

For Members Only

i

TURNOVER. It was a summer of farewells and greetings, a season of difficult readjustment, for the staff at MLA headquarters. John Fisher, who had been Treasurer since Jan. 1952 (and had served as Assistant Secretary since Sept. 1949), departed in early June for Duke. At the end of June Mrs. Trudy Railing, who had been with us since 16 Oct. 1950 and had served ably in a variety of tasks (latterly as Kenneth Mildenerger's secretary), left us in favor of maternity. In early July the Walshes departed; Don returned to Choate, after 2 years as our close associate in the FL Program, and took with him Donna, who had been our invaluable secretary since 4 March 1949. Still earlier, at the end of May, we had said goodbye to Marvin Dilkey, who, on an emergency appointment, had spent one year as our editorial assistant. And before the summer was over, Robert E. Taylor, who had been compiler of "Research in Progress" since Sept. 1949, returned to full-time teaching of French at NYU. Most of these people are now replaced, but no small staff can suffer the loss of 6 persons in a single summer without damage to efficiency and to morale. We had worked together, had believed in what we were doing, had become friends.

OFFPRINTS. In June (p. iv) we reported, with unconcealed surprise, the suggestion of a *PMLA* author that we effect economy by abandoning our practice of giving 50 free offprints. Subsequently we asked the Treasurer about this, and he estimated a possible saving of more than \$800 annually. Another author has written to say that he approves the economy but not the premise on which it rests; authors do want offprints, but might be asked to pay for them. A member who knows something about the practice of scientific journals suggests that, if we really need to economize, colleges and universities should be asked to subsidize the publication of humanistic articles in learned journals. Having opened the subject, we welcome additional ideas.

LINGOISM. What's a "linguist"? The average FL teacher thought of himself as possibly one until the descriptive and structural linguists started their conspicuous omission of an adjective in speaking of themselves. Since this led to injured feelings, the term "lin-

guistician" was eventually proposed for the scientific student of the structure of language. The suggestion had point, but gained little currency, perhaps because FL teachers liked it so well, perhaps because it brought to mind the mortician, beautician, et al. Allen Walker Read (Columbia) has been brooding over this situation, and on 16 April, at a Georgetown Round Table, he proposed "linguicist" as a linguistically sound and savory substitute. We have no bets on the outcome. Perhaps our readers have even better suggestions.

POETRY. You know it, the little monthly founded in 1912 by Harriet Monroe. You may have been one of the fortunate ones to "discover" Eliot, Lindsay, Millay, Pound, Sandburg, Stevens, or Williams in its pages (after its editors had discriminatingly discovered them for you). Well, *Poetry* is in financial difficulties; its friends have founded the Modern Poetry Association (60 W. Walton St., Chicago 10). You can still subscribe to *Poetry* for only \$5, but you can get it and at the same time demonstrate your feeling about it by joining the MPA as a Subscribing Member at \$7.50, an Associate Member at \$10, or a Sustaining Member at \$25. (There are even fancier types of membership if you feel more generous.) "Joining" does not constitute a pledge that you will renew annually. It does indicate your devotion to literature that a later generation may be teaching.

TIAA. Established in 1918 as the result of Carnegie philanthropy on behalf of education, the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association last year paid \$16,696,000 to policyholders or their beneficiaries in 390 cooperating colleges and universities, 272 other educational institutions. At year's end there were 87,673 policyholders (26 new cooperating institutions), and \$198,670,000 worth of life insurance in force. The College Retirement Equities Fund (CREF) was established in 1952, permitting teachers to put up to half of their annuity premiums into a fund based on common stock investments—a safeguard against unpredictable economic trends and living costs. TIAA (522 Fifth Avenue, New York 36) has an Advisory Service and welcomes questions from teachers about insurance and annuity programs.

For Members Only—Continued

ACCUSATIVE (II). E. H. Essig (Valparaiso) writes: "In FMO (April, p. iii) Mr. Frank Merchant objects to the following statement in the *ACLS Newsletter*: 'The idea of the "child-centered" school has caused many educators to forget that the verb "teaching" has two accusatives, namely teaching (1) children (2) something.' This sentence, says Mr. Merchant, contains a grammatical *boo-boo*. He then adds, 'If one is to use Latin case terminology, any old schoolboy knows that "children" is a dative.' . . . One might ask whether Mr. Merchant is not the one who is guilty of a grammatical *boo-boo*. . . . In Latin both words are in the accusative. Mr. Merchant seems to be unaware of the fact that some verbs take two accusatives, the accusative of the person and the accusative of the thing. Verbs of teaching (*doceo* and its compounds) are among these . . . Bennett's *New Latin Grammar* (p. 126) gives this example: 'te litteras doceo, I teach you your letters.' . . . The moral: More attention to the study of FLs! But not only *modern FLs*."

