Ashes in the National Archives
by Royce Reiman

The State of Social Science History in the Late 1980s
by J. Morgan Keusser

The Return of the Narrative?
by Dwight W. Hoover

History's Electric Future
by Orville Vernon Burton

History's Changing Sources and Techniques
by Thomas B. Alexander

National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC, Index of American Design

MASS-ca-2, Shop Sign, "The Little Navigator"
THE FUND FOR AMERICAN HISTORY
AN ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN HISTORIANS

Income from the Fund’s projected endowment of $1.6 million will support special OAH initiatives to:

Promote historical inquiry and integrative scholarship through special conferences and publications.

Reinstate high standards of teaching by reviewing American history textbooks and serving the needs of secondary school teachers.

Strengthen the American historical profession with minority scholars, writing workshops, and special publications.

A three-year fund-raising campaign which began in 1988 seeks contributions from all OAH members, publishers, the NEH Challenge Grant Program, and many friends of American history.

Address inquiries to The Fund for American History
112 North Bryan Street
Bloomington, Indiana 47408

We would like to acknowledge and thank publicly the following institution and individuals who have made a contribution to The Fund for American History:

Institutional
Houghton Mifflin Company

Sponsors
Theodore L. Agnew
Joyce Appleby
Cindy S. Aron
Bullis W. Brock
Richard C. Brown
W. N. Davis, Jr.
Vincent P. De Santis
John Patrick Diggins
Arthur E. Ekirch, Jr.
Don E. Ehrchenbacher
Jacquelyn D. Hall
Ben W. Heineman, Jr.
Michael Kammen
Gloria L. Main
Jackson T. Main
Thomas G. Manning
William D. Metz
Mary Beth Norton
Bill Preston
Arnold H. Taylor
Robert L. Tree

Contributors
John J. Appel
Clarence J. Attig

The above list reflects contributions received during the period April 19 to October 13, 1989.
Ashes in the National Archives

by Roger Kerson

In October of 1917, W. B. Carlile, Postmaster of Chicago, seized a letter addressed to Charles Gepford, at 3746 Cottage Grove Avenue. In a cover note to the Solicitor of the Post Office in Washington, D.C., Carlile explained that the letter "was accidentally mutilated in the process of machine cancelation [sic]. As a direct result of this mishap, the contents were expelled from the enclosure and their nature unavoidably disclosed." The envelope has not survived, but its contents have and are at the National Archives. They include, among other items, the ashes of a dead man.

Not just any man, either. The ashes, which were stored in a torn, weathered 3" by 5" packet, are apparently the last known remains of a singer, songwriter and itinerant workman named Joe Hill, a legendary figure in the U.S. labor movement.

Hill was born Joel Haaglund in Sweden in 1879 and came to Chicago, and he is best remembered as a song-writer and revolver owner. A second son fired a shot at his attacker before being killed. Hill was turned in by a doctor who had treated him for his gunshot wound. During his trial Hill insisted on his innocence but refused to offer an alternative explanation for how he wound up with a bullet in his chest.

Aside from the gunshot wound, there was not much evidence against Hill, since there were no sure answers to these questions, just a catalogue of informed speculation. One of the more informed speculators is Fred Lee, an economist at Roosevelt University who joined the Wobblies in 1985 and rose quickly through the ranks to become chair of the IWW General Executive Board. The Wobblies are now reduced to a few hundred members, scattered in small locals around the country. Their headquarters is still in Chicago.

No one has ever explained, Lee says, why the Wobblies did not distribute all of Hill's ashes in 1916. Lee's best guess is that some packets were kept as mementos, or for distribution to new supporters of the union in countries where no ashes had been scattered. Most of these leftover packets, he turns out, were confiscated by federal agents in a raid on the Chicago IWW office in September of 1917.

That fall, the IWW was under attack by employers, outcries citizens and the federal government. In April, the U.S. had entered the war against Germany, requiring a nationwide mobilization of men and material. The IWW, not being particularly keen on the war effort, came close to urging its members to resist the draft, but eventually decided that such open defiance of the government was not in the union's best interest. But the Wobblies did not let the war interfere with their customary campaign to improve wages and working conditions, which included going on strike when necessary.

This was business as usual for the union, but many patriotic Americans—especially employers—viewed strikes during wartime as an enemy plot to deny vital supplies to the armed forces. The story began circulating that the IWW was getting secret funds from Germany, and there was a public outcry for a government crackdown. The Tulsa Daily World editorialized, "Kill them, just as you would any other kind of snake." In July 1917, local authorities in Arizona forcibly evicted 1,000 striking IWW miners from the copper town of Bisbee, dumping them in the desert without food or water.

The ashes... are apparently the last known remains of a singer, songwriter and itinerant workman...

The envelopes were given to IWW delegates and to visitors from other countries. "The delegates will make the final distribution of these ashes," reported the Industrial Worker, the IWW newspaper, "with appropriate ceremonies when they return to their respective homes and countries." The ashes were scattered on every continent (except Antarctica) and in every state of the union (except Utah). Some of the envelopes, however, were never given to anyone to scatter.

Until recently, few knew that a packet of his ashes has been sitting in the National Archives since the 1940s, when it was deposited there by the Post Office. What were Joe Hill's ashes doing in that envelope—mailed but never delivered to Charles Gepford on Cottage Grove Avenue in October 1917? Who was Charles Gepford? Why did the Post Office go after his mail? And how come none of the people who have researched and written about Joe Hill found out about the ashes in the National Archives? More than seventy years after the fact, there are no sure answers to these questions, just a catalogue of informed speculation.
The State of Social Science History in the Late 1980s

by J. Morgan Kousser

I s social science history a dated fad, or has it been widely accepted as to have been a controversial idea? Is it more or less popular with professors and graduate students today than in the recent past? Is its status higher at the most prestigious universities, or among their graduates, than at less highly-ranked colleges? What do historians and other social scientists see as the strengths and weaknesses, the achievements and deficiencies of social science history (hereafter referred to as "ssh")? To what degree do more traditional historians agree or disagree with social science historians and historically-oriented social scientists about these matters? How widespread is the teaching of statistics and theory in history departments, and how sophisticated is it, compared to the offerings in social science departments? Has the field become truly interdisciplinary?

To gauge opinion and gather facts on these and other topics, I sent out 456 questionnaires in May, 1987 to individuals in three groups: historians who were members of the Social Science History Association (SSHA), non-historians, non-SSHA members, and one non-SSHA member at each of the universities listed in the American Historical Association's Guide to Departments of History that claimed to offer a Ph.D. program. The response, partially stimulated by a reminder to those who did not reply within six weeks, was gratifyingly high: 105 SSHA historians, 101 SSHA members whose self-described primary departmental affiliation was not with a history department, and 98 non-SSHA historians returned at least partially completed questionnaires.

All three groups share the view that rumors of an increasing distance for "ssh" among graduate students or professors of history or the other social sciences have been greatly exaggerated. Between 80 and 85% of non-SSHA and SSHA historians view their colleagues and graduate students as equally or even more favorable toward "ssh" than they were five to ten years ago. Outside history departments, the trend seems even more auspicious, a mere 12% perceiving their peers as less warm toward it. Among the pessimistic historians, there was a striking consensus between SSHA and non-SSHA members, both detecting small trends toward non-quantitative social, anthropological, or "new labor" history, in that order, and both deeming an alleged dearth of recent inspiring books by quantitarians as the most important reason for discomfort.

There were a few important differences: SSHA historians see students as currently more math anxious and more interested in traditional political history than non-SSHA historians do. Non-historians, by contrast, view their loss as primarily a gain for mathematicized theory. But the dominant feature of the answers is growing or continuing acceptance of ssh as a disciplinary field.

To determine whether the affirmation of such general opinions masked dissent from more specific propositions, I asked respondents to agree or disagree with a series of fifteen statements drawn from the literature of controversy about "ssh.

Overall, despite statistically significant differences among the groups concerning the majority of the items, the most impressive facet of the answers seems to me to be the degree of approval of many of the central tenets of "ssh" by all groups.

Almost everyone, for instance, agreed that historians should state their assumptions explicitly. Nearly 80% of the non-SSHA group disagreed with the often-repeated dogma that social science historians have taught us little that is new. By a 3 to 1 margin, they repudiated the Hackett dictum that most historical data is so inexact that sophisticated statistical techniques are useless for analyzing it. Four out of five refused to write off social science history as having failed to live up to its promise, five out of eight rejected the much-advertised "return to narrative," and a majority agreed with Karl Popper's view that the chief purpose of historians are to reject false statements and explanations and to frame provisionally acceptable ones.

To be sure, there are important disagreements between the three sets of respondents. Although substantial majorities of each believe that all historians today ought to have a working knowledge of statistical methods, they disagree about whether non-quantumists need to know only "the simplest" or more advanced statistical techniques. Social scientists who are SSHA members applaud more advanced training for all historians nearly as avidly as non-SSHA historians abjure it. More than two-thirds of non-SSHA members, as well as a substantial minority of SSHA historians, decry what they believe has been an excessive preoccupation with "mere techniques" in ssh, and there is a similar split over whether quantitative techniques can answer the most important questions in history.

Almost everyone ... agreed that historians should state their assumptions explicitly.

Most puzzling is the stark contrast in responses to the statement that "all historical writings ought to be accessible to the general reader." Though the fabled "general reader" of ssh would be unlikely to understand the significance of many of the historiographical debates that take place in scholarly journals, or to comprehend books or articles that employ mathematicized theory or regression analysis, slight majorities of non-SSHA historians would seemingly read most or all of such works out of the discipline. While historians toward accessibility are related to the recency of the Ph.D. The one-third of the non-SSHA respondents who received their Ph.D.s after 1971 were significantly less likely to agree on the necessity of accessibility than were their elders.

To test whether there were systematic differences in attitudes toward ssh at more or less prestigious institutions, I first combined answers to the fifteen statements into an index. Each respondent's current department and that in which he or she received his or her graduate degree were then given the scores for the "mean rating of the scholarly quality of program faculty" listed in Lyle V. Jones, et. al., An Assessment of Research-Doctorate Programs in the U.S.: Social and Behavioral Sciences (1983). While correlations of the attitude and prestige indices were usually positive, indicating that professors associated with more highly rated schools were more favorable to "ssh," none was statistically significant at conventional levels. "Ssh" is about equally popular among faculty members at colleges of high and low rankings and among those with graduate degrees from more or less prestigious universities.

Rather than departmental prestige, it was departmental affiliation that made the most difference in overall attitudes toward "ssh." There was also some indication that younger scholars are generally more predisposed to "ssh.

If the opinions of the professors the offer more ground for optimism about the future of "ssh" than is sometimes believed, facts about current teaching suggest a more pessimistic assessment. Just as attitudes toward "ssh" vary according to disciplinary lines, so do courses in statistics and social scientific theory. Methods and theory offerings are sharper in history than in sister departments, and the courses that are taught in history are much too elementary to enable anyone to use these tools very effectively in primary research or to go on to greater mastery through study.

Virtually all of the social science departments and at least 44 history departments offer one or more courses in statistical methods, and there is a positive, statistically significant relationship between offering such a course and the history departmental ratings in the Jones report. SSHA historians from 12 of the 21 departments rated at 60 or above in the Jones report returned survey questionnaires. Ten claimed that their departments offered statistics courses. In another 22 instances, history students take statistics courses in other departments, but in over a third of the cases, students either have no access to statistics, or do not customarily take advantage of it when they might. Of these courses in history departments, the modal enrollment is 6-10; and the vast majority of them are taught by historians.

Nearly all of the methods courses taught in history departments cover simple regression, about half go on to analysis of variance and multiple regression, but very few review more advanced topics. Almost none employ calculus, line-linear algebra or probability theory, which are presumably standard in social science department statistics courses. In history, the chief purpose of statistics courses is to inculcate habits of systematic thinking, while in social science departments, the goal is to prepare students to use the methods in research.

