

Spring 1978
Midcontinent American Studies Association (MASA) Bulletin

Published in *American Studies*, vol. 19, no. 1 (Spring 1978).

masa bulletin

ANONYMITY AND MUTILATION: It has been *American Studies* policy for some time to remove authors' names from manuscripts before they are sent off to the scholars who help us to decide whether or not to publish them. Sometimes, of course, our referees can tell who wrote a piece because of internal evidence, because they already know and recognise the scholar's work or because they were present at a conference at which a version of the paper was delivered. But in general we succeed, and our commentators don't know whether they're reading the work of an ambitious graduate student, a Big Gunner, or someone in between. It isn't absolutely critical that a journal do this; when, once in a while, an editorial assistant misses the author's name typed in at the end of the paper or in some inconspicuous place, we don't feel that there's been a Great Violation of Ethics. But since we always make the effort, prospective contributors should be advised not to type their names on each page of a manuscript, and, if it isn't too much trouble, to make the title page a separate sheet so that the name doesn't have to appear on the first page of the manuscript itself, either. Otherwise, given our editorial regulations, we have to go through the paper with scissors or a razor and chop out the name each time we find it.

Since we insist that authors submit the original ribbon copy plus one other, this means that we are hacking up that ribbon copy, something we would just as soon not do.

SUMMER SEMINARS: NEH sponsors 122 of 'em this summer. It's too late now to apply, but Mitchell Schneider of the NEH urges us to publicize them anyway, since the program is ongoing. Many of the summer '78 offerings deal with American Studies issues. These are for college teachers; the idea is to give folks who don't have access to a first-class library, and who teach at places which do not offer the

Ph.D. in their field, a chance to charge their batteries. Seven seminars are listed under "American and Afro-American Studies," and I found twenty-odd of closely related interest. Chadwick Hansen, Murray Murphey, Russel Nye, Alan Trachtenberg and Your Faithful Editor are among those seminar directors whose names might be familiar to readers of *American Studies*.

WE WELCOME to our staff George Ehrlich and Warren French, both former members now returning (after years of working for *American Studies* without masthead recognition). And we thank William Pratt and Peter Rollins, now retiring from the board after two years of solid service.

A NEW NEWSLETTER is pressed upon us by Cyril M. White, the ebullient and charming secretary of the Irish Association for American Studies. *IAAS Newsletter* comes from the Irish Association for American Studies; editorial office is Sociology, University College, Belfield, Dublin 4.

"HANDS-ON" DEMONSTRATIONS (sic), they say, will be offered on field trips to eighteenth century burial sites, one of the activities scheduled at the Dublin Seminar for New England Folk life this coming June 24th and 25th. The broad topic is "Puritan Gravestone Art in New England, 1650-1800." I take it that these "demonstrations" are some sort of satanic inversions of the more customary religious stations, with a little touchie-feelie laying-on of hands thrown in at no extra charge. We should probably stop teasing the Boston University News Bureau for its typos lest evil forces descend on us. The seminar is co-sponsored by the Dublin school and Boston University's American and New England Studies Program, which seems to have a notable material culture stamp. Direct inquiries to Y. Goodman-Brown, Am. and N.E. Studies Program,

(continued on p. 103.)

masa bulletin

(continued from p. 4.)

Boston University, 725 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts 02215. A staff exorcist will be available.

ELITES AND ECONOMICS: The Eleutherian Mills-Hagley Foundation and its Regional Economic History Research Center sponsor a conference April 21, 1978 on "Elites and Economic Development, 1750-1850." Further information from William H. Mulligan, Jr., REHRC, EMHF, Greenville, Wilmington, Delaware 19807. Because we are never sure precisely when *American Studies* will come out, we put late spring announcements in ambiguous tense. No telling as I write this blurb in February whether, when you read it, this conference will be held, has been held, or is being held.

EXPERIMENTS IN HISTORY TEACHING is the title of a collaborative effort by eighty-odd college and high school teachers. Publication of the book is subsidized to keep its price, \$3.50, below cost. Roy Rosenzweig, Joint Center for Urban Studies of MIT and Harvard, 53 Church Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138 has details.

PSYCHOLOGY MONEY: The archives of *The History of American Psychology* have some; scholars with projects which could use them may apply for it. You write to John V. Miller, Jr., Director of Archival Services, University of Akron, Akron, Ohio 44325. Winners receive up to \$500 to be used for an all-expenses-paid working vacation (isn't that what scholarship should be?) in Akron.

