

# For Members Only

EMERITUS REDIVIVUS. As more and more colleges and universities (e.g. Arkansas) have the good sense to hire newly retired scholars who are still at the peak of their effectiveness, the Editor of *PMLA* wishes to facilitate this admirable process. He volunteers to keep an informal file of information sent him by members who are about to retire or have recently retired, but who wish to do further teaching; and he invites more inquiries such as the three he has recently received from department heads interested in appointing emeriti to their staffs for summer teaching, as replacements for Fulbright fellows, etc.

MLA      MLA      MLA

THE 1950 MEETING is scheduled to be held in New York City, at the Statler Hotel, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, December 27, 28, and 29.

MLA      MLA      MLA

HAVE YOU colleagues who are not members of the Association but who are planning to join in order to attend the 1950 Meeting? If so, you will be doing the Treasurer's office a considerable favor if you will urge such persons to join *now* instead of waiting until the last minute.

MLA      MLA      MLA

EETS. Subscriptions to the Early English Text Society (£2.2s. or \$6.25 p.a.) may be sent to the new Hon. Secretary, Miss Patricia Kean, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford. Individual members are allowed, after consultation with the Secretary, to select other volumes of the Society's publications instead of those for the current year. The EETS was founded in 1864 by F. J. Furnivall to "bring the mass of unprinted Early English literature within the reach of students and provide sound texts from which the New English Dictionary could quote." Dr. Mabel Day recently retired after twenty-eight years of devoted service as Hon. Sec.

MLA      MLA      MLA

SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING in the Good Old Days. The EETS issued 286 volumes before 1921 at a cost of not quite £35,000. For an informed comment on scholarly publishing in *these* days, see the latest contribution of Mr. Henry Silver to *PMLA*, on a page preceding these notes to members.

MLA      MLA      MLA

MELVILLE SOCIETY. Membership, including subscription to the *Newsletter*, costs \$1.00 annually, and dues should be paid to the Secretary, Tyrus Hillway, 423 Pequot Ave., New London, Conn. "The Society seeks to facilitate the exchange of information among its members, to stimulate the study of Melville's life and works, and to contribute toward the improvement of the facilities for literary, historical, and bibliographical research."

MLA      MLA      MLA

VISITING SCHOLARS. We should like to notice in this space the intended visits to this country of distinguished foreign scholars who may be available for guest-lectures. For example, we have learned that Fray Manuel Penedo Rey (Duque de Sexto 32, Madrid) intends to be here late in 1950. Contributions on this subject from our readers will be welcomed.

MLA      MLA      MLA

ALSO representing American Wordsworthians at the Wordsworth Centenary celebration on April 20-23 will be George W. Meyer of Tulane, who is scheduled to give lectures at Ambleside and Hawkshead.

MLA      MLA      MLA

## For Members Only—Continued

ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION. Successor to David H. Stevens as Director for the Humanities is Charles B. Fahs, historian and expert in Far Eastern politics. Dr. Fahs, forty-one, taught at Pomona College before joining the staff of the Foundation in 1946. Dr. Stevens, Director since 1932 (and member of the MLA since 1918), retired at the close of 1949.

MLA            MLA            MLA

SYLVANUS GRISWOLD MORLEY is the sixtieth President of the Association, and his election elevates the University of California into the group of five institutions which have provided us with four or more presidents (the others: Harvard, 11; Columbia, 7; Johns Hopkins and Yale, 4). Our new presiding officer is seventy-two, and is editor, translator, and author of many books on Spanish literature. He joined the MLA in 1903.

MLA            MLA            MLA

ARTICLES submitted to *PMLA* during 1950 can be published within approximately nine months of their acceptance by the Editorial Committee. We are now filling the December number.

MLA            MLA            MLA

ANY MEMBER of the Association may offer a paper to be read in either a Departmental Section or a Discussion Group meeting. Papers or notices of papers should be sent directly to the Chairman of the section or group concerned; his name and address may be found in the 1949 Proceedings Supplement, published last month. The latest date at which proposals for the program can be received is October 1, but notice well in advance of this date is highly desirable, as programs are usually made up before that time and copy for the complete *Program* must reach the printers on October 16.

MLA            MLA            MLA

AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE of Professors of English is scheduled to be held at Magdalen College, Oxford, on August 25-30. All members will live in the College, where full board and lodging will be provided and covered by a conference fee estimated at approximately £5.10s. C. L. Wrenn of Oxford is Chairman of the Organizing Committee. Both general and sectional meetings are planned.