The inadequacies of methods courses in history are widely recognized. Many historians believe that social scientific historians should at least have mastered multivariate regression, a quarter think further topics are necessary, and larger proportions practice what they preach, having acquired these tools themselves. But as things stand today, history students who want to become acquainted with many methods that are useful in historical research must cross departmental barriers. History departmental hiring committees should be aware of the difference in sophistication in current methods courses in history and other disciplines.

Turning from methods to theory courses, it appears that historians are even less appreciative of theoretics, only 12% of the respondents' departments offering one or more courses in social scientific theories, spread fairly evenly among other social science disciplines.

As for a third genre of courses, many more departments list offerings that apply insights from other social sciences to historical topics. Two-thirds of the 105 SSHA history respondents and a majority of the 101 social science SSHA members reported one or more such courses. Thirty-three of the 206 departments claimed to give five or more courses that fit this description. There was no statistically significant relationship among history departments between the number of these courses re-
Contrary to much convention-hallway gossip, "ssh" is not about to fade away. Indeed, it is the bitter division over "ssh," not that no longer new departure, that has ceased. Today, "ssh" is firmly established in several disciplines. Although there is some movement towards cultural/intellectual histo-

The inadequacies of methods courses in history are widely recognized.

"The Face of Lincoln begins quite simply. From there on, nothing happens by the magic of ideas and of art. Who will deny that it carries much of the truth about America."

— Richard Dyer MacCann

While telling anecdotes from Lincoln's life, the late Merrell Gage, a sculptor, molds a mass of clay, fashioning Lincoln's bust from young man to middle age in the Academy Award®-winning documentary short (1956).

For more information contact:
UNSC School of Cinema/Television
Fils & Video Distribution Center
W222
Los Angeles, CA 90089
Phone: 213-743-2238

For California shipments add 6.5% sales tax.

CALL FOR PAPERS
EIGHTH PRESIDENTIAL CONFERENCE

JIMMY CARTER
39th President of the United States

KEEPING FAITH
November 15, 16, 17, 1990
Conference Director: Herbert D. Rosenbaum
Professor of Political Science

We welcome papers dealing with the career, the person and the policies of President Carter, including:

- Arm Control
- Budget Reforms and Fiscal Policy
- The Camp David Accords
- The Carter White House
- Civil Rights
- Civil Service Reform
- Conservation Policy
- Congressional Relations
- Democratic Party Politics
- The Domestic "Surviving"
- Elections of '76, '78, and '80
- Energy Policy

- Georgette in the White House
- Human Rights Initiatives
- The Iran Crises
- Latin America
- Mideast Peace
- The "New South"
- Panamanian Canal Treaty
- Plaza, Cuban, and Iranian Crises
- Soviet Relations
- The United Nations
- and the Post Presidential Years

Papers on other topics will be considered.

A prospectus or letter of interest is requested by Nov. 30, 1989. The deadline for submission of completed papers (in duplicate) and a one-page abstract is March 15, 1990. Selected papers will be published.

FOR INFORMATION:
Natalie Deliot &2 Alexei Loskovsky
Conference Coordinators
Hofstra Cultural Center (HCC)
Hofstra University
Hempstead, NY 11550
(516) 463-5800, 5670

Hofstra University
Hempstead, New York 11550

Hofstra University is an equal educational opportunity institution.
Exhibition Shows Mexican War As It Was

The Mexican War is best remembered for opening vast territories of the American Southwest, but it is also an important moment in the history of art and journalism. It was the most widely reported war up to that time. Newspaper correspondents, artists and printmakers brought news from the field to people back home. Fort Worth's Amon Carter Museum will present the war as depicted in lithographs, engravings and photographs in *Eyewitness to War: Prints and Daguerreotypes of the Mexican War, 1846-1848*, from November 18, 1989 to January 14, 1990.

The exhibition will focus on the Mexican War as the advent of a new era of communication, when lithography and photography joined the written word to provide eyewitness reports of the war. Just as newspapers raced to publish accounts of each event, lithographers and engravers rushed to print images of battles, scenic views of areas, and renderings of the war's heroes.

Hundreds of different engravings and lithographs were produced between 1846 and 1848, but this exhibition concentrates on those prints that have some eyewitness connection. Sketches varied greatly in artistic quality, but many were sent back to the United States to be printed by lithographers.

In addition to its substantial collection of eyewitness prints, the Amon Carter Museum possesses the largest known collection of daguerreotypes made in Mexico during the war. Despite difficulties in obtaining supplies, itinerant daguerreotypists followed troops in northern Mexico and photographed scenes and individuals (usually officers) during the American occupation. Since each daguerreotype is a unique positive image, incapable of being duplicated, these photographs could not be reproduced for mass audiences, but they remain the most accurate images of the individuals and landmarks of the American venture into Mexico.

**Appearing in Summer 1990**

**Journal of the History of Sexuality**

- **Editor**: John C. Fout, Bard College
- **Associate Editors**: John Boswell, Yale University; Alan M. Brande, Harvard University; Martin Dannecker, University of Frankfurt; Lillian Faderman, California State University, Fresno
- **Co-Editors**:
  - Estelle B. Freedman, Stanford University
  - Attila Grossmann, Columbia University
  - Gaet Helmus, University of Amsterdam
  - Gilbert Herdt, University of Chicago
  - Heidrun Knapp-Hauss, University of Hamburg
  - Carroll Smith-Rosenberg, University of Pennsylvania
  - Randolph Trumbach, Barnard College, CUNY
  - Martha Vicinus, University of Michigan
  - Jeffrey Weeks, Universities of Kent and Southampton

The Journal of the History of Sexuality illuminates the history of human sexuality in all its expressions, providing a much-needed forum for historical, critical and theoretical research in this emerging field. It spans geographic and temporal boundaries, from ancient to contemporary history, from Europe and the Americas to Africa and Asia. The Journal encourages the publication of essays and reviews by historians and scholars in the humanities and social and behavioral sciences.

Volume 1, 1990
ISSN 1043-4070
Individuals #29; Institutions #58; Students #20

**Charter subscribers save 15%**

- Yes! Please enter my charter subscription to the Journal of the History of Sexuality at the rate checked below.
  - Individuals $24.50
  - Institutions $49.00
  - Students (with copy of ID) $17.00

Outside USA add $3.00 for postage

- Check enclosed
- Visa
- MasterCard

Acct. No. Exp. date
Signature

Name
Address
City/State/Zip

Please mail your order to The University of Chicago Press, Journals Division, Dept. SAOOH, P.O. Box 37005, Chicago, IL 60637
News from the Organization

Correspondence

To the Editor:

Perhaps you have already been apprised of the fact that I resurrected Custer (OAH Newsletter, August 1989). To correct the record, Custer and his men died on June 25, 1876, not in July. I hope you will print this soplease in the Newsletter.

William H. Goetzmann
University of Texas at Austin

To the Editor:

I object to the facile way in which an important matter was dealt with in the August Newsletter ('Unexpected Conclusion' by Georgia Sand, pseusd.). In particular an important conclusion was not made. The article cites the fact that women constitute 15% of American historians and that this is less than in any other humanities discipline. Later, the article mentioned with satisfaction how well historians are paid vis-a-vis the rest of the humanities. Women historically have earned less than men. So the reason historians do so well financially (read: white males) is that history as a discipline is sexist and has resisted the winds of change more than any other humanities disciplines. As a woman historian, I take little comfort in this conclusion.

I suggest the obvious conclusion: the reason historians are higher in salary than the rest of the humanities is because historians have resisted the professionalization of women in their discipline. Women historically have earned less than men. Women tend also to be newer to all professions and thus are clustered at the lower salaries.

Bill of Rights of the Organization of American Historians is interested in establishing a list of lecturers on colonialism. If you would be interested in participating, please send a note and a short c.v. to: Sandra F. VanBurkleo, Program Officer, OAH Scholars, 112 North Bryan St., Bloomington, IN 47408-4199. The OAH Newsletter welcomes correspondence from readers. Letters for publication should be under two hundred words and may be edited for length and clarity. Address the Editor, OAH Newsletter, 112 N. Bryan St., Bloomington, IN 47408-4199.

Committee Seeks Bill of Rights Scholars

The ad hoc committee on the bicentennial of the Bill of Rights of the Organization of American Historians is interested in establishing a list of lecturers on the bicentennial of the Bill of Rights. The committee hopes to establish a group of scholars with expertise in the field. If you would be interested in participating, please send a note and a short c.v. to: Sandra F. VanBurkleo, Program Officer, OAH Scholars, 112 North Bryan St., Bloomington, IN 47408-4199.

Candidates for 1990

The following list is for information only. Official ballots will be included with the 1990 annual meeting program.

President-Elect
Joyce Appleby, UCLA

Executive Board

(Three vacancies)
Alan Brinkley, Graduate School, CUNY
Drew Gilpin Faust, Univ. of Penn.
Michael Frisch, St. Mary, UC, Berkeley
Rudolph Vecoli, Univ. of California
Bertram Wyatt-Brown, Univ. of Fla.

Nominating Board

(Three vacancies, paid)
Karen Anderson, Univ. of Arizona
Roy Rosenzweig, George Mason Univ.
Ronald J. Grele, Columbia Univ.
Gary Kulik, Smithsonian Institution
Paul Johnson, Univ. of Utah
Joe William Trotter, Carnegie Mellon

Correction: The slate published in the August issue misprinted the names of Professors Brinkley and Anderson. The Newsletter regrets any inconvenience this may have caused.

OAH Newsletter welcomes correspondence from readers. Letters for publication should be under two hundred words and may be edited for length and clarity. Address the Editor, OAH Newsletter, 112 N. Bryan St., Bloomington, IN 47408-4199.

Social Studies Curriculum Report

Charging a Course: Social Studies for the 21st Century has just been published by the National Commission on Social Studies in the Schools.

The Commission, founded in 1986 as a joint project of the AHA, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, the NCSS and the OAH, was charged with examining the current status of social studies programs in the nation's schools, K-12, and making recommendations for needed change.

Copies of the report are available from the OAH. Send $7.00, which includes postage and handling, to Curriculum Report, OAH, 112 N. Bryan St., Bloomington, IN 47408-4199.

Obituary

Rena L. Vassar

Rena L. Vassar, professor of history at California State University, Northridge, died on July 14, 1989. A victim of cancer, she was sixty-two years old. Her colleagues and her many friends throughout this country and abroad will remember her for her charm, high professional standards and uncompromising integrity.

Born in Pueblo, Colorado, Professor Vassar took her Bachelor of Arts at the University of Colorado and completed the Ph.D. in American colonial history at Berkeley in 1958. She joined the Northridge faculty seven years later. She also taught at Indiana University, the University of Colorado, Claremont and Colgate. At Northridge she developed new courses in the history of American women and in oral history. She had an exceptionally loyal following of students. They knew her as a demanding teacher who was uncommonly generous in sharing her time. Though considerable, Professor Vassar's published legacy reflects only a portion of her broad range of scholarly interests. Her two-volume Social History of American Education appeared in 1965. At the time of her death she had completed much of the research for a landmark history of women in higher education.

Colleagues and friends knew Rena Vassar as a person of wide-ranging and complex intellect. She was devoted to the arts; not a week went by without a concert or play. Her fine memory gave her quite an astonishing breadth of knowledge in an array of fields. She has a bounteous capacity for friendship, and eagerly sided those who were troubled. This compounded the frustration of all who tried to return full measure during her final months. Friends who were not with her then will feel no surprise that she was a model of grace, unflinchingly courageous to the end.