WOMEN'S HISTORY: Gabrielle Spiegel, History, University of Maryland, College

Park 20742 has information about the Berkshire Conference on the History of Women on August 20-25, 1978, at Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, Massachusetts.

PCAS stands for Popular Culture Association in the South, and it meets in Nashville, Tennessee, October 8-10, 1978. Ralph von Tresckow Napp says that he wants one-page abstracts or descriptions of proposed sessions. His address is Sociology, Winston-Salem State University, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27102.

COMPARATIVE CIVILIZATIONS: The International Society for the Comparative Study of Civilizations (US) holds its eighth annual meeting at California State University, Northridge, March 22-25, 1979. Papers are called for in a number of categories; one writes Edmond Leites, Philosophy, Queens College, Flushing, New York 11367 for details.

WARM THANKS to these good people who expended scholarly energies on papers submitted to us in the past six months or so: David Culbert, National Humanities Institute; Albert Devlin, University of Missouri—Columbia; Mike Douderoff, University of Kansas; Paul Finkelman, Washington University; Warren French, Indiana University/Purdue University, Indianapolis; Grace Ann Hovet, University of Northern Iowa; Roy Male, University of Oklahoma; R. Lawrence Moore, Cornell University; Regina Morantz, University of Kansas; Phillip Paludan, University of Kansas; Lyall H. Powers, University of Michigan; Janet Sharistanian, University of Kansas; David P. Thelen, University of Missouri—Kansas City; James Woelfel, University of Kansas.

Fall 1978
Midcontinent American Studies Association (MASA) Bulletin

Published in *American Studies*, vol. 19, no. 2 (Fall 1978).

masa bulletin

MEETING annually to hear good papers, renew and make friendships and break bread are among the pleasures of MASA. The 1979 MASA convention will meet jointly with the Ohio-Indiana American Studies Association in New Harmony, Indiana, April 5-7, 1979. Program chairperson Roger Whitlow, Department of English, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, Illinois, 61920, invites papers on utopianism as well as our regular American Studies' staples. The deadline for proposal is the first of December. The 1978 meeting in St. Louis, hosted by Saint Louis University, met our high expectations and standards. Saint Louis University provided well for our formal and informal needs, and Elizabeth Kolmer, Denise Szymanski, Martin G. Towey and Jules Zanger did outstanding work in arranging the excellent program and in handling arrangements. The program follows:

FRIDAY, March 31

METHOD IN AMERICAN STUDIES, Martin Towey, Saint Louis University, Chairperson.

"Words and Pictures: Collaboration Between Writer, Photographer and Scientist Telling the Southern Illinois Story," Henry Dan Piper, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale.

"Thomas Kuhn to the Rescue," James M. Youngdale, University of Minnesota.

"Graduate Programs in American Studies," Roger Whitlow, Eastern Illinois University-Charleston.

"Finding the Midwest: The Augustana M.A. in Regional Studies," Ronald Tweet, Augustana College.

"Trash Pits and the Truth: Teaching American Material Culture," Ellen Smith, Boston University.

LITERARY ASPECTS OF THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY, Ann Dempsey, Florissant Valley Community College, Chairperson.

"Mystical Landscape in Francis Grier-

son's *The Valley of Shadows*," Robert Bray, Illinois Wesleyan University.

"Huckleberry Finn and the Mobility Factor in American Life," Michael A. Rockland, Rutgers University.

"Poe's Poet for America: 'The Domain of Arnheim,'" Jules Zanger, Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville.

INDIAN LIFE IN THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY, Wayne Fields, Washington University, St. Louis, Chairperson.

"Dakota Death," George Linden, Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville.

"Shawnee Political Organization," Jerry E. Clark, Creighton University.

"History, Myth, and Identity Among Osage and Other Peoples," Carter Revard, Washington University.

RELIGION AND REVIVALISM IN THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY, Jules Zanger, Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, Chairperson.

"Mormon 'Ethnicity' and Political Representation," Linna Funk Place, University of Kansas.

"Rationalist in an Age of Enthusiasm: The Anomalous Career of Robert Cave," Samuel C. Pearson, Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville.

"Singing for the Lord: The Heritage of Revival Music," A Lecture-Performance, Jean Kittrell, Southern Illinois State University-Normal.

ETHNIC GROUPS IN THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY, Norman Nordhauser, Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, Chairperson.

"Irish, Germans, and Reformers in Illinois, 1850-1860," Mary Wyman, Illinois State University-Normal.

"The Germans from Russia in Oklahoma," Douglas Hale, Oklahoma State University.