MLA            MLA            MLA

NEWS LETTERS. Subscriptions to the *Periodical Post Boy* (\$1) may be sent to Richmond P. Bond, Univ. of North Carolina. Subscriptions to the *Seventeenth Century News Letter* (\$1) may be sent to Arthur M. Coon, 351 Elm St., Penn Yan, N.Y. (a new address).

MLA            MLA            MLA

RESEARCH IN ITALY. Members unable to visit Italy but wishing to have research done for them in Italian libraries, MSS copied, etc., may communicate with the Servizio di Informazioni Bibliografiche, Via Bolognese 55, Florence. Letters should be addressed to Dr. Laura Dallapiccola.

MLA            MLA            MLA

MEMBERSHIP in the Shakespeare Association of America (\$2.00 per year) includes the annual subscription to the quarterly *Bulletin*.

MLA            MLA            MLA

TO the American Historical Association's "List of Doctoral Dissertations in History in Progress" there is prefaced this note: "The Council of the Association has directed that hereafter subjects will not be carried or protected by the list for longer than seven years."

## For Members Only—Continued

**BIRTH.** *PMLA* welcomes to the field of learned publishing *The Journal of Celtic Studies*, edited by Howard Meroney (Managing Editor), Vernam Hull, Kenneth Jackson, and Roland M. Smith. The subscription per volume (two numbers) is \$4.00. *JCS* has been established by Temple University "to promote research in the language, literature, and culture of the Celtic peoples from antiquity to modern times."

MLA            MLA            MLA

**FROM** Professor Katherine Goepfinger, Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa, comes a request for "outstanding book dedications and epigraphs" for a collection in progress.

MLA            MLA            MLA

**DEVALUATION NOTE.** New subscription rates for *MHRA* members in the U.S.: annual, \$1.50; life, \$14.70; subscription to *MLR*, \$3.85 (\$5.25 to non-members). Subscriptions should be sent to the American Secretary, Harold W. Bentley, Univ. of Utah, Salt Lake City 1, Utah.

MLA            MLA            MLA

**THE BALLOT.** In the 1949 balloting for new members of the Executive Council 3,395 votes were counted. Elected were Douglas Bush (1,645 votes), Henry Grattan Doyle (1,214), and Donald A. Stauffer (1,107). Runner-up with 1,066 votes at the hustings (*not* Hastings) was William C. Holbrook. Sixty-three ballots were disqualified because they bore no signatures. Eight members voted for four persons; two, for six; one, for seven. The instructions read: "Unsigned ballots, or votes for more than three persons, will not be counted."

MLA            MLA            MLA

**BEITRÄGE ZUR NAMENFORSCHUNG**, edited by Hans Krahe, began publication in October (Carl Winter, Universitätsverlag, Heidelberg), and three numbers are to appear annually for DM 24. A prospectus (giving contents of the first number) may be had by writing to the Editor of *PMLA*.

MLA            MLA            MLA

**GLORY THAT WAS.** According to a story in the *N.Y. Herald Tribune* for last December 5, of New York City's 886,000 public school pupils more than 9,000 are studying Latin, more than 5,000 Hebrew (courses instituted in 1929), but only fourteen are studying Greek (200 in 1919; 100 in 1937). The fourteen survivors attend the Erasmus Hall High School in Brooklyn.

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**PUBLISHING OPPORTUNITY.** The editors of the Univ. of North Carolina Studies in Modern Languages and Literatures (Romance, U.T. Holmes; Germanic, R. Jente; Comparative Literature, W. P. Friederich) will consider scholarly MSS for publication in their three Series (not connected with the Univ. of N.C. Press). In a typical contract the author is responsible for the entire printer's bill (English texts with a generous sprinkling of foreign language quotations average \$3 per page for 500 paper-bound copies) and will normally be required to pay a minimum of \$50 for promotion of his book. He receives 50 copies gratis and 90 percent of all the returns from sales.

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**RESEARCH LIBRARIES.** Under the Farmington Plan allocations the following libraries are committed to the collection of current research materials in both the languages and literatures of the topics here listed, except as noted: *American Philological Society*: American Indian languages; *Brown*: American, Canadian, and Italian literatures, and West Indian literature in English; *California, Berkeley*: Australian, Far Eastern, New Zealand (literature), Oceanic, Philippine, Russian, Spanish (literature outside of Spain), and Ural-Altaic; *California, Los Angeles*: Germanic (philology), Portuguese, Spanish (language); *Catholic*: Latin (mediæval

