

For Members Only

DISTINCTION. As we read it, there are two kinds of writing, creative and non-creative, and two kinds of creative writing, imaginative and non-imaginative. In our opinion, *scholarly* writing, at least in the field of literature, should be often of the creative if non-imaginative sort. Good scholarship is essentially a creative process, and the expression of its results should also be a creative process. Verve is not to be confused with carelessness; grace, not to be confused with distortion.

EUROPE BOUND? We repeat our offer to write letters for members, identifying them as such and certifying their scholarly interests, with a view to facilitating their negotiations with foreign librarians and archivists.

OBITER. We have said it before but let us say it again: Occasional editorializing in this section is not an expression of "official" policy unless so stated.

ACLS FACULTY STUDY FELLOWS. Among the 18 awards made for 1952-53: Erich A. Albrecht, German, Tulane (for a study of cultural anthropology); Donald E. Emerson, history, Washington (Russian lang., German and French lit.); Louis Filler, English, Antioch (psychology, sociology, anthropology); James C. Hunt, English, Williams (classical lit.); Harold D. Kelling, English, California (classical lit.); Gerhard Loose, German, Colorado (modern essay); Donald McRae, literature, Reed (history of ideas); William W. Pusey III, German, Washington and Lee (British, French, Russian lit.); Herbert M. Schueller, English, Wayne (philosophy); John S. Sherwood, English, Oregon (philosophy); Craig R. Thompson, English, Lawrence (philosophy and theology).

ATQUE VALE. As our warm thanks go to Otto Springer for ten years of faithful and valuable service, we welcome to the Editorial Committee for *PMLA* Professor Carl Selmer of Hunter College, who has a short article in this issue.

AMERICAN PHILOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION. David Magie of Princeton received the APA'S first Award of Merit for his *Roman Rule in Asia Minor*. The publication of Aubrey Diller's *The Tradition of the Minor Greek Geographers* (Monograph XIV) is announced for September; T. R. S. Broughton's *The Magistrates of the Roman Republic*, Vol. II (Monograph XV), for October.

GENTLEMEN SCHOLARS. A member writes: "My steadily increasing enjoyment of *PMLA* reaches a new high point in relation to your treatment of the joint discovery of the Buchanan-Hardy relationship, in the March number. Your wise and just action, the good will and good humor so generously displayed by both scholars—the whole matter is a real joy to the beholder."

CHEMICAL RETORT. Our paragraph entitled "Paper Curtain" (Feb., p. i) brought this response from a member: "Breast-beating never took the place of solid work, and it won't for us; the editorial points up the issue very well. I'd like to see an energetic committee go to work and set up standards for our field exactly as the American Chemical Society did for chemistry: minimum standards of training, equipment, and subject matter—clear goals which will unify the teaching program. We have been riding along the independency road and one by one we fall off our Rosinantes. We have overextended our lines because we do not know where the battle is being fought. We charge individually instead of collectively. . . ."

INSUFFICIENT SECURITY. We are fortunate to live in an age which has concerned itself with social security so called. *Economic* security we are in part achieving—to what purpose? Are humanists now ready to say how we shall achieve *intellectual* and *spiritual* security? Or shall we leave this to the government too?

RECORDS. The Idiom Recording Company (809 Amherst Ave., Ann Arbor, Mich.) offers 12-inch, long-playing, 33½ rpm. records with Austin Warren reading and explaining Emily Dickinson (14 poems) and George Herbert (*The Collar*, *Sin*, *Prayer*, *Virtue*, *The Pulley*, *The Elixir*, *The Flower*); or Pope (*Dr. Arbuthnot*

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abridged) and Milton (*Lycidas*, 3 sonnets, *On the Detraction*); or Donne (*Song, The Ecstasy, Love's Infiniteness, Love's Usury, Love's Alchemy, The Will, The Indifferent, Elegy IX, Satire I, Hymn to God, My God in My Illness, Hymn to God the Father*, and 6 *Holy Sonnets*); or another record of Donne (*Canonization, The Good-Morrow, The Flea, Woman's Constancy, Air and Angels, A Fever, Valediction Forbidding Mourning, Nocturnal upon St. Lucy's Day, and A Litany* unabridged)—each for \$8.40. On a 10-inch record Warren also reads Whitman (*Song of Myself* abridged) and Poe (*City in the Sea, For Annie, Annabel Lee*); price, \$6.80. The Idiom Company plans to issue recordings by recognized critics and scholars of French, German, Italian, and Spanish poetry.

DEATH OF A COMMITTEE. At the February 1951 meeting of the Conference Board of Associated Research Councils a committee was authorized to consider a suggestion that funds be sought to assist non-profit journals in meeting their rising publication expenses. The committee never met and was allowed to lapse when the Conference Board met this February because—please note—the National Science Foundation had meanwhile initiated an inquiry into this subject. Let editors of humanistic journals keep their hopes down.

GRAY'S ELEGY. A facsimile of both the first edition and the Eton College MS. of the poem in Gray's own hand, with an introduction by George Sherburn, may be obtained for 60¢ (45¢ each in lots of ten or more) from the Augustan Reprint Society (Clark Memorial Library, 2205 W. Adams Blvd., Los Angeles 18, Calif.). The same generous price scale applies to the reprint of Johnson's *Vanity of Human Wishes* and *Ramblers* 5 and 60, with an introduction by Bertrand Bronson.