Submitted by John J. Breemenle

Please Note

Due to changes in both the telephone system for Indiana University and zip codes for Bloomington, Indiana, the office of the Organization of American Historians now has new numbers.

The new telephone number is (812) 855-7311. The address and new zip code are 112 North Bryan Street, Bloomington, IN 47405-4199.
The Return of the Narrative?

by Dwight W. Hoover

is narrative history becoming respectable again?

Following the 1983 publication of Robert Middlekauff's 'The Glorious Cause', a narrative of Revolutionary America in the United States, C. Vann Woodward wrote in the New York Times Book Review about the split between narrative historians and 'new scientific' historians. Woodward claimed that the profession had fallen on evil days because 'new' history lacked a central theme and no longer attracted the general public. In a telling metaphor, he said, 'History was once called a habitation of many mansions, but it has been more recently described as scattered suburbs, trailer camps and a deteriorating central city.' Woodward urged a revival of the narrative art.

In the New York Review of Books several days later, 'new' historian Gordon Wood took an unsympathetic view of Middlekauff's book. He believed a call to narrative to be mistaken. Narrative, he said, uses a story-telling format; emphasizes human agency; focuses on personalities and politics; deals with societies; and covers long periods of time. Wood condemned narrative history as being fictive: 'Perhaps there is always a constructed character to all history writing, but this fabricated character seems particularly evident in narrative history.' The past after all is not a series of stories waiting to be told, as becomes more and more apparent in the 20th century.

Vann Woodward and Gordon Wood reflect part of an ongoing debate, and each had seized upon previously identified problems with history—the loss of an audience and the equation of narrative history with fiction. Neither writer came to terms with the other's position; each had presented one side of the argument.

A revival of interest in narrative occurred during the late 1970s and early 1980s and was stimulated by Lawrence Stone's 1979 article in Past and Present. An eminent new historian, Stone wrote: 'The two essential ways in which narrative history differs from structural history is that its arrangement is descriptive rather than analytical and that its central focus is on man not circumstances.' He noted that new scientific history was lessening its impact on the profession, a significant point coming from a practitioner of the genre. Stone offered three reasons for his judgment: disillusionment with the economic deterministic model of historical explanation, the decline of ideological commitment among western intellectuals, and the missed record of the use of quantification. He left no doubt of his own views, saying 'the macro-economic model is a pipe-dream, and scientific history a myth.'

However, Stone's examples of the kind of narrative history that he found interesting did not please traditionalists. He offered Emmanuel LeRoy Ladurie's Montaillou and Carlo Ginzburg's The Cheese and the Worms. The new narrative history, as these examples of French social life illustrated,
Undersundative history's value lies in inculcating certain narrative mode. Practicing History of readers' attention. She reflectioned on her craft in stead, her primary object was to gripe and hold her narrative history, at least not in the fashion these ion were keeping discourse alive. Two such opments were obvious in another discipline, glish, and in the public schools.

ment is based on a conservative notion that narra-cal precepts. Her efforts have attracted attention. The .new history, she has said, emphasizes the tics and demeaning reason and history as well. The new history, claiming it has become the new political, narrative history studied the operation of out trying thesis. Himmelfarb has aggressively criticized the attack on the pretensions of the new history Gertrude Himmelfarb, have mounted a counter-attack on the pretensions of the new history without trying to incorporate the latter into a new synthesis. Himmelfarb has aggressively criticized the new history, claiming it has become the new orthodoxy and has displaced the old narrative history. She accused the new historians of devaluing poli-tics and demeaning reason and history as well. The new history, she has said, emphasizes the es-sential irrationality of human life whereas the old political, narrative history studied the operation of reason in society. The agents of change were to be found in the historical establishment itself which promoted the new history in journals, at confer-ences and in university departments. Her argum-ent is based on a conservative notion that narra-tive history's value lies in inculcating certain politi-cal precepts. Her efforts have attracted attention. At the AHA's 1988 meeting, the panel discussion of historical approaches, which included Himmelfarb, attracted 600 persons.

This discussion, however, did not move much further than the one in the first years of the de-cade. However, developments outside the profes-sion were keeping discourse alive. Two such devel-opments were obvious in another discipline, En-glish, and in the public schools.

The increasing strength of the "new historicism" in literary studies appears to have resulted in top-ppling the "new criticism." More attention has been devoted to history as the context for literature, and some scholars are even claiming that the unique value of literature is its historicity. This claim could result in the appropriation of narrative histo-ry by English teachers who would become the guardians of the story line.

The increasing strength of the "new historicism" in literary studies appears to have resulted in top-ppling the "new criticism." More attention has been devoted to history as the context for literature, and some scholars are even claiming that the unique value of literature is its historicity. This claim could result in the appropriation of narrative histo-ry by English teachers who would become the guardians of the story line.

The second development arises out of the mounting concern over the state of the nation's schools. Part of the reason for this concern was a growing realization of the poor performance of American students when compared to those in oth-er industrial countries. Part was the conservative climate of the Reagan years which made Alan Bloom's The Closing of the American Mind and E. D. Hirsch, Jr.'s Cultural Literacy popular and tradition-ism respectable. During these years, reports of various commissions pilled one atop another, detailling the problems and proffering solutions.

Among these was the Bradley Commission on History in the Schools which recommended that schools require three years of history. The ques-tion then was what kind of history. Paul Gagnon, a supporter of the report, argued in the Atlantic that it should be narrative history. His rationale was that this kind of history provided a vital civic education, teaching students that significant prob-lems in democratic societies are never solved in a neat and final way. He called for historians to pro-vide broad synthesis of political history saying, "Not many historians devote themselves to wide sweeps of history, working at big themes and synthesizing the new scholarship that keeps piling up."

Will these pressures result in the revitalization of narrative history? A definitive answer is difficult to give but several straws in the wind may indicate a positive answer. One is the reception to James MacPherson's Battle Cry of Freedom (1988), which is also in the "Oxford History of the United States." Reviewers have uniformly praised the book, both in the New York Times Book Review and the New York Review of Books. Neither questioned the validity of doing narrative history; indeed, the only mention of narrative was in Richard E. Beringer's review in the latter which called the book "a remarkably wide-ranging synthesis of the history of the 1850s and the Civil War in a highly cogent and readable nar-rative."

In my opinion, a new narrative history can be constructed by paying attention to White's categori-zation. Such a history needs to observe two max-tims. The first is Dominick La Capra's admonition to intellectual historians to recognize that their au-dience is "a densely divided one made up of both experts and the generally educated public." The second is David Noble's suggestion that an erosion of self-confidence will leave historians "without stories to tell unless they can develop narratives offering a vision that does not bring evolution and history to a climax with modern civilization."

If historians can do this while keeping in mind Aristotle's insight—"Just as music, as Spengler remarked, is the only art that can convey the idea of God, so narrative or fiction may be the only art that can convey the idea of man"—they will find the new narrative history to have a bright future.

Dwight W. Hooper is professor of history and di-rector of the Center for Middletown Studies, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana. A longer version of this paper was presented at the 1989 Missouri Val-ley History Conference in Omaha, Nebraska.
Page Putnam Miller

of the historians agreed that the theme study should reflect the broad work experiences of all Americans and should not be limited only to the study of labor unions.

Ruling Made on Court Case Regarding National Security Council Computerized Records

On September 15 the U.S. District Court ruled on the lawsuit filed on January 18 by plaintiffs—Scott Armstrong, author and journalist; Gaylord Nelson, former Democratic senator from Wisconsin; the Center for National Security Studies of the American Civil Liberties Union; the American Library Association; and the American Historical Association—and the U.S. Attorney. The plaintiffs are seeking to prevent the destruction of electronic messages contained on the tapes used in the Professional Office System (PROFS) used by the National Security Council staff. Many of the messages retrieved from this system played an important role in the investigations of the Iran-Contra affair. The defendants argued that most of the PROFS messages were similar to telephone messages and should not be preserved and that procedures are in place to insure that messages of enduring value had been printed and were on file. The defendants sought dismissal of the lawsuit.

U.S. District Judge Charles R. Richey ruled that the case should not be dismissed and the private citizens can take the President of the United States to court to challenge the White House decision to destroy the PROFS computer tapes. "Under the Presidential Records Act," Judge Richey wrote, "the President simply may not, for political reasons inc...dual security standards ...of the tape's content..." The Court decision, however, stated that "the President's unilateral decision to flush the PROFS system would appear to be an exercise of discretion that violates the Presidential Records Act's disposal provisions." The Court decided, however, stated that additional discovery is necessary to determine if the President was in compliance with the Presidential Records Act and its handling of the PROFS tapes. "The plaintiffs are entitled to invoke the Administrative Procedures Act," Judge Richey wrote, "to the extent to ensure presidential compliance with the Presidential Records Act." Despite the defendants' argument that the guidelines for preservation of material of enduring value had been followed, Judge Richey noted that "the record before the Court contains evidence sufficient to suggest that the users of the PROFS system historically have not at all times adhered to the applicable guidelines." The ruling thus focused on issues of authority and not on the technicalities of how to determine what is a federal record. Since the PROFS tapes are classified, the issue is the preservation of the tapes and not an examination of their content. This decision marked the first time that private citizens have been given the right to sue the President under the terms of the Administrative Procedures Act. This could have most significant long-range implications. Informal word from the Justice Department is that they intend to appeal the case.

National Endowment for the Humanities

The major issues in the National Endowment for the Humanities' appropriations legislation have not focused on the funding level but on the clarification of what kinds of projects receive federal funds and on the question of whether NEH should exert more control over grants to other institutions which use NEH funds. In defense of the Arts Endowment, Representative Sidney Yates (D-IL), who chairs the appropriations subcommittee in the House with responsibility for the Endowment's budget, noted that of the 80,000 grants the NEA has awarded in its 25-year history, only about 20 have been controversial. In House Report 101-320, which accompanied the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Bill, 1990, the House Appropriations Committee stated that "if subgrants are permitted they would be undertaken with procedures that will make the chairman and councils of NEA and NEH as thoroughly informed and well-informed as possible on the basis of the limits on direct grants." One of the key reasons, however, that NEH has awarded funds to such institutions as the American Council for Learned Societies, the British Academic Societies, the American Historical Association, the Center for National Policy, and the International Liberty for granting is because NEH has limited number of staff available for the processing of the applications. This is one reason among the scholarly community that new procedures would only make the application process more cumbersome and lengthy.

Of greater concern, however, is the possible long-range implications of the Jesse Helms amendment to the Senate interior appropriations bill. The controversial amendment would prohibit the use of appropriated funds for the dissemination, promotion, or production of obscene or indecent materials. Although aimed at the National Endowment for the Arts, the amendment would also apply to the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Smithsonian Institution, and the National Gallery of Art. On September 13 the House voted to instruct the Senate conferees to vote against the Helms amendment in the conference committee. And on October 2 the House/Senate conferees worked out compromise language that attempted to both prohibit "patently offensive" works and to reaffirm the principal of free inquiry and expression. The conference committee also called for the establishment of a temporary independent commission for the purpose of reviewing the National Endowment for the Arts' standards and procedures.

Permanent Paper

On July 31 the Senate passed by voice vote S.J. Res. 57, legislation that would establish a national policy to promote the use of permanent, alkaline papers. A similar bill in the House, H.R.J. Res. 226, is still pending before committees. In hearings last spring in the House of Representatives, witnesses testified that the deterioration of the acid papers in our archives and libraries can be avoided in the future by the use of alkaline printing and paper. Furthermore, many older alkaline papers, which will last several hundred years, can be produced at no greater cost than acidic papers. American publishing organizations also called for a national policy to convert to alkaline paper. Approximately 1 quarter to a third of American hardcover books are now printed on permanent paper, although this is usually noted in the publishing reports.
**Archives Conserves Damaged Records**

Water from a malfunctioning roof drain cascaded into the third floor of the California Archives Building during the night of October 14, 1988 during the first significant rainfall of the season, and caused repairs of $30,000 in damage to more than 1,400 century-old records from the California Supreme Court. Staff members recovered the damage while making routine maintenance and discovery during the semester.