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and modern literature); *Chicago*: Arabic, Coptic, English (literature), Ethiopian, Greek (language), Hamitec, Latin (language and ancient literature), Oriental (literature), Semitic, Slavic (except Russian); *Cincinnati*: Greek (literature); *Cornell*: Icelandic, Old Norwegian (literature); *Harvard*: Afrikaans (literature), Albanian, Byzantine (literature), Celtic, Dalmatian, Dutch (literature), Finno-Ugrian, Flemish (literature), Friesian, Low German (literature), Hungarian, Hyperborean (and mixed languages), Indo-Iranian, Rumanian, South African (literature in English); *Illinois*: French, Italian (language), Spanish (literature); *Minnesota*: Danish, Old Norse (language), Norwegian, Scandinavian (except Icelandic); *New York Public*: African; *Newberry*: Basque, Dutch (philology), English (language), Flemish (language); *Pennsylvania*: Anglo-Saxon and Middle English (language), Catalan, Provençal, Romance (philology); *Wisconsin*: German (language); *Yale*: German (literature). Following are some additional allocations of possible interest to MLA members: *U.C.L.A.*: proverbs; *Chicago*: mythology, philosophy, philology (general); *Harvard*: art, feminism; *Illinois*: literature (general), poetry (general); *Indiana*: folklore; *Library of Congress*: genealogy and heraldry; *Michigan*: languages (artificial and universal); *New York Public*: drama and stage (general), history (medieval and modern); *Oregon*: music.

MLA            MLA            MLA

COLLEGE ENGLISH ASSN. Robert T. Fitzhugh has retired after four years of effective service as Executive Secretary and Editor of the *CEA Critic*. His successor: Maxwell H. Goldberg, Univ. of Massachusetts, Amherst, Mass. Current dues: \$2.50.

MLA            MLA            MLA

LUTTRELL SOCIETY. "Established for the publication of reprints, or where appropriate of facsimiles, of rare books and pamphlets over a wide range of English literature," the Society "makes its choice from any printed works that are of some literary or historical interest and cannot without difficulty be got in the original editions or in reprints." C. H. Wilkinson, Worcester College, Oxford, is general editor. Subscriptions (25s. p.a.) should be paid to Basil Blackwell, Broad St., Oxford.

MLA            MLA            MLA

THE AUGUSTAN REPRINT SOCIETY "makes available inexpensive reprints of rare materials from English literature of the 17th and 18th centuries." The general editors are Richard C. Boys (Michigan), Edward Niles Hooker and H. T. Swedenberg, Jr. (U.C.L.A.), and H. R. Archer (Clark Memorial Library). The annual membership fee is \$2.50 in the U.S. and Canada, \$2.75 in Great Britain and the continent. Members receive at least six publications each year.

MLA            MLA            MLA

CONNING POSTCARDS: "Don't overdo 'gossip'!" . . . "If money for *PMLA* is in short supply, why not omit the personal, chatty part . . . ?" . . . "To hell with the fancied-up *PMLA* cover . . . Put the index back on the cover where it belongs; there it can be instantly found, and it saves a page." . . . "I miss the index on the front cover. The loss of time involved far outweighs the eye-appeal. I don't keep *PMLA* in the living room, anyway." . . . "What is the reason for the paucity of articles on German literature? . . . I wonder whether it is worth while to continue with the organization." [We cannot publish articles we do not receive. During 1949 we published eight in Germanic, having received fifteen contributions during the first three quarters of the year. English: 43 published, 141 received, in the same periods.—ED.] . . . "I believe that out of four numbers of *PMLA* one should be devoted to Germanistics and one to Romance Languages. For the rest you could do as you please." . . . "Some of the articles in *PMLA* seem to me too long." . . . "Modernize the *PMLA*. Help to revitalize our moribund professional activity by bringing us up-to-date articles on contemporary activities in the literary, social, and political life of the countries whose languages we are teaching. This picayune research is killing interest in language as a living entity." . . . "More articles of a practical nature in *PMLA*." . . . "Fewer articles on such narrow and trivial sub-

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jects that even 99 44/100%-pure pedants must often catch themselves commenting (under their breath, of course): So what? Who cares?" . . .

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POSTCARD PROS: "PMLA is quite good now. Has it improved (or is it like Mark Twain's father)?" . . . "PMLA continues to be a tremendous improvement. I enjoy your news items on front pages and read them assiduously." . . . "I approve every change and advancement initiated by the new editor and hope that he will not be bullied out of his genuine humanism." . . . "The all but complete impersonality of the old PMLA never seemed to me a virtue. I find 'For Members Only' quite delightful, and on more important editorial matters I most heartily endorse the new policy." . . . "Such prolegomena are crisp, witty, varied, and informative. More power." . . . "Beginning recently, or not very far back, PMLA has become intensely interesting. Permit me to say it is extremely well edited—seems something new." . . . "Sorry you do not have more articles on French subjects; it is a reflection not on your editorship but on my French colleagues." . . .