AMERICAN FOLKLORE SOCIETY. It met with the MLA last December in Detroit but this year will meet in El Paso before Christmas (December 22-23). The AFS President, Francis Lee Utley, plans also to attend the MLA sessions in Boston; it remains to be seen how many other loyal MLA folklorists will join him in the 2,128 mile flight.

ABSTRACT THOUGHT. Harry Kurz of Queens writes: "I hear that General Ike prefers communications that do not run beyond one page. Probably any subject can be sketched in a few pregnant statements. When I skip an article in *PMLA*, I look at the introduction and conclusion hoping to catch the gist or the scent. It might be helpful to all readers if each article had a one-page résumé of its significance or import, the article itself furnishing the complete record. Even scholars have to read as they run on occasion."

AUDIENCES. The Alexander Lectures are delivered in Hart House, University of Toronto (capacity 550); the Messenger Lectures are normally given in Room M, Olin Hall, Cornell (capacity 338).

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY. Membership is now 475 from Great Britain, 216 from the U. S., and 24 from other countries. The annual subscription was recently raised from two to three guineas. Hugh Macdonald's *Bibliography of Hobbes* and Folke Dahl's *Bibliography of English Corantos*, now in the proof stage, are expected to be published later this year. W. A. Jackson's edition of *Court Book C of the Stationers' Company*, Sir Irvine Masson's illustrated monograph on the Mainz Psalter, R. H. Super's *The Publication of Landor's Works*, and Kathi Meyer-Baer's *Liturgical Music Incunabula* are all in the hands of the printer. Progress is also reported on the preparation of Volume III of Greg's *Bibliography* and Wright's edition of the *Diary of Humfrey Wanley*.

FIRST-YEAR GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS. The ACLS announces fourteen awards for 1952-53. Among the winners: Mrs. Helen Cohen (Russian lit., nominated by Northwestern), Clare L. Colegrove (English, Michigan State), Caroline J. Crea (English, Agnes Scott), Jack G. Goellner (English, Allegheny), Alexandra Karmansky (comp. lit., Washington State), William B. Patterson (English, Univ. of the South), Burton E. Pike (comp. lit., Haverford).

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AWARD. Reuben Wallenrod of Brooklyn College won the \$500 prize of the Zionist Organization of America for his volume of studies on modern Hebrew literature of Israel, written while enjoying a Guggenheim (1949).

BELIEVE IT OR NOT. We can hardly believe it ourselves, but during the first twelve months after its appearance, the small staff in the MLA offices distributed 30,000 copies of the *MLA Style Sheet*. Never was "publisher" more embarrassed by "best seller." Anticipating a flood of orders this fall, we have just asked our printer for 20,000 additional copies. Price: still only ten cents.

HENRY SILVER. The Association of [45] Research Libraries, at its January 26 meeting, by unanimous resolution instructed its Executive Secretary (Robert Miller) to express its concern "at the abrupt termination of the work on scholarly publishing" conducted by Silver. Part of the letter sent the ACLS: "The costs of scholarly publication continue to rise and the consequent burden on libraries continues to increase. A report laid before the Association reveals that the same amount of money which four years ago would have purchased subscriptions to 40 important journals, will this year buy only 16. No corresponding increase in library budgets has been made and many libraries have no alternative except to discontinue subscriptions. . . . The inflationary spiral will continue its destructive rise unless most determined efforts are made to arrest it. Through his activities in many diverse fields, Mr. Silver was bringing together for the first time authors, editors, publishers, and printers for a determined attack on costs and methods of publication. His investigations of old and new techniques were beginning to bear fruit in this critical area of scholarship. . . ."

REVENANT. An old friend reappeared in February. You may now once more read the quarterly, *Etudes Anglaises*, or submit articles to its editor, Prof. Louis Bonnerot, 129 Avenue de Clamart, Vanves (Seines), France.

IDEA? A member reports: "In a graduate seminar in Introduction to Advanced Study, just ended, I used to great advantage recent articles by A. S. P. Woodhouse, Cleanth Brooks, Raymond D. Havens, Wayne Shumaker, Roy Battenhouse, and others. That is, they were basic materials, required reading of everybody, with an oral report and discussion on most of them. I know that *PMLA* does not and should not aim at this end, but I think the fact significant that so many papers are lively and dynamic as well as thoroughly sound and exhaustive."

EXPERIMENT. We were of course interested when Karl Pfeiffer of N.Y.U. offered, for the first time last fall, a graduate seminar in Scholarly Writing—even more interested when, without our suggestion, he decided to use the March 1951 issue of *PMLA* as a text. Recently he wrote us: "It has proved more satisfactory than I dared hope. As I see it, *PMLA* serves several purposes. First, it gives the students a first-hand acquaintance with a major scholarly journal. Second, it familiarizes them with recent scholarship. But its chief value for us is that it provides examples of first-class scholarly writing, which we analyze in detail. Since faulty organization seems to be the outstanding fault of our theses and dissertations, we have outlined a number of articles in *PMLA*. R. E. Moore's 'Dr. Johnson on Fielding and Richardson' and Morse Peckham's 'Toward a Theory of Romanticism' were particularly useful. It was something of a surprise to most students to learn that the writers invariably stated exactly what they proposed to do, and then developed their aims in blocks of related paragraphs. We also studied diction, adaptation of material to the audience (sometimes the specialists in a field, sometimes a wider audience), sentence variety, even humor." To other members who are thinking about using some issue of *PMLA* as a text in a graduate course, we recommend especially the forthcoming September issue, which we venture to predict will be one of the most readable and stimulating numbers we have yet sent to press. The MLA Treasurer will supply copies in quantity at half price (i.e., at \$1).