"These records, which survived the San Francisco earthquake and fire in 1906, were almost destroyed by a night's rain." Much of the Archives staff was called upon to help in the initial stages of recovery. Once the affected shelving units were identified, staff devised a method for removing the wet materials. Special handling was required to deal with soaked cardboard jackets which disintegrated at the touch; dissolving water-soluble glue in bindings; and running dyes from leather-bound volumes.

Phase two of the disaster recovery plan involved spreading flat documents on shelves lined with paper towels, interleaving the pages of bound volumes with additional paper towels, and maintaining location identification to facilitate eventual reshelving. Fans were positioned to keep air circulating through the area and reduce the possibility of mold developing on the paper.

Documents in the recovery area were turned periodically and checked for mold, as were those adjacent to the disaster area.

After the records had dried, they were surveyed to determine the extent of permanent damage. Additional copies are available at no charge, by writing Pamela Block at the Commission on Preservation and Access, Suite 313, 1785 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20036.

---

**SHAFR Announces the Link Prize**

The Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR) has established the Arthur S. Link Prize for documentary editing. The prize will recognize and encourage analytical scholarly editing of documents, in appropriate published form, relevant to the history of American foreign relations, policy and diplomacy.

This award is designed to encourage the kind of combining historical editing with scholarship to which Professor Link has devoted so much of his life, and it will signify SHAFR's affection and appreciation of a scholar who is also a thoroughly decent human being.

Competition will be open to the editor/author(s) of any eligible collection of documents published after 1984. The prize will be made no more than once in three years. For more information write Warren F. Kimball, Chair, Arthur S. Link Prize Committee (SHAFR), Department of History, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ 08902.

---

**The Humanities in American Education**

"We live with a tradition that says that going to college is much more important than what you do in the classroom when you get there," comments Frederick Rudolph, emeritus professor of history at Williams College, in a conversation with NEH Chairman Lynne V. Cheney that opens the September/October issue of Humanities. An authority on the history of American undergraduate education, Rudolph says that college students' lack of direction in selecting liberal-arts courses is resulting in a dearth of broadly educated people able to conduct the affairs of the country.

What is being done about this serious national concern? This edition discusses recent educational initiatives. As described in "The California Framework," that state's board of education, for instance, has adopted a plan to dramatically increase the study of history and geography in state elementary and secondary schools.

"Core in Texas" describes how Texas public colleges and universities are tackling a legislative mandate to implement core curricula. "A Case Study in Brooklyn" discusses how the faculty tailored a core model curriculum for its multiethnic student population. "Heretofore" highlights the NEH/Reader's Digest Teacher-Scholar Program, which resulted from a 1987 NEH report noting that teacher-preparation programs are often insufficient in content study.

---

**New Report on Deacidification**

The translation of an article originally published in German that summarizes a substantial study of deacidification techniques is being distributed by the Commission on Preservation and Access to the library community and others interested in this preservation technology. The study was conducted by the Battelle Institute for the West German Library. Among the report's findings: "It should be stressed that all mass deacidification processes developed so far result only in an extension of the remaining life expectancy of books at the time of treatment, depending on their condition. A restoration of the original durability of the paper is not achieved in this manner.... The preservation of endangered library and archival collections can be successful only through the use of a comprehensive concept that combines all presently known measures of preservation and accommodates the possibility of future expansion."

The Commission has distributed the translated report to several hundred universities and libraries. Additional copies are available at no charge, by writing Pamela Block at the Commission on Preservation and Access, Suite 313, 1785 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20036.

---

**Public Historians Seek New Host for Secretariat**

The National Council on Public History (NCPH) has issued a request for proposals for an institution to host its central office. The Secretariat's mission includes secretarial, financial and program responsibilities.

The host institution will sponsor a professional historian who will serve as the Executive Secretary of NCPH. The Executive Secretary and the host institution are central to the growing public history movement and provide continuity and good communication within NCPH. The Secretariat has also edited Public History News, the NCPH newsletter.

Institutions interested in preparing a proposal can obtain a solicitation packet or further information from Theodore J. Karamanski, Chair, NCPH, History Department, Loyola University of Chicago, 6525 N. Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL 60626; tel. (312) 341-2221. Proposals are due February 15, 1990.

---

**OAH Call for Papers Annual Meeting, 1991**

The Program Committee for the annual meeting to be held in Louisville in 1991 invites proposals for sessions, panels, workshops and papers. Although the committee prefers fully packaged session proposals (with chairs, paper givers and commentators), it will give full consideration to proposals for individual papers. Fair evaluation of the proposals requires a standard submission format. Each proposal should include the following: a resume, no longer than 500 words, which states the thesis, methodology and significance of the proposed session, panel, workshop or paper; a prospectus, no longer than 500 words, of each proposed paper; and a short curriculum vitae for each proposed participant. In order to contain the spiraling costs for reproducing and mailing the more than 1,000 visas we anticipate will be submitted for the annual meeting, the 1991 Program Committee prefers the submission of a single page summary rather than an entire c.v.

Deadline for receipt of proposals is February 1, 1990.

The theme for the 1991 Annual Meeting is: "Diversity and Dissent: Politics as Social Process." This theme is a response to calls for a comprehensive perspective on the development of American "political" culture or, more appropriately, American "political" cultures. The evolution of the American polity has entailed changing relations between public and private spheres. Analysis of "political" cultures could profit from a conception of "politics" as a phenomenon far broader than the history of elections and parties; "politics" can be conceptualized as a social process responsive to varying degrees to the interests, aspirations and self-conscious actions of the broad cross-section of social groups within American society.

The Program Committee seeks a balanced program which (re)present the best of the current practice of American history. Thus, the Committee encourages submissions in all areas of United States history.

Please note: Participants in the annual meeting who specialize in American history, that is—practicing American historians, are required to be members of the OAH. Participants in other disciplines need not be OAH members.
History's Electric Future

by Orville Vernon Burton

Just as the weight-driven mechanical clock is the metaphor for the early modern period and the steam engine represents the industrial revolution, the computer is the symbol of our age. The changes wrought by computers affect almost every aspect of our lives, and history is no exception. No longer is history the sanctuary of literary exiles who work only with pen and paper. Computers are changing the way historians research, write and teach.

Computerization of the library has fundamentally changed the humanities. Many libraries, from the Library of Congress to local campuses, have computerized holdings and no longer add new items to the card catalogue. Researchers have instant access to an entire catalogue and can search for words or combinations of words that were never separately indexed. Patrons can use a modem—a telecommunications device which allows a user's microcomputer to communicate with other microcomputers, online databases and mainframe computers—and from the friendly environs of home or office can call directly into a database, insert the listings into their own microcomputer file, check out books and have them delivered.

The Illinet on-line system gives access to all titles in most Illinois libraries, and some schools allow access to the OCLC national system, which is the equivalent of simultaneous browsing through all research libraries in the country. Most major library files are computerized and all these files, containing over seventy-five million records, are available to any microcomputer user via information retrieval systems such as DIALOG. The DIALOG system contains more than 170 databases, including extensive information from the fields of humanities, social science, biography, education, chemistry, medicine, business, economics, law and government. Unfortunately, data retrieval systems are still relatively expensive, with a ten-minute search costing anywhere from five to fifty dollars. Recently, many universities have helped bring down the cost to users by obtaining a license for the IBM information Network (IN) which allows high-speed access to several national databases. Since most historians begin research by finding out what has been written on a subject, computerized bibliographic searches have made this aspect of a historian's work easier.

Scholars currently rely on indexes, fully recognizing their potential for errors, omissions and missed subject headings. Libraries will one day convert books and journals into machine-readable text, allowing complex searches far beyond the limitations of printed indexes at the end of books and even into rarely-indexed journals. Computer cops, in addition, will allow hundreds of people access to the same sources, saving the expense of purchasing multiple copies of important works. If a book or article is in machine-readable form, further, quotations can be moved directly into a historian's own text. Storage costs for libraries would be greatly reduced, as would worry about stolen and deteriorating books. Machine-readable books via telephase lines and modems would also democratize the profession. A historian at a community college in South Carolina could have access to the same books as a Harvard professor. In short, computers will make libraries' information more accessible and more dynamic because users will be able to retrieve and utilize information much quickly.

Libraries will one day convert books and journals into machine-readable text, allowing complex searches.

Computerized dissertations will be another breakthrough. Already, many graduate students are writing their dissertations with word processing packages on computers. If dissertations, often abundant with unpublishable details, are placed in machine-readable databases, then historians all over the country can peruse them. Currently, dissertations are not indexed and are difficult to use. Some may prefer, however, to keep their dissertations out of public view, and privacy, a problem often associated with computerized information, is an issue with dissertations also.

Skeptics claim that machine-readable books and dissertations are not the way of the future and will go to the back of the library like microfilm, which is under-utilized because of clumsiness and eyestrain. However, I believe historians will eventually find machine-readable materials less expensive, more convenient and more aesthetically pleasing than paper books. The average price of a history book in 1965 was $27.76. Given the budget constraints which libraries, graduate students and history professors now face, the market for books will inevitably shrink unless books become less expensive. Future book prices will be reduced by selling in machine-readable form.

The expense of converting old books to machine-readable form will diminish as optical scanners become more sophisticated. Scanning is the technological development that I am most excited about. I am looking forward to the day when researchers take into the archives affordable handheld scanning devices which transform handwritten documents into machine-readable text. Existing scanners can already read handwriting, if consistently written, and continued development should soon make it possible to read even manuscript versions directly from microfilm.

With books and journals available in electronic text, historians will no longer have to search in vain for a reference or footnote; computers will do it instantly. Screen windows will allow researchers to read and take notes at the same time, or compare multiple books and articles simultaneously. Electronic books, dissertations and journals will not be just printed material displayed electronically but an entirely different type of historical literature. Machine-readable quantitative works, for instance, will allow scholars to analyze each other's data firsthand since a database will be included with a book disk. Electronic books, serials, maps and documents with sound and music, pictures, color and electronic painting, movement and graphics will all make the next generation of historical works more exciting and instructional than at present. They will enable teachers to shape educational material to the needs of particular courses and free students from the expense of buying several partially utilized textbooks.

Moving beyond the transfer of books onto disks is the full text database system. In 1965, Avi Zetlin, Akersvel conceived a project to apply a full text retrieval system to all of Hebrew Law. This Response Literature covers about 1400 years of questions and answers in Hebrew, Aramaic, Yiddish and numerous other languages. In testing a computerized search for material, a group of experts, relying upon indices, encyclopedias and similar references, found 78% of the defined relevant documents. The computerized search retrieved 98% of the defined relevant documents. (Human eyes all too easily miss material when scanning large document files.) As of 1984, more than 550 queries had been submitted by university scholars, tabbination teams, judges, libraries, information centers, encyclopedia teams and graduate students. A sample query put to the system stated, "Retrieve all..."
historical material on indigenous Jewish communities in Algiers and North Africa in the fifteenth century." The implication for historical research is the scope and complexity of questions analyzed. This system has moved beyond numerical trivia.

The use of databases will greatly benefit historians in their day-to-day work. It is no longer necessary to learn programming to use computers; and software, free of cryptic jargon, is easier to understand.

The computer, a tool which humanists once considered useful only for mathematical applications, is now being utilized to store, retrieve, manipulate and present information of all types.

Historians believe that truth emerges from the excitement that humanists find in their day-to-day work. It is no longer necessary to learn programming to use computers; and software, free of cryptic jargon, is easier to understand.

The computer, a tool which humanists once considered useful only for mathematical applications, is now being utilized to store, retrieve, manipulate and present information of all types.