"Searching for One Thread in the Web: German Presbyterian Churches in the Upper Mississippi Valley," Maynard

(continued on p. 89.)

masa bulletin

(continued from p. 4.)

Brass, Southwest State University-Marshall, Minnesota.

WOMEN IN THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY, Katherine Corbett, University of Missouri-St. Louis, Chairperson.

"The Lady from Dubuque: Mary Newbury Adams, Early Iowa Feminist," Richard L. Herrnstadt, Iowa State University.

"George Cram Cook and Susan Glaspell: The Midwestern Sources of the Provincetown Players," Mary H. Kuhlman, Creighton University.

"Farm Women of the Mississippi Valley: Transition 1935-1945," Carole Brown, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

CAHOKIA: FIRST CITY ON THE MISSISSIPPI, John Strong, Southampton College, Long Island, Chairperson.

"Cahokia's Place in Pre-Columbian North America," James Anderson and William Iseminger, Cahokia Mounds Museum.

"The Usefulness of Oral Tradition for Understanding Cahokia," Robert Hall, University of Illinois-Chicago Circle.

"Current Research on Cahokia's System of Defense," James Anderson and William Iseminger, Cahokia Mounds Museum.

"Burial Mound 72: Social Stratification at Cahokia," Melvin Fowler, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

"America's Woodhenge: Astronomical Observation at Cahokia," William Wittry, Cranbrook Institute of Science.

Discussant: Melvin Fowler.

THE UTOPIAN EXPERIENCE IN THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY: ICARIA AND BISHOP HILL, Wayne Wheeler, University of Nebraska-Omaha, Chairperson.

Panelists: Mark O. Rousseau, J. Hiram Wilson and Carolyn Wilson, University of Nebraska.

SAINT LOUIS AND THE MISSISSIPPI

VALLEY, Theodore Blumoff, Saint Louis University, Chairperson.

"Finding Saint Louis Yesterday and Today: Some Thoughts on the Growth of a City," Theodore Blumoff, Saint Louis University.

"Stackolee, Black Folklore's Bad Man: A Legend Finds A Home in Saint Louis," John David, Saint Louis University.

"The Fear of Being First: Problems at the Forefront of the Civil Rights Movement—University City, Missouri," Dennis Lubeck, Saint Louis University.

THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER IN TWO CLASSIC AMERICAN DOCUMENTARY FILMS, Peter Rollins, Oklahoma State University, Chairperson.

THE RIVER. Introduction and discussion: Michael Schoenecke, Oklahoma State University.

LOUISIANA STORY. Introduction and Discussion: Robert Banks, Oklahoma State University.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

LIFE IN THE SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI VALLEY, James Roark, University of Missouri-St. Louis, Chairperson.

"The Steamboat in the Development of the Ante-Bellum Cotton Kingdom," William J. Ikerman, University of North Alabama.

"John A. Murrell, Virgil A. Stewart, and the Mississippi Slave 'Insurrection' of 1835," James Lal Penick, Loyola University of Chicago.

GENERAL SESSION: MISSISSIPPI VALLEY, April Black, Saint Louis University, Chairperson.

"The Nineteenth-Century Broadside War in the Mississippi Valley," Adolph E. Schroeder, University of Missouri-Columbia.

"The Effects of 125-year Flood on the Resettlement Behavior of Kaskaskia Island," A. Doyne Horsley, Southern

Illinois University at Carbondale.
 "Modernity and the Current Wave in
 Shannon County, 1884-1896," Lynn D.
 Morrow, Southwest Missouri State
 University.

FOLK EXPRESSIONS IN THE MISSIS-
 SIPPI VALLEY, Mark Rose, University of
 Kansas, Chairperson.

"Ozark Music Parties," Michael Pat-
 rick," University of Missouri-Rolla.
 "The Meaning of the Civil War: A
 Southwest Ozarks Folk Perspective,"
 Donald Holliday, Southwest Missouri
 State University.
 "Afro-French Spirituals About Mary
 Magdalene," Andre Prevos, University
 of Iowa.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

"Experiencing Old Age in America,"
 Forrest J. Berghorn, President of
 MASA.

A friend of the journal writes to in-
 form us of the recent death of John
 Q. Reed of the English faculty at
 Kansas State at Pittsburg. John was
 on our first editorial board, our prin-
 cipal reader in literature during an era
 when most submissions were in liter-
 ature. He worked hard and effectively;
 his standards were high, and helped
 establish the reputation of the new
 publication. Active in MASA, he later
 directed a good chapter meeting at
 Pittsburg, then served as president of
 the organization. John's specialty was
 American humor, and he published
 useful scholarship, some of it in this
 journal, on Artemus Ward. His own
 humor was mock-dour and low-key;
 one missed it until one knew him well.
 His passing makes *American Studies*
 seem older.