RECIPE FOR RESCUE (IV). The Division of Modern Languages at Brown reports adopting the plan (March p. ii, April p. i) whereby departments can save our scholarly journals and improve their own scholarship, both at minimum expense. The Club has 10 members, and for \$4 each they managed to subscribe to *CL*, *JAAC*, *JHI*, *MLN*, *MLQ*, *RPh*, *RR*, *Sym*, and *YFS*. "Each journal will come first to the individual who is subscribing to it, and will then be circulated among all the members of the club. When an issue has made the rounds, it will be kept for a year in a central location in our language building, Marston Hall, where anyone can refer to it. After that time, it will become the property of the man subscribing to it, to do with as he sees fit. All of us here are enthusiastically in favor of your idea and hope that it will be put into action at many other institutions. We will be looking forward to seeing further reports in FMO."

ITALIAN ACADEMIES. There are currently 209, with 62,428 members. Oldest is the Accademia delle Arti del Disegno (Florence). Perhaps most famous are Rome's Lincei (lynx-eyed), founded 1603, and Florence's La Crusca (chaff), founded 1582 with the purpose of purifying the language. The

new dictionary which the Tuscan savants have been preparing for the last 100 years is said now to have reached the letter O.

RECORD? During May, believe it or not, we received from a reader a 20-page report on a 15-page paper submitted to *PMLA*. We do our conscientious best to pick *interested* consultants, but never did so well before.

UNIVERSITY PRESSES. "The most foolhardy branch of book publishing, we publish the smallest editions at the greatest cost and on these we place the highest prices and then we try to market them to the people who can least afford them. This is madness. . . . [But] if we stop, something of value in our society, we believe, will stop with us." Chester Kerr (Yale) said it, on 5 April.

COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS. Last May a member wrote: "Before coming to this school I taught at Wisconsin and Chicago. Whenever I laid an egg, as I obviously did the first time I submitted this paper, I could go across the hall and get some help. That is not so easy here. I have submitted papers to several other journals and the letters of rejection could have been telegraphed without bankrupting the journal. Somehow or other I felt that the papers were not that bad, but, without any experienced person to turn to, it was very difficult to try a revision and to send it somewhere else. . . . Yours is the only publication which reviews the paper, not the institution from which it is submitted. Yours is also the only publication which consistently bothers to spell out to a guy, who is really trying, what he did wrong. This saves many a paper. More important, it saves many a scholar struggling along practically by himself from a feeling that nobody gives a damn. I hate to get my manuscripts back from you, and it takes me three days to be able to read the criticisms. Yet those criticisms are the best things that happen to me in terms of constructive, professional growth. (I'll put the crying towel away now.) I know, from FMO, that you have read something like this before, but it is very important for an organization as large as MLA to realize that when its readers bother to say something constructive about a paper, then the organization is really functioning as a community of scholars in preserving one of its members from defeatism."

Nominations to the Executive Council

LATE in October all members will receive a postcard Ballot containing nominations to the Executive Council for the term 1956-59. Seven of these nominations were made by the present Council, and for the guidance of members we give below some biographical data about each.

GERMAINE BRÉE, age 47, born France; *agrégation*, Sorbonne; at New York University (prof. and chairman, French and Italian) since 1953; taught at Lycée de Jeunes Filles (Algeria); at Bryn Mawr 1936-53; dir. grad. school Middlebury College, France, 1950; French army 1943-45; author of studies on Proust, Gide, Sartre.

NORTHROP FRYE, age 43, born Sherbrooke, Que., Canada; A.B., Emmanuel College, Toronto; A.M., Oxford. At Victoria College, Toronto, since 1947. Guggenheim Foundation Fellow 1950-51; author of studies on symbolism in English literature, Elizabethan literature, William Blake.

HENRY C. HATFIELD, age 43, born Evanston, Ill.; A.B., Harvard; student at Oxford and Berlin; A.M. and Ph. D., Columbia. At Harvard since 1954; taught at Williams 1938-46, Columbia 1946-54; gen. ed. of *Germanic Review* since 1947; author of studies in German literature of the classical period, the German novel, Thomas Mann, Winckelmann and his German critics; editorial board *PMLA* since 1951.