The potential unleashed by computers is limited only by our imagination. In the early part of this century, H. G. Wells wrote about a World Brain that would make all information accessible to all persons in all locations. Although not a World Brain, supercomputers, with their amazing speed and huge memory capabilities, offer immense opportunities to all historians. Working in tandem with microcomputers, supercomputers allow scholars to organize, analyze, visualize and comprehend massive historical data, such as all the census information ever collected for the United States. Let the technology seem overpowering or fearsome, remember that the real potential of the supercomputer is not in some $10 million machine sitting in an astronomy or physics lab, but in the ten million installed PCs (in the U.S. alone) which sit on users' desks. These PCs possess the computing power of over 10,000 Cray-1 supercomputers or equivalents.

When computing power and the organization built into software are added to scholars' cooperative intelligence, the potential exists for computers to create a profound change in the discipline of history. We have the rare opportunity to change the scale and magnitude of historical inquiry and ultimately to affect the questions historians ask. If the next ten years are anything like the last, then the future of history looks enormously exciting.

- Orville Vernon Burton is professor of history at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

NEW PAPERBACKS FOR COURSE USE

America's Half-Century Limited Edition Foreign Policy in the Cold War

John T. McCormick

In a challenging reinterpretation of recent U.S. history, Thomas J. McCormick argues that American leaders deliberately seized the opportunity created by World War II to establish American global dominance.

Writing from a world-system perspective, McCormick shows how American economic and moral power helped rebuild Europe and the Far East as favorable markets for U.S. dollars. He explores the period from the Korean War to the Tet offensive as the high-water mark of American power. And he analyzes hegemony's ironic consequences, as the military spending and overseas investments meant to shore up America's worsening position instead accelerated its decline.

The American Moment: Stanley I. Kutler, Editor

$11.95 paperback

Cotton Fields and Skyscrapers: Southern City and Region

David R. Goldfield

"Proactive... The most readable account to date of Southern urban development." — Timothy J. Caramas, American Historical Review

Tracing nearly four centuries of social and economic history, David R. Goldfield shows that the southern city — a political, economic, and cultural center — continues to reflect the surrounding region, with its stages of development, one of the most important trends is the growth of cities.

$12.95 paperback

History Professional Fellowship in America

John Higham

"A classic in the field, probably the best overall picture of American historiography we have." — Richard L. Bushman, University of Delaware

John Higham's masterful exposition of the state of historical scholarship in America is once again in paperback, updated with a postscript to this edition to cover developments up through the end of the eighties.

$12.95 paperback

The Republic Reborn: War and the Making of Liberal America, 1919-1920

Steven Watts

Winner of the National Historical Society Book Prize

"As the national love feast with Oliver North reminded us, Americans have an abiding attraction to war and war. . . . The Republic Reborn probes the historical roots of this attraction. Examining the role of the War of 1812 in the origins of liberal America, Watts argues that beyond the war's immediate political significance, the conflict with Britain was a crucial moment in the liberalizing of American culture, politics, and society. . . . Challenging and insightful." — Michael Meranze, William and Mary Quarterly

$10.95 paperback

From Front Porch to Back Seat: Courting the Twentieth Century America

Beth L. Bailey

From gentlemen callers to big men on campus, from Coke dates to "parking," From Front Porch to Back Seat is the vivid history of dating in America. In chronicling a dramatic shift in patterns of courtship between the 1920s and the 1990s, Beth Bailey examines how young Americans sought out mates and what accounted for their behavior.

"Dating, as Bailey describes it, is a great invention... A fascinating study of an important part of our recent past" — David Nasaw, The Nation

$10.95 paperback

The Johns Hopkins University Press

271 West 51st Street, Suite 275, Baltimore, Maryland 21211 or call 1-800-326-4949
New Institute Studies Technology

West Virginia University has established a new Institute for the History of Technology and Industrial Archaeology. "There's nothing quite like it anywhere else in the country," says Emory Kemp, the institute's newly appointed director. The purpose of the institute is to establish a center of professional excellence to support programs and projects concerned with the history of technology, industrial archaeology and the preservation of engineering works.

One such project for which the center will be responsible is the complete restoration of the Philippi Bridge, a two-lane covered bridge built in 1852. It was used by both armies during the Civil War and was the last bridge to be included in the federal highway system.

Multiple sources of funding have been tapped to operate the center. U.S. Rep. Alan Molesworth requested that Congress appropriate $600,000 in federal funds through the U.S. Department of the Interior to support the center. Legislation was approved and awaits President Bush's signature.

Congressman Molesworth said, "Grist plants along the Ohio and Monongahela Rivers: abandoned mining towns in Southern West Virginia; old manufacturing plants in Wheeling, Parkersburg, and Clarksburg; old railroad facilities in Granoff; and agricultural sites throughout West Virginia—they all hold keys to an important heritage and should be preserved and perhaps improved for modern use so that future generations may appreciate their contributions."

Emory Kemp, a specialist in late 18th and 19th century history of engineering, is now professor in the WVU department of history.

Brooklyn's History Museum Opens

Brooklyn's History Museum, housing the first and only permanent exhibit devoted to Brooklyn's history and people, opened its doors to the public on October 8, 1989 at The Brooklyn Historical Society.

The new exhibit is housed in the elegantly restored $1.7 million Shullens Gallery, on the first floor of The Brooklyn Historical Society's landmark building at 128 Pierrepont Street, located within the Brooklyn Heights Historic District. "Brooklyn's History Museum, together with a new adjoining school orientation center, represents an exciting accomplishment that will fulfill our mission to make available important materials representative of Brooklyn's diverse people and cultures," says David M. Kahn, Executive Director of The Brooklyn Historical Society. A major museum, research and education center for Brooklyn history, The Brooklyn Historical Society is dedicated to the exploration and appreciation of Brooklyn's rich heritage.

Smithsonian Institution Fellowship Program

GRADUATE, PRE-DOCTORAL, POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS in American history and material culture, anthropology, biological sciences, earth sciences, history of art, history of science and technology. Tenable in residence at the Smithsonian and its research facilities. Stipends and services vary.

Deadline: January 15 annually.

Contact:
Smithsonian Institution
Office of Fellowships and Grants
955 L'Enfant Plaza, Suite 7800. Desk H
Washington, D.C. 20560
(202) 357-2611

Harvard University

CHARLES WARREN CENTER for Studies in American History

FELLOWSHIPS 1990-91

The Charles Warren Center will make six awards for 1990-91 to scholars of American history, broadly defined, who are involved in some stage of a major research project and for whom location at Harvard or in the Boston area would be particularly useful. Scholars of American history who are not citizens of the United States are eligible. Fellows must not be degree candidates at any institution, and applicants should have, or expect to receive no later than June 1990, a Ph.D. or equivalent degree. Preference will be given to scholars who have received their Ph.D. degree or have otherwise completed their professional training since 1980 and who can accept a full-year fellowship.

Appointments are granted in the University, with access to the Harvard libraries and other facilities; a private office in the Center, photocopying and postage privileges; and some secretarial assistance. The Center makes available a limited amount of research funds. Fellows are granted membership in the University, with access to the Harvard libraries and other facilities; a private office in the Center, photocopying and postage privileges; and some secretarial assistance. The Center makes available a limited amount of research funds. Fellows have the opportunity to participate in the Center's ongoing series of colloquia, seminars, and other professional activities.

Where financial support is necessary, fellowships will carry stipends, with a maximum of $30,000 each. Appointments will also be available for scholars of American history who do not need financial assistance but who would benefit from affiliation with the Center for one or both semesters.

Application forms, due in the Center by January 15, 1990, may be obtained by writing to the Charles Warren Center, 118 Robinson Hall, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138.
THE AMERICAN PRESIDENCY
FROM ROOSEVELT TO NIXON
Presidential Documents on Microform from University Publications of America

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
Franklin D. Roosevelt: Diary and Itineraries/Usifer Books
The Presidential Diaries of Henry Morgenthau, Jr. (1938–1945)
Franklin D. Roosevelt and Foreign Affairs, Second Series, 1937–1939

Map Room Messages of President Roosevelt (1939–1945)
The U.S. National Economy: Roosevelt Administration–Truman Administration (1933–1953)

HARRY S TRUMAN
President Harry S Truman's Office Files, 1945–1953

Oral Histories of the Truman Administration
Potsdam Conference Documents
Public Statements by the Secretaries of Defense:
The Truman Administration (1947–1953)

President Truman's Committee on Civil Rights
Edited by William F. Johnsr., Associate Professor of History, Graceland College
Official Conversations and Meetings of Dean Acheson (1949–1946)

DwIGHT D. EISENHOWER
President Dwight D. Eisenhower's Office Files, 1953–1961

Minutes and Documents of the Cabinet Meetings of President Eisenhower (1953–1961)
The Papers of John Foster Dulles and Christian A. Herter, 1953–1961
President Eisenhower's Meetings with Legislative Leaders, 1953–1961

The Diaries of Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1953–1961
The U.S. National Economy: Eisenhower Administration (1953–1961)

Papers of the President's Science Advisory Committee, 1957–1961
Public Statements by the Secretaries of Defense:
The Eisenhower Administrations (1953–1961)

JOHN F. KENNEDY
President John F. Kennedy's Office Files, 1961–1963

Introduction by Herbert Parmet, Distinguished Professor of History, City University of New York
The John F. Kennedy 1960 Campaign
The National Economy under President Johnson: Administrative Histories
History of the Department of Justice (1963–1969)
Daily Diary of President Johnson (1963–1969)
The War on Poverty, 1964–1968
The War in Vietnam, the Media, and Public Support for the War

Civil Rights during the Kennedy Administration
Civil Rights during the Kennedy Administration

Edited by Mark I. Gelfand, Associate Professor of History, Boston College

The John F. Kennedy National Security Files
General Editor: George C. Herring, Professor of History, University of Kentucky

Minutes and Documents of the Cabinet Meetings of President Johnson

The Lyndon B. Johnson National Security Files
General Editor: George C. Herring, Professor of History, University of Kentucky

Memos of the Special Assistant for National Security Affairs:
McGeorge Bundy to President Johnson, 1963–1966
Oral Histories of the Johnson Administration
Political Activities of the Johnson White House, 1963–1969
Introduction by Lewis L. Gould, Professor of History, University of Texas at Austin

The War in Vietnam: Classified Histories by the National Security Council

RICHARD M. NIXON
Public Statements by the Secretaries of Defense:

Civil Rights during the Nixon Administration

Papers of the Nixon White House
Series Editor: Joan Hoff-Wilson, Professor of History, Indiana University

Watergate in Court

For a free catalog listing UPA's extensive offerings in American studies, call toll-free 800-692-6300

UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS OF AMERICA
44 North Market Street • Frederick, MD 21701-5420
any recent articles have critically dis­
cussed quantification and social sci­
ence history. Some make these tech­
niques whipping boys. I have begun to
wonder why we historians, who
prosecute to be experts on change through time, ap­
ppear to be so time bound in our self-examinations.
The use of such a supposedly precise label as "revi­
sionist," let alone "new history," smacks of some­
things frozen in time. Use of the "new political his­
tory" or just "new history" in such areas as social
history has obfuscated analysis for more than a de­
cade. When I was an undergraduate, the "new his­
tory" we were taught was that fervently championed
a quarter century earlier by James Harvey Robinson
and others at Columbia University before the Great
War. It seems to me that the most useful perspec­
tive on changing methods, emphases, etc., is to ac­
tually change the way we read traditions. We must
change the way we read the world. We must change the way
we read the past. We must change the way we read our
history. In short, we must change the way we read.