Ordering Microfilm

As a service to members, we give here a brief history and some account of the facilities of University Microfilms, 313 N. First Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

In 1936, as an employee of Edwards Brothers, Mr. Eugene B. Power had started the great project of filming all *STC* books and distributing the positives to American libraries. In June of 1938, with a total equipment of two cameras, one in the B. M. and one in Ann Arbor, he founded University Microfilms. (The camera in the British Museum had been placed there in 1935, the only microfilm camera in Europe at the time, and the second flat bed camera ever built, the first being one designed by Dr. R. H. Draeger in Washington.) In 1939 Power received a Carnegie grant to travel in Europe and completed his plan of placing a network of cameras in strategic libraries so that American scholars could easily obtain microfilm copies of research materials on the Continent.

The war frustrated the plan, although a Graflex Photo-Record was sent to both Oxford and the Vatican. In 1941 the ACLS asked Power to undertake the filming of English manuscript treasures threatened by bombing, and, with the assistance of a Rockefeller grant, this magnificent project was begun early in 1942—along with the filming of enemy periodicals available in England but not in America (this for the OSS). University Microfilms also did work for the Army, Navy, and Air Corps, which necessitated a considerable increase in the plant facilities at Ann Arbor.

After the war, the original plan was revived, and University Microfilms now has modern microfilm cameras, capable of quality work, at the British Museum, Oxford, Cambridge, the Public Record Office, the Hague, Helsinki, the Bibliothèque Nationale, the Archives of the Indies in Seville, and the Huntington Library. Some current projects: filming the records of the Stationers' Company; English literary periodicals of the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries (some 200); and (still) the *STC* series. In addition, University Microfilms serves 18 universities which publish dissertations on film. Mr. Power estimates that his firm handles approximately 100 requests per month for materials from foreign libraries and that fully 60 to 70 percent of these requests are from scholars in the MLA field.

The individual scholar may order (on a form sent on request) anything from a single page of manuscript to a whole collection on film. The minimum charge is \$2.50 for foreign orders, \$1.00 for domestic. Basic rates are 3½¢ per exposure and 6¢ per foot for positive. These rates have changed but slightly since 1939 (then 3¢ and 5¢). English rates are pretty well standardized at 6¢ per exposure (but 4¢ at the P. R. O.). For the Bibliothèque Nationale the rate is approximately 5¢. Rates in Italy may on occasion go as high as 12 or 15¢, depending upon circumstances. All rates are subject to change as the value of the currency changes in the country in which the film is produced.

The length of time to fill a foreign request may vary greatly. If the matter is of great urgency, film can be obtained from the B. M. in two or three weeks; from the P. R. O. it sometimes takes nine months or even longer. The Bodleian Library requires use of a special form (copies of which University Microfilms keeps), and Italian libraries require a complete letter outlining everything to be done, plus the deposit of a positive microfilm, plus (sometimes) a paper enlargement copy.

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

THE Executive Council met in both the Hotel Statler and the new headquarters of the Association, New York City, in five sessions on Saturday and Sunday, March 29 and 30, 1952. Present were the President (Baugh), the First Vice President (Zdanowicz), the Second Vice President (Nordmeyer), the Managing Trustee (Kimball), Professors Hughes, Malone, Wade, Bush, Doyle, Willard Thorp (as proxy for Stauffer), Keniston, Schreiber, Loomis, O'Brien, and Woodhouse, the Executive Officers, and the Assistant to the Executive Secretary (Rowell). Absent were Professors Stauffer and Lange. Present as guests at the Saturday evening session (which lasted until well after midnight) were Charles E. Odegaard, Executive Director of the American Council of Learned Societies; Meriwether Stuart, Secretary-Treasurer of the American Philological Association; the Assistant Secretary (Johnson); and the Assistant Editor (Taylor).

I. *Policy.*

The Council directed the Secretary to assume leadership in projects for broadening, without neglecting, the interests and activities of the Association, beginning with analyses of current aims and methods in both the study and the teaching of language and literature. Conscious of the fact that this request marked a beginning of new policies consonant with the revised constitutional statement of the Association's purpose, the Council unanimously passed a resolution endorsing the Secretary in an active rather than a passive role and authorizing him, as their spokesman, to direct and, if possible, find financial support for a suggested program of planning and development.

II. *Appointments.*

1. *Executive Secretary.* The salary of the incumbent was increased by \$1,000 a year, effective October 1.
2. *Assistant Secretary.* The resignation of S. F. Johnson was accepted with regret, and the Executive Secretary was authorized to make a suitable appointment or appointments.
3. *Bibliography Committee.* Paul A. Brown, Arnold Reichenberger, and Bodo Richter, 1952-55 (reappointments).
4. *Book Publications Committee.* William Charvat, Lionel Stevenson, and Rosemond Tuve, 1952-57.
5. *Editorial Committee.* Carl Selmer, 1952-57.
6. *Committee on International Cultural Cooperation.* No appointment.
7. *New Variorum Shakespeare Committee.* James G. McManaway, chairman, 1952-56.
8. *Program Committee.* Harold A. Basilius, 1952-57.
9. *Committee on Research Activities.* All present members of the Committee were reappointed, with terms as follows: Rehder (1953), Dieckmann (1954), Marckwardt (1954), Wellek (1955), Thorpe (1956), and Gilman (1957). The intention was to produce a normal, five-man committee in July of 1954.
10. *Commission on Trends in Education.* No appointment.