STURGIS E. LEAVITT, age 67, born Newhall, Maine; A.B., Bowdoin; A.M. and Ph.D., Harvard, D. Litt., Bowdoin and Davidson. At North Carolina since 1917 (dir. of Inst. of Latin American Studies since 1941, Kenan prof. of Spanish since

1945); Sheldon traveling fellow South America 1919-20; former editor *South Atlantic Bulletin*; assoc. editor *Hispanic Review* and *Revista Iberoamericana*; author of studies on Spanish drama, Hispano-American literature in U.S., bibliographies of Spanish-American literature.

ALBERT H. MARCKWARDT, age 51, born Grand Rapids, Mich.; A.B., A.M., and Ph.D., Mich. At Michigan since 1928; director English Language Institute, Mexico, 1943-45; director "Linguistic Atlas North Central States"; member Steering Committee of FL Program; director MLA Interdisciplinary Seminar in Language and Culture, 1953; Fulbright lecturer, Austria, 1953-54; author of studies of current English usage, introduction to the English language.

HELMUT REHDER, age 50, born Bergedorf, Germany; Ph.D., Heidelberg. At Texas since 1955; taught at Missouri 1931-37, Wisconsin 1937-46, Illinois 1946-54; author of studies on German literature and philosophy from 17th to 20th centuries.

EDWIN B. WILLIAMS, age 64, born Columbia, Pa.; A.B., A.M., and Ph.D., Pennsylvania. At Pennsylvania since 1925 (provost since 1951); summer of 1953 at Colorado; author of English-Spanish Spanish-English dictionary, studies in Spanish and Portuguese, esp. Brazilian, language.

THREE *additional* names may be added on the Ballot by the Executive Secretary on 15 October (Bylaw IV, items 2 and 3). The Secretary is required to add "The three names receiving the most votes among those proposed by members of the Association *provided that no name be entered on the Ballot that is not supported by ten members.*" Any member may propose names. In recent years, few members have done so. If names in addition to those above appear on this year's Ballot, you may learn biographical facts about them from the *Directory of American Scholars*, from which, for your convenience, most of the above data were taken.

For Members Only—Continued

PRODUCTIVITY. What percentage of the total MLA membership achieves scholarly publication annually? What percentage of the total annual output of American scholarship is done by MLA members? Thinking you'd like to know, we asked our assistant, Marvin Dilkey, to check the indexes of the 1952, 1953, and 1954 Annual Bibliographies against the 1954 printed List of Members (7,352 names). Here are his findings. In 1952 there were 2,800 names in the Bibliography; 1,229 of these (17% of our membership and 44% of the total) were MLA members. In 1953 there were 2,898 names, and 1,294 (18% of our membership, 45% of the total) were members. In 1954 there were 3,354 names, and 1,416 (19% of our membership, 42% of the total) were members. The nearly constant percentages might lead one to conclude that the same scholars produce articles year after year, but between 1953 and 1954 the overlap was only 625, or less than half; it would seem that many more members are publishing than the figure for any one year would indicate. The above statistics are even unfair to MLA productivity in one respect: the annual bibliographies have latterly included the work of many journalists, freelance writers, foreign scholars, and others who are not, by some definitions, a part of American scholarship.

CHANGES. There were over 2,100 of them to be made in the 1955 List of Members, now in your hands. Most of the changes were in rank or academic address, but some members changed names because of marriage, some institutions changed names (N.J.C for Women to Douglass C, Roosevelt C to Roosevelt U, Penn. SC to Penn. SU, Michigan SC to Michigan SU, Bethany Peniel C to Bethany Nazarene C, Tougaloo C to Tougaloo Southern Christian C), and one institution even changed its academic address (Penn. SU from State College to University Park, Pa.).

CONSCIENCE FUND. Responding to our dunning notice of 6 June, a member wrote: "Forgive my delay. I enclose check for \$10; this means that I am fining myself \$3 for being tardy. Put it in the Conscience Fund of MLA!"