No one denies that change has been unevenly
paced, but to conclude—either hysterically or
gleefully—that a revolution is in progress just
because something is changing on one's own watch
is ahistorical. Quantification approaches to the
study of history clearly speeded up in the 1960s as
computers became accessible that could store the
voluminous data sets previously trapped spar­ingly
by historians. Many of us have often speculated
that Frederick Jackson Turner, struggling to
accomplish county-aggregate multiple correlation
analysis with historical cartography, would hardly
welcome opportunities that came their way.

But who among us would voluntarily attempt to recall
how we ever managed before such recent a miracle
as word processing on personal computers? The
Computers, as we know them now, are fumbling
that treatise. But we can expect that in the coming
century, historical studies will be far more
amenable to scientific techniques. The
American Historical Review's use vastly expanded historians' turf and con­
tributed to enthusiasm for biography. Development
of inexpensive microfilming and other forms of mi­
crocopying has created today and those yet unimagined just
over the horizon. For nearly a half century we
have had credible survey research in the United
States, and such sources are currently burgeoning.
The research articles in the historical dimension increas­
ed, over the last quarter century, from one to five
per one hundred pages of text in five
historical journals. In the 1960s, it reached eight tables per one hundred pages;
but in the late 1980s, it has averaged four
tables or figures per one hundred pages, though a
sharp increase in the 1989 issue points toward the
overall average of six. In the same period, the
American Historical Review increased from two to
almost five. There are differences among the leading five
journals. The Journal of American History has ex­
perienced an especially dramatic change. In the
late 1970s, it reached eight tables per one hundred pages;
but in the late 1980s, it has averaged four
tables or figures per one hundred pages, though a
sharp increase in the 1989 issue points toward the
overall average of six. In the same period, the
American Historical Review increased from two to
almost five. The Journal of Modern History re­
mained stable at about three. The American
Journal of Southern History increased from six to more than
ten. And the William and Mary Quarterly increased from five to nearly eight.

The proportion of research articles containing at
least one table or figure has also increased. For
the five journals, one-third of articles from 1984
through 1988 contained tables or figures. The JSR
leads with almost one-half, and the WMQ follows
with more than two-fifths. The other three had
about one-fourth each. In contrast, four-fifths of
the research articles in the Social Science History con­tained at least one table or figure. It is certainly not
the case that significant orientation to
quantitative approaches is ne-cessary to understand
every article with a table or figure. Nevertheless,
many of these do employ significant statistical in­
ference and a considerable number present findings
in such highly sophisticated statistical ways that
they cannot be credibly assessed without adequate
preparation by the reader. In addition, many
articles without a table ought to have some, for
they contain subtle statistical inferences not often
made explicit. Outside these five lie a host of po­
tentially valuable articles in such journals as Social
Science History, the Journal of Interdisciplinary His­
tory and the Journal of Social History. Moreover,
research reports in the historical dimension increas­
ingly appear in numerous major social science jour­
nals.

No one historian can expect to cope with every
historical publication. Foreign language disability,
for example, denies a large corpus to any one of
us. It is important, nonetheless, that a sufficient
portion of the members of every discipline be able
to sustain the critical assessment and review func­tion,
both before and after publication, for anything
accepted into its mainstream publications. Future
historians will need to be not only true to a
distinguished discipline, but also flexible and venturesome.
A considerable propor­tion will need to be able to profit from new kinds
of sources as they become available and new
methods that facilitate their use.
Call to Strengthen Core Requirements

Too many students are graduating from college without knowing "basic landmarks of history and thought," writes National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Chairman Lynne V. Cheney in 50 Hours, a new report that urges colleges and universities to revise curricula so that undergraduates study essential areas of knowledge.

With the release of 50 Hours, NEH announced the results of a survey administered by the Gallup Organization that showed significant gaps in college seniors' knowledge of history and literature. On the eve of the federal holiday honoring Christopher Columbus, the Gallup survey showed that one-fourth of the nation's college seniors did not know that Columbus first landed in the Western Hemisphere before the year 1500.

Noting that many colleges and universities allow students to earn bachelor's degrees without taking courses in history, literature, science or mathematics, 50 Hours urges trustees and administrators to support faculty members who are working to strengthen required courses of study in cultures and civilizations, which was conducted under contract to NEH in foreign languages, mathematics, natural sciences and the social sciences.

The Gallup survey of nearly 700 college seniors, which was conducted under contract to NEH in spring, showed many students to be unfamiliar with basic facts about history and literature. As Gallup puts it, "If the students' answers were to be graded, more than half of those tested would have failed. Using the standard 'A' to 'F' scale, where a less than 60-percent-correct-score means failure, 55 percent of the students would have received a grade of 'F' and another 20 percent a 'D.'

The survey showed that roughly 25 percent of college seniors could not distinguish Churchill's words from Stalin's, or Karl Marx's writings from the U.S. Constitution. More than 40 percent could not identify when the Civil War occurred. Most could not identify Mme Curie, the Missouri Compromise or Reconstruction. And most could not link major works by Plato, Dante, Shakespeare or Milton with their authors.

50 Hours says that many American colleges and universities fail to provide enough structure in the curriculum, particularly in the area of study known as "general education." Entering students often find few requirements in place and a plethora of offerings," Cheney writes. "There are hundreds of courses to choose from, a multitude of ways to combine them to earn a bachelor's degree, and a minimum of direction. In the absence of an ordered plan of study, some undergraduates manage to put together coherent and substantive programs, but others move through college years with little rationale."

In place of strong core, many colleges have loosely stated "distribution requirements," directing that students take some courses in certain areas and some in others. At many schools, the list of acceptable choices is long, and most of the offerings are so specialized that "they often have little to do with the broadly conceived learning that should be at the heart of general education," Cheney writes. Citations of examples of universities where one can fulfill humanities distribution requirements with courses in interior design or social science requirements by taking "lifetime fitness," Cheney notes that some courses that satisfy distribution requirements "Have little to do with the areas of human knowledge that they are supposed to elucidate."

50 Hours' Plan of Study

The core curriculum that is the central organizing device of "50 Hours" suggests study in five basic areas of knowledge:

- Foreign Language, 12 hours
- Concepts of Mathematics, 6 hours
- Foundations of the Natural Sciences, 8 hours
- The Social Sciences and the Modern World, 6 hours
- Cultures and Civilizations, 18 hours

The Origins of Civilization: a one-semester course that considers the beginnings of civilization on various continents. (3 hours)

Western Civilization: a one-semester course that considers the development of Western society and thought from Pentecost through the Reformation. (3 hours)

Western Civilization (continued): a one-semester course that considers the development of Western society and thought from the Reformation into the 20th century. (3 hours)

American Civilization: a one-semester course that traces major developments in American society and thought from colonial times to the present. (3 hours)

Other Civilizations: two one-semester courses from the following: civilizations of Africa, East Asia, Islam, Latin America, South Asia. (6 hours)

The University of Connecticut Graduate Program in History

The University of Connecticut Department of History offers graduate work in all the major areas of the discipline, but is particularly strong in the fields where the Ph.D. is offered: Early American and Recent United States, Latin American, Medieval, Early Modern and Modern European history. With over thirty faculty and approximately 100 graduate students, the bulk of class work for both the M.A. and the Ph.D. is taken in small seminars designed to promote maximum interaction between professors and students. The faculty is a dynamic and growing one committed to both graduate teaching and research. Recently they implemented a multi-year National Endowment for the Humanities Funded project to train teachers of Western Civilization, which is a prototype for university-high school cooperative programs.

The University of Connecticut is an institution large enough (less than 20,000 students) to provide variety but small enough to ensure quality. It offers a wide range of opportunities for interdisciplinary study as well as a graduate research library of two million books and periodicals; and a location in an attractive rural setting convenient to the major research and population centers of the Northeast.

All graduate students in the department are eligible for teaching assistantships, fellowships and other forms of financial assistance. In addition financial aid is available in several interdisciplinary programs associated with the department including:

- Medieval Studies: a program that offers degrees in Medieval Studies with a concentration in History.
- Latin American and Caribbean Studies: a program that is one of ten federally funded centers in the nation and offers an interdisciplinary M.A.
- Soviet and East European Studies: an interdisciplinary M.A. is offered through the Center for Soviet and East European Studies.
- Archival Management: a program leading to a Certificate of Archival Management and a History M.A. or Ph.D.
- Museum Research: A program for students in Early American History that offers a Certificate in Museum Research.

For further information, contact:
Professor Guido Ruggiero Jr.
Director of Graduate Studies
Department of History
Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08803-2103
Phone: (203) 466-3719
**Professional Opportunities**

"Professional Opportunity" announcements shall represent an equal opportunity employer.

Charges are $50 for 100 words or less, $75 for 101-150 words; announcements over 150 words will be edited. Application closing dates should not be earlier than the end of the month in which the announcement appears.

Send printer-ready copy to Advertising Director, OAH, 112 N. Bryan St., Bloomington, IN 47408-4199. Deadlines for receipt of announcements are: January 1 for the February issue; April 1 for May; July 1 for August; and October 1 for November. Announcements will not be accepted after the deadlines.

---

**Announcements**

**Harvard University**

New position. The Afro-American Studies Department and the History Department at Harvard University are now jointly searching for an Assistant Professor in American History with an Afro-American focus. Candidates should have the Ph.D. in hand by August 1990. Teaching responsibilities include an introductory course on an Afro-American topic in the undergraduate tutorial program is also expected. Send application before December 1, 1989 to Professor Nathan I. Huggins, Department of Afro-American Studies, Harvard University, 77 Dunster Street, Cambridge, MA 02138. AA/EOE.

**Yale University**

20th-Century U.S. national political history. Position requires substantial research and publications as well as experience teaching undergraduate and graduate students. Applications from women and minorities are especially welcome. Deadline December 1, 1989. David Brian Davis, Chair, Search Committee, Department of History, P.O. Box 1504A Yale Station, New Haven, CT 06520-7425. AA/EOE.

**George Washington University**

Kayser Professor of Legal History. The Department of History and the National Legal History Program seek a specialist in American legal history, with an ability to offer courses of interest both to history and law students. Graduate training in history required. Applicants should have a distinguished record of scholarly accomplishment in legal history. Period of specialization within field is open. Applications effective September 1, 1989. Please send nominations or applications, including a c.v. and the names and addresses of three references, to Professor Edward Berkowitz, Department of History, George Washington University, Washington, D.C. 20052 by December 1, 1989. AA/EOE.

**Kutztown University**

Colonial/Revolutionary America. Kutztown University invites applications from scholars of colonial and revolutionary America with an emphasis in social and cultural history to apply for a full-time tenure-track appointment beginning September 1990 at the rank of assistant professor. Ph.D. and college-level teaching experience are required. Publications are preferred. Send letter of application and dossier, including a c.v. and three letters of recommendation by December 8, 1989 to Dr. Robert Smitton, Search Committee, Department of History, Kutztown University, Kutztown, PA 19530. Applications accepted until position is filled. AA/EOE.

---

**Moravian College**

Moravian College invites applications for an Assistant Professor in African Studies for a tenure-track position in American colonial history at the rank of assistant professor. Responsibilities include US survey to 1787 and other courses as candidate's preparation and interest allow, Ph.D. required. Minorities and women especially encouraged to apply. Application deadline: December 19, 1989. Moravian College, President and Board of Trustees, Bethlehem, PA 18015-9990. Review of applications will begin December 1, 1989. AA/EOE.

---

**Presbyterian College**

Modern European/African. Presbyterian College seeks a tenure-track position beginning Fall 1990. Ph.D. and commitment to undergraduate teaching required. Teaching responsibilities include World Civilizations, Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Europe, Africa, and/or other non-Western. Send letter, c.v. and three references by December 15, 1989 to Chair, Department of History, Presbyterian College, Clinton, SC 29325. AA/EOE.
public history, offer course(s) in speciality, teach American history and World Civilization surveys. C.V. and three letters of recommendation are required. Must be qualified to teach Western Civilization survey. Ph.D. and excellent teaching ability desirable. Send letter of application, c.v., and at least three references by December 10, 1990 to Claire DeAngelis, Chair, Search Committee. History Department, Fairfield University, Fairfield, CT 06824. Women and minorities encouraged to apply. AA/EEO.