III. *Nominations.*

1. *Nominating Committee.* Chandler Beall, William C. DeVane, George R. Havens, George Sherburn, Henry Nash Smith, Taylor Starck, Archer Taylor, Ira O. Wade, Helen C. White, and Louis B. Wright.

2. *Nominations to the Executive Council.* The following were placed on the 1952 Ballo for the term 1953–56:

Arnold Bergstraesser	<i>Chicago</i>	Germanic
Morris G. Bishop	<i>Cornell</i>	Romance
John E. Englekirk	<i>Tulane</i>	Romance
Einar Haugen	<i>Wisconsin</i>	Germanic
Perry Miller	<i>Harvard</i>	English
Warner G. Rice	<i>Michigan</i>	English
Ernest J. Simmons	<i>Columbia</i>	Slavic

IV. *Finances.*

1. *Reports.* The reports of the Managing Trustee, the Treasurer, and the Assistant to the Executive Secretary (on advertising) were received with thanks.
2. *Budget.* The 1952–53 Budget of the Treasurer was approved.
3. *Bond.* The Council rescinded its action of last December (February 1952 *PMLA*, p. 105).
4. *Paper.* The Treasurer was authorized to order a cheaper paper for use in *PMLA* and in offprints.
5. *Checking.* Both the Executive Secretary and the Treasurer were authorized to sign checks for the Association.
6. *PMLA.*
 - a. The Editor was authorized to reduce the March, June, September, and December issues each by 32 pages.
 - b. The Editor was instructed to discontinue the February issue, beginning in 1953, and to include only its essential contents in other issues.
 - c. The Assistant Editor was instructed to publish the compilation of "Research in Progress" in alternate years (i.e., 1952, 1954, etc.) and to recommend to the Council at its next meeting criteria designed to reduce the size and increase the soundness of the compilation.
 - d. The Executive Secretary was instructed to learn the attitude of the membership on the relative expendability of "Research in Progress," the "American Bibliography," the annual Proceedings, the annual list of members, and learned articles in *PMLA*.

V. *Calendar.*

1. *Council.* The next meeting of the Executive Council was appointed for the evening of Friday, December 26, in Boston.
2. *Annual meetings.* The Executive Secretary and Treasurer were authorized to make commitments or, if necessary, changes in tentative arrangements, in view of earlier decisions of the Council [*PMLA*, LXVI, 557].

VI. *Committees.*

1. *Bibliography.* A meeting of the Committee on the "American Bibliography" was authorized (budget permitting) to make recommendations to the Council on various suggestions for the improvement of the compilation.
2. *Editorial.* An occasional department in *PMLA* of "Notes, Documents, and Critical Comment" was authorized in lieu of the present section of "Comment and Criticism," and the Editor was authorized to write and publish editorials in the "For Members Only" section at his discretion, with the understanding that these will express his own views and not necessarily the views of the Council.

3. *Honorary Members.* The Executive Secretary was asked to investigate the possibility of State Department or foundation support for a plan to bring one or more Honorary Members to each of our annual meetings during the next few years.
4. *New Variorum Shakespeare.* The President and Executive Secretary were authorized to sign an agreement with the Furness heirs regarding copyright matters; and, after a long discussion of a proposed series of supplements, the Council decided that (a) revised editions were preferable to supplements, (b) current funds were insufficient to warrant the risk of either revised editions or supplements, and, therefore, (c) the Committee should be encouraged to explore the possibility of publication in a periodical of any supplementary materials submitted to it for approval.
5. *Photographic Reproductions.* It was voted to terminate subscriptions, suspend orders, and supersede the present committee by a terminal committee of present and former co-chairmen who will be asked to present to the Council a plan for concluding the work of the Committee, meeting its obligations, and caring for the property.
6. *Research Activities.* The report of the Committee was approved, including the recommendation that the Association officially sponsor two current research projects: (a) the new edition of the Chaucer Life Records, by M. M. Crow and C. C. Olson, and (b) a Dictionary of American Usage.

VII. *Miscellaneous.*

1. *Program.* The Secretary-Editor was authorized to publish in the annual *Program* (a) notices of all luncheon and dinner meetings reported to him by associated organizations and falling within the time of the MLA sessions, (b) the full programs of all organizations invited by the Executive Council to hold joint-meetings with us (e.g., ACLS constituent societies), and (c), regularly, the programs of the American Dialect Society and the American Studies Association.
2. *Advertising.* The Treasurer was authorized to sell advertising in the annual *Program* at one third the current rate to any educational organization meeting with us.
3. *Services.* The Treasurer was authorized in general to sell to regularly associated groups the use of our addressograph file, reprints in quantity from *PMLA*, and other such services approximately at the cost to us, including both the material and labor involved.
4. *Regional societies.* The Executive Secretary was empowered to indicate that the Council would be pleased to receive ideas or suggestions from regional societies looking toward a closer association of such societies with the MLA in the achieving of common goals.
5. *Council prize.* Action was deferred until the next meeting of the Council.

Editorial

LET US SPEAK of scholarly publishing and of the need for a clear distinction between vulgarization and scholarly popularization. We begin by insisting that "scholarly popularization" is not an oxymoron and that a scholar who tries to achieve it is far from any kind of a moron. Indeed, in this time of inflationary printing costs (and of many educated people dubious about the values of literary research), a scholar may be forever dumb if he doesn't try.