CORRIGENDA. Mathilde Steckelberg (Western Michigan) writes: "In connection with page xx of *PMLA*—'visas are no longer required by any free European country ex-

cept Spain,' etc.—I have a memorandum to share with you. The Passport Office informed me this month that a visa must be obtained for travel to Finland." Ellsworth Mason (Colorado College) writes: "In your list of professors of English in Italy [June FMO, p. vi], you list a slavish-sounding gentleman by the name of 'Stanislao Yojce (Trieste).' If the typewriter keys were properly untangled, you would find that this man is actually Stanislaus Joyce, the brother of James Joyce, who came to Trieste from Dublin in 1904 at Joyce's call and remained there through 2 world wars. . . . His intellectual distinction and present crucial importance in Joyce studies warrant a correction of the above tangle." Konrad Bieber (Connecticut College) writes: "It may seem pedantic to point out a minor error in FMO, p. xix, under 'Lord's Prayer': it should read 'Notre Père, qui êtes aux cieux,' not 'est.' But it is as good a pretext as any to write you in order to tell you how much I always enjoy reading this vital section of *PMLA*. Where else could we members find matters of concern to the profession and, above all, to man? Humanists who scorn this column should worry, not about membership, but about their own gall-bladder."

GERMANY. A guest of the Federal Republic, we had a wonderful time there last June, visiting schools and universities in Berlin, Hamburg, Bonn, Wiesbaden, Frankfurt, Mainz, Heidelberg, Tübingen, München, and Göttingen. We learned a lot, but probably did irreparable damage to the reputation of American Germanists, for we traveled with a group of them and were often assumed to be one ourselves. The group: Carl Bayerschmidt (Columbia), Norman Binger (Kentucky), Frances Ellis (Indiana), U. E. Fehlau (Tulane), Llewelyn R. McKay (Utah), Viola Manderfeld (Chicago), Herman D. Poster (Wayne), and Melanie Rosborough (Miami). Most of these members had been active in the FL Program, and it was a gratifying experience to come to know them better. Even more gratifying was the discovery that they had nearly as much difficulty with German menus as we did. It proved us all Humanists and Scholars. Our personal ability to *think* in German, however, was pretty severely limited to "Noch eins."

GERMAN EDUCATION. After a single month of observing, we are now, of course,

an Authority on it, and with no blush of diffidence we offer some gleanings. As here, there is a grave shortage of classrooms, some schools working 2 shifts. Save in Bavaria, the school year opens in the spring. Surprisingly, about two thirds of all teachers in the public schools are men. When public education came to a complete stop with the end of the war, decrees by the Occupying Powers, economic stringency, and a dearth of approved personnel kept it from doing much more than revert in general to the pre-1933 pattern, with a diversity determined by the different *Länder* or states. More recently, national federation and the quiet work of teachers' groups and a Ständige Konferenz der Kultusminister have brought increasing agreement on regulations and standards. Confidence and stability have inspired some experimentation, and there is eager looking to American public education for possible models. Optional foreign language instruction has been introduced in the fifth year of many *Volksschulen*. There are about 5,500,000 children in these elementary schools; all states require full-time school attendance from ages 6 to 14 (at least 8 years—in some places 9); and only about 20% of these elementary school pupils, after 4 or more years (*Grundschule*), transfer to an intermediate school (*Mittelschule*, *Realschule*) or to one of the various types of secondary school (*Realgymnasium*, *Oberrealschule*, *Aufbauschule*, etc.). In 1953 there were only 728,000 pupils in what we might call high schools, and of these only about 5% will survive through 13 years of schooling to pass the "maturity examination" preparatory to teaching or some other profession. What most fascinated us about the German secondary school curriculum is the fact that a subject of instruction introduced at any grade level is never "dropped" but must be continued to the end of the entire course, for it is a possible subject on the final comprehensive examination. A teacher of a foreign language (e.g., English) who goes from a gymnasium to, say, the pedagogic university in Berlin will have received a total of 12½ years of instruction in the language before he is certified to teach it. We devoutly hope that Germany will not turn to American education with thoughts of reforming this detail of teacher training.

THE BALLOT. Last year, despite the convenience of the stamped, addressed, reply-

postcard, only 1 out of every 3 MLA members took the trouble to vote. Despite the steady increase in our membership, numerically this was the smallest number since 1947, and percentagewise it was the smallest number since the postcard Ballot was introduced back in 1943, when more than 48.7% voted. (In the previous year, when members had to supply the stamp, it was 6.6%.) Why did so few (34.8%) care to vote in 1954? Will it be lower still in 1955? The highest percentage that ever voted (54.6) did so in the last national election year, 1952; the second highest (53.2), in the previous national election year, 1948; the third highest (48.7), in the earlier one, 1944. Interesting? Can it be that, except in election years, not half of all members of the Association care enough about the personnel of their representative Executive Council to take a few seconds to tick a few squares and drop a postcard into a mailbox?