MLA            MLA            MLA

HERE LITOTES. "Greatly exaggerated," we are both glad and shamefaced to report, was our notice in this department (December number) of the death of Professor Brady R. Jordan of Duke. Professor Jordan had been thoughtful enough to inform us of the demise of a colleague, and an overworked but usually efficient Treasurer's assistant had pulled Professor Jordan's own card from the membership records. We here apologize to Professor Jordan and to those friends of his who wrote us promptly, protesting their disbelief.

MLA            MLA            MLA

ARTHURIAN BIBLIOGRAPHY. The MLA Treasurer announces that Vol. I (1922-29) and Vol. II (1922-29—long out of print) are available to members at fifty cents each.

MLA            MLA            MLA

CONGRATULATIONS to the following members who have just achieved their fiftieth Association year: John Lawrence Gerig, Karl Josef Grimm, Arthur Newton Leonard, Clark Sutherland Northup, Lucy Allen Paton, John Albrecht Walz.

MLA            MLA            MLA

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: "How about a regular section of letters to the editor?" . . . "I was amused (in a wry sort of way) by your special editor's comment on my MS. He said that the style was flat, which was quite true. You see, for two years after the war I was in revolt from teaching and scholarship and I worked for *Time Magazine*. . . . When I reformed and set out to write an article that PMLA might consider (a kind of purification rite) I was careful to prune my sentences of anything that might resemble a figure of speech, a color word, a loaded verb, or an auto-interesting phrase. . . . Apparently, it worked, but I know that the critic's comment was no more than I deserved." . . . "I concur, belatedly but enthusiastically, with the member from Wisconsin in terming the Stanford meeting the most civilized (and dignified) meeting of the MLA I have ever attended. I propose that the MLA adopt the policy of holding our meeting every other year in a less accessible place." [This letter was from Indiana.—ED.] . . . "This year, as I am unable to perceive in what respects any of the candidates [for the Executive Council] excel over any of the others, it would be pointless to choose three out of ten identical squares and by x'ing them indicate what is incredible: that they are better than the remaining seven. . . . It is unfortunate that any one outfit should have twice as many candidates as any one of the remaining eight. If any college is that much superior, to publicize this opinion is undemocratic." [The reference is to Harvard. One Harvardian was nominated (and elected) by the membership, in accord with the democratic spirit of Bylaw II, which provides for additions to the seven nominations made by the Council itself.—ED.] . . .

## For Members Only—Continued

SECRETARIAL CALENDAR. At Thanksgiving time your Secretary attended the meeting of the MLA of the Middle Atlantic States, at Atlantic City; during the Christmas holidays he attended the meeting of the South-Central MLA, at Little Rock, Arkansas. As secretary of the Conference of Secretaries of the ACLS, he attended the annual meeting of the Conference, at Rye, New York, January 25-27. He has talked about the Association to the French Graduate Union at Columbia (Nov. 9) and to a modern language group at Bryn Mawr (March 6). He visited Washington, D.C., December 3, on MLA business. On April 28 he will give the annual Tudor and Stuart lecture at Johns Hopkins University.

MLA            MLA            MLA

ANOTHER MLA BOOK (see the announcement in this place, December *PMLA*) is now out of print: Samuel A. Tannenbaum's *Problems in Shakespeare's Penmanship* (1927). This makes four books no longer obtainable. Nearly 400 copies have already been sold of the latest publication in the MLA Monograph Series, J. R. Foster's *History of the Pre-Romantic Novel in England*, published last June—price \$4.50 (\$3 to members of the Association). Very favorable reviews of Foster have appeared in the London *TLS* (Oct. 7) and in *The Romanic Review* (Feb.). The critic in *The Saturday Review of Literature* (Dec. 3) called it "exhaustive" and "important" but condemned it to "the reference shelf instead of the reading table."

MLA            MLA            MLA

WITH deep regret we record the deaths of Charles F. Barnason (Dec. 23), Rose Sharp Brewer (Aug. 11), Fern Cornelison (Oct. 1948), Valerie Beth Mangum (March 20), John Calvin Metcalf (Sept. 9), Mary Lois Raymond (Aug. 5), John Hawley Roberts (Dec. 8), Peters Rushton (Dec. 27), John Henry Wagenblass (Aug. 20), Grace Word (Sept. 8), Anne Wuest (May 23), Henry M. Bosshard (Nov. 23), A. W. Bunkley (Feb. 6), Max Lederer (Jan. 24), Esther J. Crooks (July 27), Gregory L. Paine (Feb. 17). Bert E. Young, for eight years secretary of the Central Division of the Association, and member since 1903, died on December 25.