When we were younger, "popularization" was a dirty word to which you didn't attach respectable adjectives. What did it mean? If you wrote for only 250 or 500 (maybe 750) people, you were "scholarly"; if you wrote for 1,000, 1,500, or more, you were a "popularizer," hence "unscholarly." (To put it another way, if you wrote a book bought by as many people as might listen to you read a paper at a General Session of the MLA in the ballroom of the Statler in New York, you didn't deserve ever to be invited to read a paper at an MLA meeting.) What determined these magic figures?

They were determined largely by the fact that the American public—as turned out of our classrooms—bought few books and had little relish for serious writing. (Perhaps not incidentally, few of the MLA members who would listen to you would also buy your book.) There are 155,000,000 people in the United States, but today a book bought by 10,000 of them is a "best seller." This being so, most university presses, even in a time of soaring printing costs, will still take a good book that will sell 2,000 or 2,500 copies. But we, as confident as ever that we have not increased the audience for scholarly writing in our field, complain that the university presses have "gone commercial." And whose fault is this situation?

In scholarly writing we may think of ourselves in either of two ways: as *teachers*, trying to reach the widest possible audience, matriculated or non-matriculated, within our range; or as *specialists*, engaged in profitable shop-talk with other specialists and a handful of would-be specialists. Neither activity should be condemned, and society will probably continue to tolerate the second as it applauds the first—so long as we do not confuse the two in our own thinking, so long as we remember that the second is for the sake of the first, so long as we do not demand (in times like these) the same *kind* of publication privileges for the second as are accorded to the first.

If to popularize means to write in such a way as to find purchasers among most of the public, then only Shakespeare and the Bible have come even near to achieving it. But if to popularize means to write so clearly and effectively that, among that very small percentage of literate people who buy and enjoy non-fiction, enough will be attracted to a book to repay the publisher for his pains, then a number of very fine scholars have already been popularizers, and a great many more will sensibly follow their example.

Vulgarization is something else: it is aiming far beyond our natural, already interested audience; it may be to indulge in cheap tricks of style and attitude in order to attract attention; it may be to sacrifice scholarly accuracy and proportion and decorum for the sake of journalism or propaganda or mass appeal. No true scholar is by either temperament or training a vulgarizer. Every true teacher is by both temperament and training a popularizer. "Scholarly popularization" is not a paradox; we have long practiced it, with considerable success, in our classrooms, and in our textbooks. We need confidence and common sense in order to achieve it more often with the fruits of our research.

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UNCONSIDERED TRIFLES. We always enjoy reading Louis Wright's *Report from the Folger Library* and we liked particularly his piece in the March issue on "That Blessed Word Research." A few excerpts will say why: ". . . the enemies of learning are always ready to ridicule the investigations of historians and students of letters as irrelevant to the present needs of man. Tolerance of pedantry or of triviality which passes for learning gives aid and comfort to hostile critics. If we wish to escape criticism we must see that our research has value and serves to advance significant learning. . . . We must confess that too much so-called research in the humanities has been merely the accumulation of unconsidered trifles. The world will not allow us the luxury of self-indulged pedantry much longer."

FOLGER FELLOWS. Among those who will study at the Folger Library in air-conditioned comfort this summer are: A. H. Scouten (Pennsylvania), George Winchester Stone Jr. (George Washington), John H. McDowell (Ohio State), Allan H. Stevenson (Illinois Tech.), Hereward T. Price (Michigan), John C. Hodges (Tennessee), Virgil Whitaker (Stanford), Charles Haywood (Queen's), Philip H. Highfill Jr. (Rochester), S. Warhaft (Northwestern).

DUES. Members (thank you!) have this year paid more promptly than in any recent year. Those few who have not sent us their \$7 by July 1, however, will have their names dropped from all lists.

Exceptions: We are a learned society, not a business, and members who simply cannot pay by July 1 will be retained on the lists if they inform the Treasurer of their intention to pay by a specific date during the summer. Silence, on the other hand, will have to be interpreted as an intention to resign. Checks should be made payable to the Modern Language Association.

HUNTINGTON LIBRARY. French R. Fogle has been added to the Research Group. Fellowships for 1952-53 have been awarded to Paul E. McLane (Notre Dame), Edmund S. Morgan (Brown), F. P. Wilson (Oxford), Ralph P. Bieber (Washington), and Franklin Walker (Mills); grants in aid, to Charles R. Anderson (Hopkins), E. K. Chamberlin (Montana State), William H. Gilman (Rochester), James L. Harlan (Colorado A. and M.), Robert Hoopes (Stanford), A. P. Nasatir (San Diego State), Alice Sperduti (Smith), and Bell I. Wiley (Emory).

VISITING GERMANY? The German Tourist Information Office in New York (18) is at 11 W. 42 Street; in Chicago (2), Room 628, 127 N. Dearborn Street; in San Francisco (5), Room 239, 417 Market Street. The German-American Trade Promotion Company (6921 Empire State Bldg., 350 Fifth Ave., New York) has recently issued an attractive, 46-page brochure entitled "Studying in Germany." We suggest that interested members ask for it.

PUBLISHING A BOOK? Tell your publisher he must be sure to advertise it in *PMLA*, where almost all the active scholars in the profession can learn of its appearance. He will welcome your suggestions on effective advertising media.