ALLAN F. HUBBELL. The new MLA Treasurer, successor to John Fisher, was born 40 years ago in Brooklyn, N.Y., and is now an expert on American speech; indeed, he is Managing Editor of *American Speech*, and has served as a pronunciation consultant for the Thorndike-Barnhart series of dictionaries, the *American College Dictionary*, and others. In addition to various articles and reviews, he has published *The Pronunciation of English in New York City* (1950). Although he took his M.A. (1938) and Ph.D. (1948) at Columbia, and taught there from 1937 to 1950 except for a few years (as purser-pharmacist's mate in the merchant marine during the war), he has not spent all his life in New York. He earned his B.A. from Bowdoin (1935), and taught as an assistant professor at Denver 1950-53. He came to NYU as an associate professor in 1953. A member of Phi Beta Kappa, the American Dialect Society, and other organizations, he has been in and out of the MLA, but his extraordinarily effective and devoted work on the Local Committee for the 1954 meeting commended him to our attention (as had his predecessor's work at the 1948 meeting). At his first MLA meeting, in 1939 at New Orleans, his paper was last on a program that started late and he was asked to cut it to 5 minutes. (He paid his own way from New York, traveling by coach, and 3 years later discovered that Columbia would have defrayed his expenses!)

For Members Only—Continued

Since as an undergraduate he majored in both English and German (and took his M.A. in German), he is much interested in the FL Program. As an expert on American speech he enjoys confounding people by insisting there is no such thing as a Brooklyn dialect.

COMPARISON. Both the MLA and the American Historical Association met in New York last December. At that time the AHA had a total membership of 6,135, and 1,985 registered for the meeting (a new record—the previous high was 1,533 in 1951). The MLA total membership was 8,043, and 3,686 registered for the meeting. Our previous high was in 1948, when nearly half (3,049) of our total membership (6,108) came to the convention.

NEO-LATIN LITERATURE. Members interested in 15th and 16th-century Latin literature are invited to send to Paul W. Blackford (Western Illinois State College, Macomb, Ill.) any neologisms (i.e., words or expressions used in a sense not noted in lexicons of earlier periods) or coinages (i.e., new words). These are being collected by an editorial committee consisting of Blackford, Richard T. Bruère (Chicago), Fred W. Householder (Indiana), and James R. Naiden (Seattle). The project originated at a 1952 MLA meeting (Conference on Modern Latin Literature), when lexicographical desiderata were discussed. Members may submit inquiries as well as make contributions to Professor Blackford, who has charge of this depository of valuable data.

ENGLISH INSTITUTE. Its 14th annual session was held at Columbia on 6-10 September (chairman, Reuben A. Brower, Harvard), with papers on Joyce (3), Cervantes, Proust, Eliot, Yeats, Swift, and other subjects, presented by Russell K. Alspach, Robert L. Beare, Joseph Bottkol, Herbert Cahoon, Armour Craig, F. W. Dupee, Richard Ellmann, John Hollander, Craig La Drière, Harry Levin, Albert B. Lord, Vivian Mercier, Ants Oras, Tom Patterson, Norman Pearson, Mark Schorer, Andrews Wanning, and Harold Whitehall. The registration fee: \$10.

HUMANITIES. "The bases on which civilized life is built are not scientific; they are ethical. And the incentives to human action are to be found, not in social statistics, but in the humanities. They are of supreme importance in civilizing the human creature and in

giving him that maturity and that idealism which make him fit to live in any society and a safe person into whose hands are to be placed the terrifying natural forces that pure science has recently unearthed." Oscar J. Campbell (Columbia) said it, in 1951.

WHITMAN AND THE FL PROGRAM. Doing research in the Library of Congress during the summer of 1935, Gay Allen (NYU) came across Frederick Schyberg's *Walt Whitman* (Copenhagen, 1933). Although he had been studying Whitman for some years, he had not heard of this work and, subsequently, he could find no reviews of it in the usual scholarly journals. The suspicion dawned that scholars in American literature couldn't read Danish. The suspicion certainly applied to him personally, but, his curiosity aroused by the chapter headings, Allen decided not to be stopped by the language barrier. He ordered a copy of the book, plus a Danish grammar and a "Dansk-Engelsk Ordbok." When these arrived, he and his wife set about teaching themselves Danish. Mrs. Allen soon became so interested that she easily outdistanced her husband. When they became convinced that the Danish author "had penetrated farther into Whitman's psychology than anyone else," Mrs. Allen began a complete translation, her husband wrote an introduction, and the results were published in April 1951.

