLA*] be sent to every dean and president needs a warning. . . . I have read and reread the paper. It seems quite clear that it represents an argument *valid only to those already convinced*. As a morale-lifter for humanity teachers, many of whom are unhappy about the future, it may have therapeutic value; I doubt it will have any impact on a man conditioned in another area of American education. It is not the kind of propaganda the humanities need. . . . If the humanities are to survive a long war period they will have to take a long look at themselves. For the most part, the men who make the final decisions today are not too familiar with our fields."

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL. *Oklahoma Imprints, 1835-1890*, by Lester Hargrett (4th in a series of regional bibliographies), has recently been published for the Bibliographical Society of America by the R. R. Bowker Co. The MS. of Thomas Franklin Currier's bibliography of Oliver Wendell Holmes, edited by Eleanor M. Tilton, is nearing completion and will be published for the BSA by the New York

For Members Only—Continued

University Press. The forecast date for completion of the text of the BSA Bibliography of American Literature (60 percent complete at the end of 1950) is now 1954. Work on the Index to the BSA Papers, interrupted by the death of David M. Matteson, is being carried on by John Cook Wyllie (Univ. of Virginia).

TRANSLATIONS. An MLA Committee, appointed by the Executive Council, is interested in learning about translations into English of foreign masterworks, either complete in MS. or *in preparation*. It is also compiling not only bibliographical data on low-priced translations already in print but also critical evaluations of such books. (The Committee hopes eventually to prepare a critical bibliography of all low-priced translations currently in print, to be made available to interested persons at a nominal price.) Members wishing to cooperate in any of these activities should write to Professor B. Q. Morgan (Stanford Univ., Stanford, Calif.).

PUBLICATIONS FRANÇAISES RÉCENTES. The Cultural Division of the French Embassy (934 Fifth Ave., New York 21, N.Y.) presents periodically a selection of French publications with no pretension of offering a comprehensive list of all the most important works. List 2 of the Second Series was issued in May of this year.

JOBS. Designed on a non-profit basis to supply teachers to colleges and universities, the College Department of the Cooperative Bureau for Teachers (1776 Broadway, New York 19, N.Y.) serves the colleges holding membership in the Bureau and approximately 75 additional institutions whose vacancies are listed regularly. Dr. James L. Whitehead is Director of the Bureau; Rosemary Park, President of Connecticut College, is Chairman of the Board.

TWO RIPE GRAPES. Our paragraph entitled "Unripe Grapes" (April *PMLA*, p. vii) brought a prompt response from one member, who told us that he approved of the sentiments expressed and that he had made the MLA the beneficiary of a trust fund in his will. "Though not a rich man," he said, "I have certain inherited funds which I should like to feel would go to the worthiest cause. To my mind, that is comprehended in the humanities, their research and interpretation." We express herewith the thanks of all members to this thoughtful colleague, who wishes to remain anonymous. He is the second person who, to our knowledge, has remembered the MLA in his will. If there are others, we hope that they will write to us. We shall be happy to discuss specific needs or future programs with any potential donors or patrons.

MERIT. The first presentation of the American Philological Association's newly established Award of Merit will be made at the 83rd annual meeting, Dec. 27-29, Princeton University. Another feature of this meeting, which will be held in conjunction with the Archaeological Institute of America, will be a panel discussion of "The Problem of Scholarship in the Humanities Today." Recent publications of the APA are T. R. S. Broughton's *The Magistrates of the Roman Empire* and Hermann Fränkel's *Dichtung und Philosophie des fruhen Griechentums* (last July). Forthcoming (early in 1952) is Aubrey Diller's *The Tradition of the Minor Greek Geographers*.

VIGNETTE II. Henry Grattan Doyle, dean of Columbian College, George Washington University, and member of the MLA Executive Council (1950-53), was once described by a colleague as "a sort of Hibernian Santa Claus minus the whiskers." Genial, tireless, interested in many things, he is a large man with a large view of life. Author of a half-dozen books, active in more than a dozen organizations, he started editing the *Modern Language Journal* the year he became dean of his university's senior college (1934), later became editor of *Hispania* (1942-49), helped to organize and for many years (1939-50) served as chairman of the MLA Commission on Trends in Education, filled important posts in the American Council on Education, and in countless other ways proved himself a fine administrator and an inexhaustible advocate of modern language studies. He is a member of the Hispanic Society of America and a former president of the Cosmos Club. Perhaps the only thing that ever comes close to getting his Irish up

is what he once memorably described as “flapdoodle,” that strange body of doctrine espoused by certain professors of Education. A devoted Harvardian, attached particularly to the great tradition of Grandgent, Ford, and others in his own field of romance languages, he feels a deep distrust of anything that savors of educational tyranny or is an exaltation of mechanized mediocrity. His spirited labors have been often honored: two honorary degrees, the Order of Merit of Ecuador, and high offices in many societies. Essentially a very modest man, perhaps his greatest pride is a wife who is both as gifted and as active in good works as he; she has been for years a leading figure in the civic life of Washington, D.C., especially as president of the Board of Education. They seldom compete in committee work, but both have served as judges in Atlantic City’s famed “Miss America” contests. [This is the second in a series of word-portraits of members of the Council. For some of the above our thanks go to F. S. T.—ED.]

AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION. According to the constitution adopted by the sponsoring committee at an all-day session in Washington on March 22, membership will be open to individuals, organizations, and institutions. Persons wishing to help in the establishment of this new society, or to be put on its mailing list, are invited to write to Carl Bode (Univ. of Maryland). The ASA hopes to “encourage the study of American civilization” by “the improvement of communication across those disciplines which deal with phases of American civilization” and by “the fostering of interdisciplinary research and of courses and programs.” Meetings will be mainly in conjunction with regional and professional societies. Plans for a newsletter and for an official connection with the journal, *American Quarterly*, are under consideration. Members of the sponsoring committee: Charles Barker (history, Johns Hopkins), Charles Baylis (philosophy, Maryland), Walter Bezanson (American civilization, Rutgers), Carl Bode, Merle Curti (history, Wisconsin), N. B. Fagin (English and drama, Hopkins), Montgomery Gambrill (history, Hopkins), Wesley Gewehr (history, Maryland), Oliver Larkin (art, Smith), David Mearns (Lib. of Congress), H. S. Merrill (history, Maryland), Harold N. Munger, Jr. (Rutgers Univ. Press), Robert L. Shurter (Humanistic-Social Div., Case Inst.), Robert E. Spiller (English, Pennsylvania), Dorothy Thomas (sociology, Pennsylvania), and Edward Waters (music, L.C.).

1951 FULBRIGHT AWARDS. Among successful candidates in the MLA field (the list is still incomplete) are the following who will study abroad during 1951-52: Joseph Bottkol (Mt. Holyoke, in Italy), K. K. Carmichael (North Carolina, in the Philippines), Anne Cooke (Howard, in Norway), Jean Demorest (Duke, in France), Charles Gray (Rensselaer Poly., in the Philippines), Cecil Y. Lang (Yale, in England), Herbert Muller (Purdue, in Turkey), Arthur C. Sprague (Byrn Mawr, in England and Malta), A. B. Sutherland (Penn. State, in Australia), Stith Thompson (Indiana, in Norway), Andrew Yarrow (Yale, in India), L. A. Fiedler (Montana, in Italy), Einar Haugen (Wisconsin, in Norway), James Faulkner (New Hampshire, in France), Henry A. Myers (Cornell, in England), Joseph W. Beach (Minnesota, in France), Morris Bishop (Cornell, in Greece), John W. Draper (W. Va., in France), H. A. Grubbs (Oberlin, in France), W. H. Jansen (Kentucky, in Turkey), Leigh Lisker (Pennsylvania, in India), Alexander Schutz (Ohio State, in France), Bernard Weinberg (Northwestern, in Italy), Ray B. West (Iowa, in Austria).

ACLS AWARDS. Among the sixteen recipients of awards for 1951-52 under the regular Faculty Study Fellowship program are: Calvin S. Brown (English, Georgia), for study of classical Greek; Victor A. Elconin (English, Oklahoma), for study of related aspects of modern psychology, anthropology, and philosophy; Lucius Garvin (philosophy, Oberlin), for study of modern English and American poetry and literary criticism; Claude Hill (German, Rutgers), for study of modern English and American literature; Donald J. Lloyd (English, Wayne), for study of the techniques of modern linguistic science; Charles Morley (history, Ohio State), for study of 19th-century Polish literature; Mrs. Leonora C. Rosenfield (French, Maryland), for study of modern philosophical developments in the U. S.; Macha L. Rosenthal (English, N. Y. U.), for study of related aspects of cultural anthropology and the history of ideas. See the April *PMLA*, page 312, for information about this unusual fellowship program.