Appalachian State University

American and Cultural History--Ph.D. and ABD required. Primary responsibility to teach American and World Civilization surveys. Possible tenure-track rank. Send letter of application, c.v., and evidence of scholarly potential, a statement of teaching and research interests to: Dr. Marston, Chair, Department of History, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC 28608 by January 15, 1990. AA/EEO.

Appalachian State University encourages applications from women and minorities. An Equal Opportunity Employer.


calls for papers

Notices submitted for "Announcements" should be no more than 75 words and typed in double space. Please include only information basic to the announcement's purpose. All copy is subject to editing. Send to the Editor, OAH Newsletter, 112 N. Bryan St., Bloomington, IN 47404-4199. Deadline: January 15 for the February issue; March 15 for May; June 15 for August; and September 15 for November.

The Annual Missouri Valley History Conference invites proposals for papers or panels in all fields of history. Please submit an abstract of the paper and a c.v. immediately to Jerold Simmons, Program Coordinator, MVHS, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha, NE 68162; tel. (402) 292-0818

The City of Woosocket and the Blackstone Valley National Heritage Corridor will sponsor a national conference on textile history to be held in Woosocket, RI, on March 24, 1990. Organizers call for one-page proposals for papers on all aspects of textile and related histories. Submit proposals by November 20, 1989 to Douglas M. Reynolds, Scholar in Residence, Blackstone Valley National Heritage Corridor, P.O. Box 34, Uxbridge, MA 01569.

The Southwest Labor Studies Association's annual conference will be held in Los Angeles at California State University, Dominguez Hills, April 20-21, 1990. Submit proposals by December 1, 1989 to Frank Strickler, Labor Studies Coordinator, Department of History, SB1 153, California State University, Dominguez Hills, Carson, CA 90747.

The Strong Museum is sponsoring a symposium on "Advertising in America." Papers should examine the history of American advertising from 1840 to 1940. By December 1, 1989, proposals should be submitted with a 200 word abstract and c.v. Contact Florence Smith, The Strong Museum, One Manhattan Square, Rochester, NY 14607; tel. (716) 263-2700.

The Journal of the West invites proposals for its special issue devoted to "The Public Library: Its Role in the Social and Cultural Formation of Western Communities" and which address predecessors of public libraries and their role in the social development of the West. Submit proposals by December 15, 1989 to Leslie A. Manning, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, P.O. Box 7150, Colorado Springs, CO 80933-7150; tel. (719) 592-3135.

The National Genealogical Society seeks proposals for presentations at its national conference to be held in Portland, OR, May 29-June 1, 1991. Proposals may be for lectures, panels, discussions, media presentations and genealogical workshops. Proposals should include a c.v. and a presentation abstract. Send proposals and c.v. before February 15, 1990 to Peter Benes, Director, The National Genealogical Society, Genealogical Forum of Oregon, Inc., 1410 S.W. Morrison, Suite 812, Portland, OR 97205, before December 15, 1989.

The North American Society for Oceanic History requests papers for the 1990 meeting. Send proposals by January 15, 1990 to Carl G.оор, NASOH Program Chair, History Department, College of Charleston, Charleston, SC 29424.

The Australian and New Zealand American Studies Association seeks proposals for papers for its biennial conference to be held at the University of Sydney, July 1-5, 1990. Send one-page abstract and c.v. to Shane White, Department of History, University of Sydney, N.S.W. 2006, Australia, no later than January 1, 1990.

The annual conference on New York State History will be held June 1-2, 1990. Paper and panel proposals on any topic in New York State history and other offers to participate are invited. Send proposals by December 1, 1989 to Professor William J. Costello, Coordinator, Mohawk Albany Social History Project, 3093 Cultural Education Center, Albany, NY 12220; tel. (518) 467-6917 before January 31, 1990.

The California American Studies Association announces an interdisciplinary theme: "American Culture" to be held at California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo, May 4-6, 1990. The Program Committee invites proposals for individual papers, complete panels or media presentations. Contributions from historians are especially welcomed. For information, contact Michael Steinberg, Department of History, California State University, Fullerton, Fullerton, CA 92634. Five-hundred word abstracts or brief c.v. are due by February 1, 1990.


The Rocky Mountain Region World History Association will meet in Provo, Utah on June 7-9, 1990. The topic will be religion in world history. Proposals are due February 1, 1990. For information contact David McCoy, Department of History, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523.


The University of Florida's Graduate School Monographs in the Social Sciences is seeking for unpublished
works on any theoretical and for empiri- cal social scientific topic. The author of the winning manuscript will receive an offer of publication through the University of Florida Press. Deadline for submission of the finished manuscript is February 15, 1990. For more information contact George E. Pozzetta, Department of History, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611.

The University of Kansas invites proposals for papers and sessions for "The Americas," an interdisciplinary conference October 4-6, 1990. Proposals on any aspect of the Eisenhower presidency or American history in the 1950s are welcome. Please send a one-page abstract and c.v. by February 15, 1990, to Chester J. Pach, Jr., Hall Center of the Humanities, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045-2907.

Religion and American Culture: A Journal of Interpretation, calls for papers on the interplay between religion and American culture. Contact Thomas H. Davis, Cavanaugh Hall 344, Indiana University, 425 University Boulevard, Indianapolis, IN 46202. (No deadline given.)

The Forest History Group of the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations calls for presentations on the role of forest history and conservation history. For information contact Harold K. Steen, Forest History Society, 701 Vickers Ave., Durham, NC 27701; tel. (919) 682-9319.

The new Sage Publications Incorporated Series on Race and Ethnic Relations calls for manuscript proposals. Manu­scripts should be between 50 and 100 typed double-spaced pages, including tables and a brief letter of request from the author. The deadline for the series is December 1, 1990. For information contact Michael K. Worby, Sage Publications, 230 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10001.

The Institute of Early American History and Culture and the Commonwealth Center for the Study of American Culture at the College of William and Mary announce post-doctoral fellowships for the 1990-91 academic year. Fellows are expected to work on a manuscript in progress and to give at least one public lecture each semester. Fellowships that are available range in value from $5,000 to $11,000. Stipends to support visiting scholars pursuing post-doctoral or equivalent research goals also will be awarded. Applications must be submitted by December 1, 1989, to the Institute of Early American History and Culture, Box S-51, Williamsburg, VA 23185. Visitors to Williamsburg are encouraged to attend the post-doctoral seminar, which meets monthly during the academic year. Details about the seminar can be obtained by writing to James S. Balzer, Institute of Early American History and Culture, Box S-51, Williamsburg, VA 23185.

The Five College Fellowship Program offers a stipend of $20,000 to minority graduate students who have completed all requirements for the Ph.D. except the dissertation. The 1990-1991 fellowships also include office space, computing support, library privileges and housing. Application deadline is January 15, 1990. For information contact Lorna M. Peterson, Five College Fellowship Program, Five Colleges, Inc., P.O. Box 746, Amherst, MA 01004; tel. (413) 545-8316.

The University of Oklahoma announces that junior and senior Americanists are eligible to compete for Rockefeller Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowships for the 1990-91 academic year. The fellowships are offered to candidates for the Ph.D. who are interested in history, the history of science and related fields. Applications are due January 15, 1990. For information contact Kenneth L. Taylor, History and Science Department, 1415 Medical Sciences Center, 1300 University Ave., Madison, WI 53706.

The University of Pennsylvania offers one-year resident fellowships beginning in September 1990 to qualified independent researchers. The fellowships are available to individuals who hold a Ph.D. in any discipline. Applications are due January 15, 1990. For more information contact Suzanne J. Best, Office of the Deputy Director, University of Pennsylvania, 3600 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104.

The Hagley Museum and Library and the Department of History at the University of Delaware offers Hagley Fellowships covering tuition at the University of Delaware and provide a yearly stipend of $17,500 for postdoctoral candidates. Applications are due by December 1, 1989. For more information contact the Associate Coordinator, Hagley Program, Department of History, University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19716; tel. (302) 451-8226. Deadline is February 1, 1990.

The American Institute of the History of Pharmacy offers grants-in-aid totalling $5000 annually to graduate students and $9500 for doctoral candidates to support visiting scholars pursuing post-doctoral or equivalent research goals. Applications must be submitted by January 15, 1990. For more information contact the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy, Box 6209, 1603A Yale Station, New Haven, CT 06520-1633.

The Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library offers short-term fellowships to support visiting scholars pursuing post-doctoral or equivalent research goals. Fellows will receive a stipend of $30,000. Applications are due January 12, 1990. For more information contact the Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Library, Box 1603A Yale Station, New Haven, CT 06520-1633.


The Essex Institute offers fellowships to support research and publication in New England history and culture based on its library and manuscript collections. Fellowships of up to $5000 will be available for up to three months, with the possibility of renewal up to an academic year. Applications are due by January 31, 1990 for fellowships beginning after June 1, 1990. For information contact John B. Henrich, American Antiquarian Society, 185 Salisbury Street, Worcester, MA 01609; tel. (617) 755-5221. Deadline for application is January 31, 1990.

The John Whimierl Historical Association announces a call for manuscripts for a new monograph series designed to foster serious historical research into the development of the Latter Day Saint movement. First consideration will be given to manuscripts relating to history during the lifetime of Joseph Smith, Jr., but submissions on all aspects of Mormonism are welcome. Manuscripts should be less than 18,000 words in length. For information contact William D. Bannister, John Whimierl Historical Association Monograph Series Editor, 1001 E. Cedar St., New Baden, IL 62265; tel. (618) 598-7291.

Two Rockefeller Foundation Humanities Fellowships will be awarded in 1990-1991 to post-doctoral scholars to work on a book-length original manuscript that contributes to the development of feminist theory. Fellowships will receive a stipend of $30,000. Applications are due January 12, 1990. For more information contact the History of the Humanities Program, Rockefeller Foundation, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20506; tel. (202) 696-0460.

The Francis Cark Wood Institute for the History of the History of Pharmacy offers fellowships of up to $1,000 for use of the Historical Collections of the College of Pharmacy. Letters of application outlining the project, length of residency and materials to be used, travel, lodging, research, c.v. and two letters of recommendation should be sent by January 15, 1990.
The American Institute of the History of Pharmacy is accepting applications for its "Teaching Improvement Award" for 1990. An applicant who holds an instructorship or higher rank is eligible to apply. The deadline for application is February 1, 1990.

New York University's American Institutions Program offers a Summer Seminar on "Rethinking Rights: Law, Social Movements, and Institutional Reform" June 18-29, 1990. Full-time faculty are eligible for fellowships that cover the costs of transportation, housing and stipends. All scholars are encouraged to apply. Deadline is February 1, 1990. For applications, write to American Institute of the History of Pharmacy, c/o The American Institute of the History of Pharmacy, 601 Bourne Ave., Room 316, Division of Fellowships and Summer Seminars, New York, 1101 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington DC, 20506; tel. (202) 786-0463.

The Congressional History Project will be awarding up to eleven Dissertation Fellowships for the 1990-91 academic year. Applicants must be candidates for the Ph.D. or Th.D. who are North American graduate students who have completed all pre-dissertation requirements by the time of application. Deadline is March 1, 1990. For more information, write James W. Lewis, Congressional History Project, Institute for the Advanced Study of Religion, 1025 East 55th St., Chicago, IL 60637.