BEQUESTS. In June (p. iv), with hopeful embarrassment, we announced that in 71 years the MLA had never received one from a member, and we went on to speak of bequests received by 4 other learned, humanistic societies. We can now speak of another: when Professor Charles J. Goodwin (Lehigh) died in 1935, he bequeathed the American Philological Association \$60,728.64.

AMERICAN LITERATURE. In November the Yale University Press will publish the first volume (of a projected 8 or 9) of Jacob Blanck's "A Bibliography of American Literature," a work in preparation for at least 15 years (currently a 33,000-page MS. in 152 large 3-ring notebooks). The completed work hopes to be a definite record of more than 40,000 books by 283 American authors from 1775 to 1930. A grant from the Lilly Endowment made the project possible. The late Carroll A. Wilson was chairman of the original supervising committee.

The FL Program

vii

FOURTH YEAR. The FL Program begins it next month, with Theodore Andersson on the staff (succeeding Donald Walsh), with Kenneth Mildenerger embarked on a third annual survey of FLES, with *The National Interest and Foreign Languages* being revised for a second edition (ready in Nov.), and with the Director of the Program facing (with mixed feelings) his final year. In his fourth annual report, to be given in Chicago next Dec., he will try to summarize what has been accomplished to date; but several significant products of this past year may be seen in the Supplement to this Sept. issue. However depressing the figures, it is good to know some of the *facts* about the high school situation at last. The important statement on the Qualifications of Secondary School Teachers of Modern FLs (endorsed by leaders of the profession) is only a first step toward improving this situation, and conferences leading to additional steps will be held during the fall. Our national network of communication is now almost complete, with FL bulletins in 42 states receiving news and information from MLA headquarters. Our chief impression of progress as we approach the fourth year: things are beginning to add up; we are encouraged.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS. Readers of this section have noticed that more and more of these long-supposed enemies of FL study have been making public statements favorable to FLs. Last April we published 40 such quotations in a 20-page pamphlet entitled "Recent Educational Opinion on Language Study," and we have since, with the aid of members throughout the country, distributed some thousands of these pamphlets. We did not use all the quotations we had, and we have collected more since. We'll send you as many copies of the pamphlet as you will promise to send on, with a covering letter, to professional educators *not* in the collection.

UNESCO. The U. S. National Commission for UNESCO is required by Act of Congress to hold a National Conference every other year, and the next will be held in Cincinnati in November. More than an hour of the morning's program on Saturday, 5 Nov., will be devoted to "The National Interest and FLs" (followed by a session on "Asian-

American Cultural Relations"). We shall be there as chairman of the discussion panel. The place: the Taft Auditorium (seating capacity, 2,500). UNESCO-sponsored "Citizen Consultations" on FL study have already been held in Alabama, Delaware, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, and Wisconsin, and (as this is written) are planned in Michigan, Tennessee, Utah, and other states. A second, considerably revised edition of our booklet, *The National Interest and FLs*, is scheduled for publication in late Oct., so that it may be used in connection with the Cincinnati National Conference.

MLA TEACHER'S GUIDE. We can't be completely specific about it as we write these words, but when you read them, we'll have available a detailed *Guide* for the teaching of French in Grade 3, containing weekly "units," full instructions, and many practical suggestions. With luck we shall also have ready both tape and records to accompany this material. The *Guide* was produced by a Working Committee of 8, aided by the advice of 34 other teachers who were sent drafts of the work for criticism. The Working Committee: Nelson Brooks (chairman), Marguerite Eriksson, Robert L. Politzer, Susan B. Scott, Sylvia Smith, Mary P. Thompson, and Olga Scherer Virski. Kenneth Mildenerger provided MLA staff liaison, and Elizabeth Gessler, Milton Rosenberg, and William Sayres met with the Committee as special consultants. We followed (and marveled at) this work in its various stages, and have never seen a more devoted or more enthusiastic committee. If we may turn from reporting to prophesy, we venture to think that this cooperative effort will be remembered in years to come as pioneering a new era in the preparation of FL textbooks. If you'd like to see for yourself whether or not 46 heads are better than 1, the *Guide* will be sent to you for only \$2.

CORNELL. Its College of Arts and Sciences has recently voted to stiffen the FL requirement, which was previously the attainment of "proficiency" in one FL, whether in college courses or by examination at entrance. (In practice, about half of those entering with 3 years of French passed the proficiency test.) The new requirement is that a student