PRO FORMA. The reading of applications for fellowships affords unexpected glimpses into the gloomier after-effects of education; anyone who does much such

Announcing

CONFERENCES OF SCHOLARS

at the 1951 Meeting

THE Program Committee will make available at the 1951 Annual Meeting a number of small conference rooms for scholarly discussion of announced topics. These rooms will be allocated to interested members of the Association under the following conditions:

1. A petition signed by seven or more members, stating the topic and aim of the conference, and *designating a discussion leader*, must be sent to reach the Secretary of the Association not later than October 26.
2. Legitimate petitions will be honored in the order of their receipt and up to the limit of available accommodations. The normal conference period will be one hour and a half. Requests for specific periods should include several periods in the order of preference.
3. The conference rooms to be made available will accommodate no more than twenty-five or thirty-five persons, and it will be the responsibility of the discussion leader to refuse admission to additional persons.
4. The topic, place, and leader of the conference will be named in the printed Program. If the conference is being held by invitation only, this fact will also be stated. Otherwise, it will be the responsibility of the discussion leader to handle requests for admission; the Program will explain that interested persons should write to him, and that he will grant requests for admission up to the limit of accommodations.
5. Only sharply defined topics, supported by explanations of the purposes of the conference, will be honored.
6. Conference rooms will be allocated with the understanding that the object of the meetings is not the reading of papers. On the other hand, the mimeographing and advance circulation of papers or reports will be within the spirit of the arrangement.
7. Brief reports on the conferences, if submitted promptly to the Secretary of the Association, will be published in the annual Proceedings; but no reports are required.
8. Official recognition of each conference is for one year only. If a group wishes to renew its discussion in 1952, it may again petition for accommodation.

reading comes to wonder why applicants never learned to spell or why they seldom bother to edit what they have written. We do much such reading and, sensitive on the point of the deterioration of our own linguistic skills, we confess to a morbid fascination with the answers given by applicants to the usual questions about proficiency in languages. We always read these answers. We sometimes believe them. An answer we readily believed turned up last May on a Fulbright application. The candidate wrote, with unconscious pathos: "Formally spoke and read German."

TRUE STORY. Someone we know had occasion recently to interview five teachers of English in Iran, sent there by the U. S. Office of Education. "How many of you speak the language of this country?" he asked them. None did. His surprise at this suggested an additional question: "How many of you have ever taught English before?" None had. . . . The problem of finding really competent people to teach English to foreigners on the university level is a grave one at this moment of history. How does one discover them? There are many such who are MLA members, but we have no list of their names. We shall therefore be glad to hear from anyone of American citizenship who has been teaching a foreign language and who would like to be invited to spend a year abroad, at government expense, teaching English instead. We shall see to it that information sent us by all such members is put into appropriate hands.

IDEA. James J. Lynch (California) is using the April number of *PMLA* as a required text in his graduate course in techniques of literary scholarship, and Karl G. Pfeiffer (N. Y. U.) is using the March number in a new graduate course in scholarly writing. Needless to say, we are pleased by this development; and as a gesture of cooperation with these members (and an encouragement to others to imitate them) we shall honor orders for ten or more copies of any given issue at a 50% discount (i.e., at \$1 per copy) when class or seminar use is involved.

AMERICAN LITERATURE. A committee of the MLA Group, with James D. Hart as chairman, published in June a *Report of the Committee on Trends in Research in American Literature, 1940-1950*, an interesting document of 152 pages. Paid-up members of the Group have received copies free. Others may purchase copies by sending \$1 to the Group's Secretary-Treasurer, Arlin Turner (Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge 3, La.).

ENCORE. Ohio State University's Howald Scholarship (\$3,000) has again been awarded to an MLA member in the Romance Language field—the latest recipient: A. C. Keller (Univ. of Washington), for work on Montaigne.

VIGNETTE III. Jay B. Hubbell of Duke, Vice President of the Association this year and member of the Executive Council 1946-49, has long been known as "the Judge" among younger colleagues who liked and admired him but did not dare use his first name. (Years ago, in Texas, he was judge of a series of scholastic poetry contests.) A Virginian who married a Texan, he is quiet spoken, almost shy, but with a ramrod up his back and dogged persistence when he sees something that needs to be done. A leader in the MLA American Literature Group, he was one of the founders of the quarterly, *American Literature*, which he has managed and left his imprint on for the last twenty-two years. His anthology, *American Life in Literature*, was chosen above others during the last war to be reprinted in armed services editions, and his magnum opus, a history of Southern literature, will soon be published. As a teacher he has been much beloved for his gentle enthusiasm; his undergraduate course in American literature is popularly known at Duke as "Hubbell's English," and it has grown so large that it has to be split into three big sections. He himself probably does not know how many doctoral dissertations he has directed, but he takes quiet pride in the continued productivity of his former students. Among his other pleasures are gardening, Poe, painting kitchen cabinets, telling foreigners about American literature (he taught at the University of Vienna in 1949 and 1950), and a granddaughter who is the apple of his eye. Last June he was made a Doctor of Letters by Southern Methodist University. A colleague recently said of him: "He knows more and carries his knowledge more gracefully than anyone else I know." [This is the third in a series of word-portraits of members of the Council. For much of the above our thanks go to L. L.—ED.]