Photo provided by Public Relations De-
 partment, Pittsburg State University.

WE WELCOME Winton U. Solberg, Uni-
 versity of Illinois to *American Studies*
 editorial board. Elizabeth Schultz returns
 as Associate Editor after a well deserved
 sabbatical year. Your editor continues his
 chores from afar—Mexico City—while the
 office runs smoothly at its usual stand.

COMEDY IN LITERATURE AND ART
 is a serious subject and The University
 of Alabama in Birmingham hosts a con-
 ference of that title, March 15-17, 1979.
 Details from William C. Carter, Depart-
 ment of Foreign Languages, VC 3, 407 A,
 University of Alabama in Birmingham,
 Birmingham, Alabama 35294.

THE FRONTIER EXPERIENCE IN
 AMERICA is what the Sixth History Col-
 loquium at the Behreud College of The
 Pennsylvania State University will be ex-
 ploring, April 27, 1979. Send abstracts of
 proposed papers and inquiries to Steven
 G. Greiert, Colloquium Chairperson, Beh-
 reud College, Pennsylvania State Univer-
 sity, Station Road, Erie, Pa., 16510.

INDIANA MONEY: Indiana Historical
 Society offers two grants of \$3,000 each to
 graduate students whose dissertations are
 in the fields of Indiana History or of
 Indiana and the region of which she is
 traditionally a part, the Old Northwest
 and Midwest. For further information
 write, Gayle Thorenbrough, Executive
 Secretary, Indiana Historical Society, 315
 West Ohio Street, Indianapolis, Indiana,
 46202.

TEMPERANCE AND PROHIBITION:
 We toast the microfilm publication of 415
 rolls of temperance and prohibition rec-
 ords from the period 1870-1933. A joint
 project of the Ohio Historical Society, the
 Michigan Historical Collection of the
 University of Michigan and the Women's
 Christian Temperance Union and funded
 by the National Historical Publication
 Records Commission, the microfilm is
 sold by the Microfilm Department of the
 Ohio Historical Society, I-71 and 17th
 Avenue, Columbus, Ohio, 43211. The
 Sales Department of the same society of-
 fers a *Guide to the Microfilm Edition of
 the Temperance and Prohibition Papers*
 for \$8.00 plus postage.

AMERICAN STUDIES INFORMATION
 GUIDE SERIES, Volume 4 has been is-
 sued by Gale Research Co., Book Tower,
 Detroit, Michigan, 48226. Titled *The Re-
 lationship of Literature and Painting: A
 Guide to Information Sources* and jointly
 edited by Eugene L. Haddleston and
 Douglas A. Moven of Michigan State, it
 sells for \$22.00.

MEETING HOUSE AND CHURCHES
 will be the topic of the annual Dublin
 Seminar for New England Folklife, co-

sponsored by the Dublin (N.H.) School and Boston University's American and New England Studies Program, June 1979. Those interested in piously gathering to sing hymns to material folk culture relating to early meeting houses should contact Philip D. Zimmerman and Peter Benes, at AMNES, Boston University, 725 Commonwealth Ave., Room 223, Boston, Massachusetts, 02215.

APPRECIATION and thanks to those good people who have taken the time to read papers for the Journal within the last six months: Bob Asher, University of Connecticut Storrs; Robert Bieder, University of Illinois Chicago Circle; Don Byrd, State University of New York Albany; J. Bunker Clark, University of Kansas; Jack R. Cohn, University of Kansas; David De Leon, University of Mary-

land Baltimore County; Charles Eldredge, University of Kansas; Michael Gillespie, Ohio Northern University; Robert Gish, University of Northern Iowa; Edward Grier, University of Kansas; Clifford Griffin, University of Kansas; Alfred C. Habegger, University of Kansas; Ray Hiner, University of Kansas; Grace Hovet, University of Northern Iowa; Sydney James, University of Iowa; Michael Johnson, University of Kansas; Ann Lee Morgan, University of Illinois at Champaign; Tom O'Donnell, University of Kansas; Donald Ringe, University of Kentucky; Peter Rollins, Oklahoma State University; Lillian Schlissel, City University of New York Brooklyn; William Tuttle, University of Kansas; H. B. Weinberg, Graduate Center of City University of New York; Ronald Willis, University of Kansas; James Woelfel, University of Kansas.