IVORY TOWER? The death on March 26 of Francis C. MacDonald, former Princeton English professor and a novelist and poet, prompted us to return to page 66 of Percy Long's account of the role of the MLA in World War II (*PMLA*, March 1949, the 1948 Proceedings). During World War I, MacDonald, on leave from the university, served at the American Embassy in Tokio and devised a secret code which was used by the State Department for many years. During World War II, MLA members played a vital role in *breaking* the Japanese code, and thus "had a direct hand in the sinking of enemy ships, the betrayal of enemy spies, the frustrating of enemy diplomacy, and the saving of American lives by intercepted intelligence." Will those involved now come forward and permit us to tell more?

FORTHCOMING. Three new volumes in the University of North Carolina Studies in Comparative Literature (Editor, W. P. Friederich, Box 775, Chapel Hill)

The American Dialect Society

The AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY was founded at Harvard University in 1889 by a group of persons distinguished either then or later (among them Francis James Child, George Lyman Kittredge, Charles Hall Grandgent, James B. Greenough, John M. Manly, Edward S. Sheldon, and James Russell Lowell). "The . . . Society was [originally] organized for the purpose of making a careful study of the characteristics of spoken English of the United States and Canada, and incidentally of other non-aboriginal dialects spoken in the same countries."

In 1940 the Society was reorganized, and its interests and activities were enlarged. It now has eight research committees, each headed by a specialist in the field: Regional Speech and Localisms, Place-Names, Linguistic Geography, Usage, Non-English Dialects, New Words, Semantics, and Proverbial Sayings.

Dialect Notes was the first organ of the Society, issued from 1890 to 1939, in six volumes. Lack of funds caused it to cease publication. In 1944 it was succeeded by the *Publication of the American Dialect Society*, seventeen issues of which have appeared. The present journal contains much more variety than its predecessor, and some of its issues are much longer, one running to 252 pages.

The great objective of the Society is a large dialect dictionary of the United States and Canada. Under the direction of Margaret Bryant, chairman of the Committee on Proverbial Sayings, members have collected more than 120,000 slips containing proverbial expressions, which are to be put into book form soon.

Regular annual meetings are held in conjunction with meetings of the MLA. Frequently additional meetings are held with other learned societies. One regional division of the Society has just been formed in the South. It had a program in Atlanta in November. Other divisions will probably be formed in other sections.

Membership is conferred upon anyone interested in the aims and activities of the Society. Dues for regular members (persons or institutions) are \$3 a year; for contributing members, \$5 (or more) a year. The membership is now the largest in the history of the Society.

GEORGE P. WILSON, *Secretary-Treasurer*
Woman's College of the University of
North Carolina, Greensboro

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are now in press: Frank G. Ryder's edition of George Ticknor's *The Sorrows of Young Werter*; Helmut Hatzfeld's critical bibliography, *The Development of Stylistic Studies in the Romance Literatures, 1900-1952*; and W. P. Friederich and H. Frenz's *Yearbook of Comparative and General Literature, I*. Already published in this series: R. C. Simonini's *Italian Scholarship in Renaissance England* (\$2.75), Friederich's *Dante's Fame Abroad, 1350-1850* (\$7.50), and Friederich and Baldensperger's *Bibliography of Comparative Literature* (\$12.75).

MLA IN THE "OLD ROW." The new offices of the Association occupy the entire ground-floor apartment (four rooms and a long hallway) of number 6 Washington Square North, one of the thirteen handsome red-brick houses which for more than 120 years have faced and graced the Square between Fifth Avenue and University Place in New York. Recently purchased by New York University (as part of a 203-year lease obtained from Sailors' Snug Harbor), number 6 will be named "Gallatin House" in honor of Albert Gallatin, first president of the NYU Council and Secretary of the Treasury under Thomas Jefferson. The four floors above the MLA headquarters house a conference, research, and publications center conducted by the university's two business schools. The Association's *postal address* (100 Washington Square East) will remain unchanged, but members visiting New York should look for us at number 6, at the top of the Square.

OLD SPANISH DICTIONARY. Due credit will be given scholars who send corrections or additions to the *Tentative Dictionary* of 1946, or carbon copies of any etymological or lexicographical theses, to the Seminar of Medieval Spanish Studies, University of Wisconsin, Madison 6. Publication of the new dictionary, which will include a wealth of material from the works of Alfonso el Sabio et al., may be delayed by priorities given some Alfonsine text editions intended to serve the project. The OSP Dictionary staff, incidentally, has recently been strengthened in the Hispano-Arabic field by the addition of Dr. A. R. Nykl.

OUR GREATEST NEED. The Director of one of the best of our university presses writes: "I have just read the editorial in the February issue of *PMLA*, and I must tell you that I admire it immensely. I can't speak publicly on this subject, because I don't think my University would permit me to do so, but I am impressed, as you are, with the fact that too many foundations today are being operated on the theory that their business is to arrange educational, research, and other departures from the norms. The world is simply lousy with ordinary tasks crying to be done, and I agree with you that our greatest need is to get on with some of them."

RECOMMENDATION. "Since a nation's literature, philosophy, history, and social and political institutions are interdependent, a comprehensive study of the total culture of a foreign nation [should] be made possible in every major American university. Such area studies, integrating the humanistic approach with the social and political, should be organized either within the respective literature department or through interdepartment cooperation. The foreign culture to be studied as a unit should be chosen by each university in the light of its tradition, faculty, library resources, and collections of material." This is one of the recommendations that came out of the Aspen Germanics Conference in July 1949. For a summary report on the conference (and the other recommendations), see *School and Society*, LXXV (12 Jan. 1952), 22-25.

GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENT. In April (p. iii) we printed the first list of members whose generous gifts to the Association have made possible the purchase of new equipment and furniture for our new offices. We shall publish additional names in future issues. But let us here acknowledge our heartfelt appreciation of the contributions sent us by the following since the first list went to the printer: George H. Nettleton, Leslie A. Marchand, Stuart Atkins, Henri Peyre, John D. Cooke, F. W. Hilles, Fritz Mezger, Don M. Wolfe, James G. Southworth, William A. Nitze, Edwin Wolf 2nd, Alfred L. Kellogg, Lawrence Babb, Samuel H. Monk, Mrs. Hill Shine, Henry R. Kahane, John Whyte (since deceased), Roy Batten-

The Linguistic Society

THE LINGUISTIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA was founded in 1924 to further the study of language and languages, and now occupies a leading position among learned bodies devoted to linguistics. In order to accomplish its purposes, the Society holds two meetings each year, one in summer, one just after Christmas. These meetings are devoted to the delivery and discussion of research papers and the equally important informal exchange of ideas and information among the members. The Summer Meetings for 1952 and 1953 will be held on the campus of Indiana University in Bloomington; the next Annual Meeting will be in Cambridge.

In addition to these meetings, the Society and a University which acts as host together sponsor each year a Linguistic Institute, which is a regularly organized and accredited Graduate and Undergraduate Summer School offering work in both theoretical and applied linguistics. The Institutes for 1952 and 1953 will be at Indiana University, under the direction of Professor C. F. Voegelin. The coming Institute will present structural studies from both the American and the European point of view, will offer a survey of phonemic theory, a laboratory course in acoustic phonetics, a seminar in child language, and in the relation of linguistics to literary studies (jointly with the School of Letters). Besides the better known Indo-European languages including a full range of courses on English, some of the languages studied will be those of North America, Africa, the Finno-Ugrian family, and Chinese. The staff will, as in the past, be composed of recognized linguistic scientists from this and other countries, thus making it possible to offer a wider opportunity for diversified study than is possible at any single institution.

The Society's publications consist of the journal *Language*, and two separate series of Monographs and Dissertations, as well as a series of Special Publications. The journal is now in its twenty-eighth volume; twenty-five Monographs and forty-five Dissertations have been issued.

Membership is open to anyone who has a serious interest in the science of language. All members receive the regular publications gratis, and a discount on the special series. Dues for 1952 are five dollars, but for 1953 will be raised to eight dollars except for students, for whom the fee will be reduced to four dollars.

Inquiries concerning the Institute should be sent to the Assistant Director, Professor THOMAS A. SEBEOK, Department of Linguistics, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana. Inquiries concerning the Society or its publications should be sent to the Secretary, Professor ARCHIBALD A. HILL, Box 1001 University, Charlottesville, Virginia.

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house, William N. Locke, Johnstone Parr, James A. Work, Veré L. Rubel, Alfred Foulet, Helen E. Sandison, Courtney Bruerton, Bradford A. Booth, John Jay Parry, Norbert Fuerst, Hans Kurath, Carl Schreiber, and Elton Hocking. As we type these names, we have a warm sense of belonging, truly, to an Association. We have tried to make such use of the contributions, large and small, that when these loyal members come to visit us they, in turn, will feel that the fellowship of learning has at last found an appropriate setting. Our own office now has a fireplace (that works!), comfortable chairs, a walnut conference table, and beautiful walnut desks. We hope to add more as additional contributions come in. We even dare to dream of air-conditioning. . . .

AMERICAN LITERATURE. A dollar bill sent to Arlin Turner (Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge 3, La.) will bring you a copy of the *Report of the Committee on Trends in Research in American Literature: 1940-1950*, unless the 100 copies remaining in February are now sold.

DID YOU KNOW? The centered dot for syllable division in dictionaries came from Percy Long's suggesting it (also the extensive entry of terminal combining forms: *-itis, -osis*, etc.). . . . Of 31 dissertations on Melville completed between 1933 and 1950, only 6 have been published as complete works. . . . A chair of Yiddish linguistics, literature, and culture (the first in America?) has been established at Columbia University. . . . Two present members of the MLA Executive Council, Hayward Keniston and Casimir Zdanowicz, were born in the year the MLA was founded. . . . The American Academy of Arts and Letters has deposited its collection of more than 400 (largely 19th century) MSS—including letters by Keats, Shelley, Poe, and Jonathan Edwards—in the Library of Congress. . . . Maurice Bowra, Harold Williams, and Douglas Savory have been knighted. . . . The Ford Foundation's new "Board on Overseas Training and Research" will announce on June 15 the winners of 100 fellowships for study in Asia and the Near and Middle East. . . . The January issue of the *American Journal of Archaeology* contained a revised, 7-page list of abbreviations of titles of periodicals and standard works which are frequently cited, and offprints of this may be obtained free of charge from the Editor. . . . Over half of the 1,300 Ph.D. dissertations in history now in progress (according to Charles E. Nowell) are concerned with the 20th century. . . .