For Members Only—Continued

SUGGESTION. Members interested in techniques of documentation (or, for that matter, in important comment on masterpieces) should read Bottiglia's article in this issue on the meaning of "Candide's Garden"—a fully documented essay without a single footnote—and ask themselves whether this kind of documentation is less or more distracting than *eighty* numerical invitations to look at the bottom of the page would have been.

FOR WOMEN ONLY. Twenty-two unrestricted fellowships (i.e., open to scholars in the MLA field), ranging from \$1,500 (14) to \$3,000 (2), are offered by the American Assn. of University Women to American women for advanced study or research during 1952-53. Applications must be completed by December 15, 1951. For information write the Secretary, Committee on Fellowships, AAUW, 1634 Eye St. N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

HUNTINGTON LIBRARY. The Trustees announce the following 1951-52 awards: *to the Research Group:* David H. Stevens (for 6 months) and French Fogle, Columbia (for the academic year); *to fellowships* (for 11 months): R. C. Bald (Cornell), Wilbur S. Howell (Princeton), and Margaret T. Hodgen (California); *to Rockefeller-Trustee fellowships:* J. Monaghan and Franklin Walker (Mills); *to grants-in-aid:* Gretchen L. Finney, John C. Hodges (Tennessee), Charles E. Mounts (Florida), Aurelia B. Harlan (Colorado A & M), T. H. Aston (Oxford), and Robert Hine (Yale). Applications for 1952-53 awards should be addressed to the Chairman of the Fellowship Committee not later than January 1, 1952, and preferably a month or two earlier.

AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY. The Research Committee announces the following recent grants-in-aid in the MLA field: Clarence D. Brenner (California), \$400; Gilbert Chinard (Princeton), \$1,200; Stefan Einarsson (Hopkins), \$1,000; John D. Ferguson (Brooklyn), \$265; Adrian H. Jaffe (Michigan State), \$600; Mac-Edward Leach (Pennsylvania), \$875; A. Laurence Muir (Arizona), \$750; Antonio Pace (Syracuse), \$1,500; John P. Pritchard (Oklahoma), \$500; Charles T. Prouty (Yale), \$1,200; Maurice J. Quinlan (St. Thomas), \$600; William J. Roach (Pennsylvania), \$1,500; Isidore Silver (Connecticut), \$1,000; Jewel Wurtzbaugh (Oklahoma), \$250. See the April *PMLA*, page 312.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN MLA. The 1951 meeting will be held at the University of Colorado at Boulder on Oct. 19 and 20, instead of during the Thanksgiving vacation. 1951 officers are: President, Stuart Cuthbertson (Colorado); Vice President, Alfred Westfall (Colorado A & M); Secretary-Treasurer, Ruth Hudson (Wyoming); Editor of the *Bulletin*, William P. Albrecht (New Mexico).

VATICAN. The most breathtaking news we have heard in many a moon is that St. Louis University has been authorized to microfilm *the entire manuscript section* of the Vatican Library. The scholar in charge of the work, the Rev. Lowrie J. Daly, S.J. (Collegio Bellarmino, Via del Seminario 120, Rome), is an historian, Ph.D. from the University of Toronto, Institute of Mediaeval Studies. In late June we learned that preliminary arrangements for this tremendous project are moving steadily along.

SUPER-PEDANTRY? A British member writes: "I wonder whether it would be thought super-pedantry (but it certainly would save readers such a lot of trouble) if a page reference was decimalised, particularly where the page referred to was huge (e.g. Migne's *Patrologia*?); a reference would read something like 'p. 96.9' or 'ii.77.6' and would of course need to be only an approximation. Has the idea been tried?"

T.POT. A member writes: "Pardon me, but your slip is showing like a country gal's petticoat at a church picnic. I refer to *PMLA*, LXVI (June 1951), page vi . . . Not long ago I went into our University library to look up the current number of *Romantic Review* and found it finally in a pigeon hole labelled *Romantic Review*. The librarian had to laugh when I pointed out the mistyping of his assistant. Now you can jump on your assistant or the printer and then tell the tale in 'For Members Only': correct *Romantic* to *Romanic*." It was the printer *this* time, and what happened is an old, sad story to authors and editors who strive for perfection: we called for a correction in *another* word in this line on page proof and the whole line was reset, with a new error resulting—past our powers of correction.