MLA            MLA            MLA

323 ARTICLES were submitted by members to *PMLA* during 1949 (365 days). Of these, 176 were in the field of English literature, 38 French, 31 American, 23 Germanic, 15 comparative, 11 Spanish, 6 linguistics, 4 Italian, and 19 miscellaneous. The distribution of papers published during 1950 will necessarily reflect the high percentage of articles submitted in the field of English. For members who deplore this distribution, which is not arbitrarily controlled by the Editor, the remedy is obvious.

MLA            MLA            MLA

YOUR ATTENTION is called to the announcement, in the concluding pages of this issue, of the opportunity for individual members to organize scholarly conferences in connection with the 1950 Meeting in New York.

MLA            MLA            MLA

THEY ALSO SERVE. Of all MLA publications, the annual List of Members is the most read, the most used. And each year a number of members write or say to us, "I've just noticed that So-and-So doesn't belong to the MLA. Isn't that strange?" Not strange at all, in our experience. Many people wait to be invited. We have had several letters like the one received in February from an active scholar, which began, "I am wondering why the MLA never invited me to join." Mail us the names and addresses of persons you think should be members, and we'll promptly send them invitations, naming you as sponsor. Any person in academic life, or of known scholarly interests, is eligible to membership.

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## For Members Only—Continued

RESIGNATION. With profound regret we announce that Assistant Editor Robert Graham Sawyer, for three years compiler of "Research in Progress," resigned his MLA post late in February and returned to his native England.

MLA            MLA            MLA

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL is scheduled to meet in New York for a three-day session beginning March 31. A major item on the agenda is the report of the Council's committee on revision of the Constitution and Bylaws. This Committee—A. C. Baugh (Ch.), Ira W. Wade, T. C. Pollock—met in New York on November 19-20, December 17, and February 25. Its recommendations, as approved by the Council, will probably be published in the June *PMLA*.

MLA            MLA            MLA

SUPPLEMENT. Students of 18th-century fiction may be interested to learn that Pamela acquired a brother, named Robin, on Valentine's Day.

MLA            MLA            MLA

FULBRIGHT AWARDS. Members interested in post-doctoral research or teaching abroad during the academic year 1951-52 are advised to write *at once* for information to the Conference Board of Associated Research Councils (Gordon T. Bowles, Executive Secretary), 2101 Constitution Ave., Washington 25, D.C. Graduate students interested in study abroad should inquire of the Institute of International Education, 2 West 45th St., New York 19, N.Y. In 1949 the deadline for applications was announced too late for us to include it in this space in September—and the deadline had passed before the December issue could be mailed. Following is an incomplete list of MLA members who received Fulbright grants for 1949-50: to England: Irvin Ehrenpreis, Leslie Hotson, Merritt Hughes, Perry Miller, R. H. Super, Ralph Thompson; to France: Artine Artinian, George P. Borglum, William Roach, Pauline Taylor; to Italy: John Arthos, Paul Milano, Lander MacClintock; to Belgium: J. W. Thomas; to Norway: Robert Spiller, M. X. Beeler, J. C. Jordan; to the Philippines: A. W. Green and Clifford Prator; to Italy, Hanford Henderson.

MLA            MLA            MLA

DISPIRITING OUTLOOK. At the recent ACLS meeting at Rye (see our Delegate's report in the February *PMLA*) the Executive Director scotched rumors that the Council might soon have funds for subsidizing scholarly publication. Questioned concerning policy he said: "The ACLS has not abandoned subsidy; subsidy has abandoned the ACLS."

MLA            MLA            MLA

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. One of several reasons why university presses must now require many authors to provide large subsidies before promising publication is the simple fact that scholars offer their marketable MSS to big commercial publishers, their unprofitable *opera* to university presses. The university presses (and the MLA, incidentally) could publish a good deal of "pure" scholarship today if scholars enabled them to make a little profit *occasionally*.

MLA            MLA            MLA

COLLABORATION. Sponsored by the MLA Victorian Group and written by eleven of its members, *The Reinterpretation of Victorian Literature* was published by the Princeton University Press in January (price \$3.75). Our Committee on Research Activities hopes to stimulate the production of other such collaborative reinterpretations by MLA members.

MLA            MLA            MLA

UNSOLICITED. Concerning the latest volume in the MLA Monograph Series, Foster's *History of the Pre-Romantic Novel in England*, Professor Nicholas Joost writes us: "I agree heartily with all the praise lavished upon this work. I bought a copy early in the fall of 1949 and have used it to great advantage in teaching a course in Eighteenth-Century Fiction." Price to members only: \$3.00.