GUGGENHEIMS. Among the 191 recipients of Guggenheim fellowships for the year 1952-53 were the following 25 in the MLA field: Gay W. Allen (NYU), James F. Beard (Dartmouth), Giuliano Bonfante (Princeton), Imbrie Buffum (Yale), Arthur L. Campa (Denver), Everett Carter (California), Gilbert Chinard (Princeton), George R. Coffman (N.C.), Frederick W. Dupee (Columbia), Donald M. Frame (Columbia), Wayland D. Hand (UCLA), Henry C. Hatfield (Columbia), Allen T. Hazen (Columbia), Thomas H. Johnson (Lawrenceville School), Kathrine Koller (Rochester), F. Michael Krouse (Cincinnati), Renato Poggioli (Harvard), Frederick A. Pottle (Yale), Alice Sperduti (Smith), Wallace Stegner (Stanford), J. Kester Svendsen (Oklahoma), Aline M. Taylor (Tulane), Francis L. Utley (Ohio State), Bruce W. Wardropper (Hopkins), and René Wellek (Yale).

DESIDERATA. Hoxie Fairchild, chairman of English IX (Wordsworth and his contemporaries), urges members of this Group to think about future studies needed on (1) individual figures in the period, (2) literary criticism, and (3) intellectual historiography. These will be the three topics of invited papers at the 1952 meeting, and the program will include no prepared critics reading additional papers.

SPECIAL OFFER. The editors of *The Explicator*, *The Johnsonian Newsletter*, *Seventeenth-Century News*, and *The Shakespeare Newsletter* jointly announce special rates for the first year to new subscribers who wish to subscribe to more than one of the publications at the same time: *Explicator* at \$1.25, the others at 75¢ each. Mail your check for any combination to any one of the publications joining in this offer.

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE. The 1951 meeting (in New York) of the American Historical Association was the largest in its history; total registration: 1,533 (total membership: 5,958). At the 1948 meeting of the MLA in New York the total registration was 3,049, the membership 6,108. The 1951 meeting (in Detroit) of the

For Members Only—Continued

MLA was the *smallest* in recent years; registration: 1,473—60 fewer than the historians got together. We do not mean to disparage the AHA. We are deeply impressed by the fact that, since the end of World War II, the programs of AHA meetings have tended to emphasize an international and a practical approach to scholarship. The entire 1951 program (55 sessions) might well have been entitled "Toward a Definition of the *Practical* Role of History and the Historian in Present-Day World Affairs." Incidentally, both the AHA and the MLA are scheduled to meet in Chicago in 1953, in New York in 1954.

UNDEFENDED BORDER. The University of Ottawa (the only bilingual institution of higher learning in North America?) will have its first visiting professor of American literature this summer. The visitor: George J. Spears (Russell Sage College).

PEDANTRY. Excerpt from a letter we did *not* enjoy reading: "At one French university I visited, there was an American professor of English on a Fulbright year. Naturally all English lit. professors lecturing in French universities lecture on the *Agrégation* License syllabus. . . . One book in that syllabus is Shakespeare's *Othello*. The Fulbright professor was giving a series of lectures, à propos *Othello*, on 'The organization of the Italian army in the time of *Othello*.' Heaven help us—what was the time of *Othello*, an invented character in Cinthio's mid-sixteenth-century novel? What was the Italian army then? There was no Italy. And what the devil has all this to do with what Shakespeare meant human beings to get out of *Othello*? What ravages erudition has made on civilization by disguising itself as knowledge!"

UNSPILT MILK. Here are some excerpts from the letter we shall write to our unhappy successor on the day after the MLA, at an annual meeting, changes its name to "The Modern Communications Association"—in a pathetic, tardy attempt to adapt itself to that brave new educational world whose outlines were clearly visible in the spring of 1952: "As we both know, it need not have happened. And why it happened we both know. Scholars, as usual, were applying their intelligence and techniques to anything except the situation in which they found themselves. They shut their eyes to the direct connection between departmental support of literary and linguistic research on the one hand and undergraduate (particularly freshman) enrollment on the other. When foreign-language requirements (for entrance, for the B.A., for the Ph.D.) disappeared—bringing, of course, a reduction in foreign-language departments and almost an end to research in foreign literatures—professors of English scarcely lifted an eyebrow. When their own turn came, and 'communications' courses sounded the death-knell for all English departments, the older scholars took it for granted that *they*, somehow, would survive, whatever strange kind of teaching the youngsters would have to do. Well, the MLA (excuse me, I mean MCA) is a small society now, but I strongly advise against joining the Social Science Research Council, as was urged at the meeting yesterday. Let's unite with the classicists instead, and tell this crazy world, at long last, what literary and linguistic study can actually contribute to a liberal education. . . ."

AFTERTHOUGHTS. We are not much given to concealing our opinions but we found ourselves completely speechless last March when we went, with a prominent businessman and three leading scholars, to call upon two high officials of a great foundation. We sought additional support for the activities of the American Council of Learned Societies, and the implicit assumption thrust upon the conversation at the outset was that the foundation knew what was best for the humanities but that five spokesmen for the humanities did not. This was never said, and if it had been alleged it would have been denied, but it colored heavily, nevertheless, a number of specific criticisms of ACLS attitudes and it succeeded immediately in putting all ACLS representatives on the defensive. We prefer silence to defensive speeches. It occurred to us, as we sat there listening, that when you depend upon others for financial support, you say in effect, "You know better than I, but please agree with me." We couldn't say it or imply it. If we had opened our mouths, we would have done the ACLS no good, because—let every reader of these words realize—the only national council devoted to promoting the humanities is a beggar.

NEW PARAGRAPH. Charles E. Odegard, Executive Director of the ACLS since 1948, resigned in April to accept the deanship of the Arts College at the University of Michigan.

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