The Gerald R. Ford Foundation awards grants of up to $2,000 to cover travel and other expenses for research in the Gerald R. Ford Library's Archival collections. For information contact David Horrock, Gerald R. Ford Library, 1000 Beal Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48109; tel. (313) 688-2218. The deadline is March 15, 1990.

The Rockefeller Archive Center of the Rockefeller University will award a stipend of up to $30,000 for study and research at the Center. Applications are due April 1, 1990 and should include a c.v., a letter detailing the candidate's research interests, indicating familiarity with the Center's holdings, and three letters of reference. For more information contact Doris D. Heslet, Rockefeller Archive Center, Pocanico Hills, 15 Dayton Ave., North Tarrytown, NY 10591.


A biennial prize of $250 for the best article in the history of education, will be presented at the 1990 meeting of the History of Education Society. Articles published in 1988 or 1989 in refereed journals only will be considered. Self-nominations will not be accepted. Sensitivity of the copy, by June 1, 1990 to Robert L. Hampel, Chair, HES Prize Committee, College of Education, Willard Hall, The University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19716.

Lehigh University Press will award $1500 and a publication contract for the best book manuscript submitted in the field of eighteenth-century studies. Manuscripts must be submitted before December 31, 1990. For information and an entry form, contact Director, Lehigh University Press, 103 Zoob Lab #52, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA 18015; tel. (215) 758-3933.

The Committee of the Presbyterian Historical Association offers a grant for the best book and article on American religious history published during 1988 or 1989. Winners will receive a cash stipend. Contact James Symlie, c/o Union Theological Seminary, 3401 Brook Road, Richmond, VA 23227.

The Society of German-American Studies Annual Symposium will be held April 26-29, 1990 at the Deutsche Haus-Athenaeum in Indianapolis. The symposium will be hosted by the German Department of Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis. For information, contact Giles Hoyt, German-American Center, Indiana University, 425 Agnes St., Indianapolis, IN 46202; FAX (317) 274-2347.

George Mason University is hosting a conference "To Secure the Blessings of Liberty: Rights in American History" April 26-28, 1990 to celebrate the Bill of Rights. The conference, open to the public, will consider the background and goals which led to the writing and ratification of the Bill of Rights. For information, call or write History Department, George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030; tel. (703) 233-2571.

The Biennial Conference on Social History will be held at Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh on May 5-6, 1990. The theme will be "Method, Discourse, and Practice in Social History." For information on the conference write John Modell, Department of History, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA 15213.

The Berkshire Conference on the History of Women will be held June 7-10, 1990, at Douglass College, Rutgers University. For details contact Caryl Rivers-Corrall, Berkshire Conference, Voorhees Chapel, Douglass College, New Brunswick, NJ 08903.

The National Institute on Genealogical Research will be held June 11-16, 1990 at the National Archives in Washington, DC. The program takes a records-intensive look at Federal records of genealogical value located in the National Archives in Washington. Enrollment is limited. For information write National Institute on Genealogical Research, P.O. Box 14274, Washington, DC 20044-4274.

The Library Company of Philadelphia will hold a conference on the literature and culture of the 18th century and ideas which led to the writing and ratification of the Bill of Rights. For information call (215) 598-7919.

Michigan State University's Women's Studies Program and the Modern Language Conference sponsors "Re-Visioning Knowledge and the Curriculum: Teaching Perspectives" April 19-20, 1990. For information contact J. F. Mahoney, Department of History, Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ 07079-2656.
Guide Celebrates 15th Anniversary

The 1989-90 edition of the AHA's perennial bestseller the Guide to Departments of History will be the largest yet with almost 700 entries, including the names of over 12,000 historians. Begun in 1975, the Guide to Departments of History has grown in the last fifteen years from 247 listings to over 600 in 1988, with 150 new listings recorded in just the last three years.

As a resource guide, the Guide is the only directory of its kind in the history profession and functions as a valuable desktop reference guide for both student and professional historians. It is now used by students, scholars, and graduate students, and administrators of historical institutions.

...in the interest of American history and history in America.

That's how the founders of the AHA described the new organization's purpose in our congressional charter in 1889, and one hundred years later that is what we are still about. Without shirking our unique responsibility to bring together historians across specialization, regions, programs, and institutions, we remain committed to the Pieces Together: Textbooks, A Scholar's 'Mirror.'

No matter what other organizations you belong to, membership in the AHA is still essential--no other organization can do for you and the profession what the AHA can. Join us and see!

Membership Application

American Historical Association

...
In August, Wobblies Frank Little was lynched in Butte, Montana, where he had gone to organize a copper strike. In Washington, President Wilson, pressured by Western governors and employer lobbyists, appointed Federal Judge J. Harry Covington to investigate the IWW. Covington found no evidence of German funds flowing to the union and no evidence that the Wobbles were breaking Federal laws. But Thomas Gregory, Wilson's attorney general, was convinced that such evidence existed and decided to stage a nationwide raid on IWW offices on September 5, 1917.

IWW national headquarters in Chicago was a prime target, but there were also raids in other cities where the Wobbles had a permanent presence. In Chicago, the raid was carried out by a team of public and private operatives, including seven members of the American Protective League, a civilian group, made up of businessmen who volunteered to help the authorities weed out those who might be enemies of the state.

The IWW offices were located at what was then the heart of the city's skid row section. Entering the four-story building, the team of 19 agents found Wobbly leader "Big Bill" Haywood and three secretaries quietly at work in his office. For three days, agents caved away five tons of material. No arrests were made; the purpose was to find evidence for eventual prosecution of the Wobbles. The haul also included, Haywood biographer Peter Carlson wrote, "several small envelopes containing the ashes of Joe Hill."

Many patriotic Americans—especially employers—viewed strikes during wartime as an enemy plot.

Fred Lee conjectured that when government agents descended on the IWW offices, grabbing just about everything that was not nailed down, someone decided that at least one packet of Joe Hill's ashes should be saved. "Somebody tried to sneak them out, and addressed them to this guy Charles Gepford," says Lee, devising a chain of probable causation. "This was not a plant to distribute the ashes. This was a plan to try to get them away from the federal government—and it failed." Lee freely admits that his reconstructed version of events is mostly guesswork.

One detail that neither Lee nor anyone else can fill in is the identity of Charles Gepford. More than 150 Wobblies were arrested on conspiracy charges in 1917, says Lee, but Gepford was not among them: "He was not even a second rung leader. His name doesn't show up anywhere...I've never seen him in anything I've read, and nobody can remember him." It may be no coincidence that the name of Charles Gepford never shows up in any IWW records or literature. If you were part of an organization under siege, and you wanted to hide something from the authorities, you might very well decide to give it to someone anonymous, someone with no known connection to your organization—someone, in fact, unlikely to be searched or arrested.

But if Charles Gepford was truly a secret supporter of the IWW, why didn't he deliver the ashes to the Post Office open his mail? "Total accident," says Fred Lee. He accepts the explanation given by Chicago Postmaster W. B. Castile, who wrote that the envelope containing Hill's ashes was accidently mutilated by a canceling machine, causing the contents to be "unavoidably disclosed."

Postal agents seized sizable quantities of anti-war material during those years, along with a large selection of political literature which had little to do with the war, but which was judged too extreme for the government to tolerate. The Post Office confiscated enough mail between 1917 and 1921 to fill up more than 200 sizable cars—which are now stored in the National Archives. The collection is probably one of the best collections of World War I-era radical literature to be found anywhere in the United States—although the Post Office did not seize it for the purpose of creating a historical archive.

Jerry Clark, an archivist whose specialty is the material confiscated by the Post Office, does not believe that Charles Gepford's mail was seized by accident. "I have a feeling these people were being watched," he says. It was standard operating procedure, he explains, that "things sent to a certain address would be opened." Maybe the Wobbles thought Gepford was a safe choice to receive Hill's ashes because he was not on any of their lists—but maybe he was on a list that the IWW did not even know about.

The envelope addressed to Gepford and its contents were kept by the Post Office until the 1940s, when they were quietly transferred to the National Archives, along with other cartons of confiscated mail. While Fred Lee spins a convoluted web of circumstance to explain how the Gepford envelope wound up in this unique collection, Jerry Clark has a very simple answer for how the existence of the unusual artifact has remained virtually unknown for so many years. Scholars never found out about Joe Hill's ashes, he says, because they never asked.

The story was no secret, says Clark, who worked in the division of the Archives which handles Post Office Records until a few years ago. For years, he says, the existence of Hill's ashes had been common knowledge among archivists. "We have lots of odd things in the Archives," he explains. "Have you ever heard about the human fingers?" The fingers were sent to the State Department by Mexican kidnappers in 1915 and are high on every archivist's list of unusual items. If you mention Joe Hill's ashes to an archivist, it is virtually guaranteed that within a few minutes, you will hear about the fingers. Sitting among tens of thousands of boxes of paper, the documents of the United States of America naturally create an instant, and rather gristy, mental association.

Such things may have been known knowledge for years among archivists, but the rest of us were in the dark until May of 1986, when an article in the Archives' monthly calendar mentioned, among other things, penny bones, a ventriloquist's dummy, Rosemary Woods' typewriter and Joe Hill's ashes. That article eventually led to a story in Solidarity, the monthly publication of the United Auto Workers, and the story soon came to the attention of the IWW, which is how Fred Lee began a quest for the return of Joe Hill's ashes.

"We have lots of odd things in the Archives..."

On June 1, 1988, Lee wrote to Don Wilson, Archivist of the United States, asking for the return of Joe Hill's ashes to the IWW. Wilson and his subordinates spent a few months trying to figure out what to do about his request, because they were not sure they had the authority to release an item that had come into their possession. The key question, apparently, was whether or not the ashes constitute a federal record. "Do the ashes in and of themselves actually cover any information? Or is all of the information about this episode sufficiently contained in the paper packet which holds the ashes and the surrounding documentation?"

The final verdict, apparently, is that the packer and the papers are good enough. So Wilson wrote to Fred Lee in early October, telling him he could contact the Archives at his convenience to arrange a transfer of the ashes. In November of 1988, Lee went to Washington to collect the ashes, and they are now in the custody of the IWW in Chicago.

No decision has been made yet, Lee says, about what the Wobbles will do with Hill's ashes once they get them. One plan that has been discussed is to send some of the ashes to Sweden, where Hill was born and there is a Joe Hill museum, and distribute the rest at Chicago's Waldheim Cemetery, where a number of noted American radicals are buried, including the anarchists who were executed as a result of the Haymarket Affair.

Lee says the ceremony will be for rank-and-file labor activists, in the spirit of the telegram Hill sent to "Big Bill" Haywood on the day he died: "I die like a true rebel. Don't waste time in mourning. Organize."
American History Titles
From the University of South Carolina Press

MILITARY HISTORY

The U.S. Marine Corps in Crisis: Ribbon Creek and Recruit Training by Keith Fleming, Jr. In 1956, a Marine drill instructor led his recruit platoon into Ribbon Creek—a tidal stream at the Paris Island recruit depot. Six men drowned. Not merely a military history of an unfortunate event, this book provides a lens for examining American society during the 1950s. 175 pages. Cloth-#635, Photographs, $24.95

Admiral Harold R. Stark: Architect of Victory, 1919-1945 by B. Mitchell Simpson, III This is the definitive biography of the Chief of Naval Operations from 1930-1942. It provides an inside look at World War II diplomatic history and sets the record straight about Stark’s responsibility in the Pearl Harbor controversy. “...this well-written biography is a worthwhile addition to the University of South Carolina Studies in Maritime History series and to American naval and World War II historiography. Stark, a man of considerable interest, has at last been rescued from his undeserved obscurity as only the man who preceded Admiral King.”—Daily Press 326 pages, Cloth-#8796, $24.95

REVOLUTIONARY HISTORY

The Autobiographies of Noah Webster: From the Letters and Essays, Memoir and Diary edited by Richard M. Rollins This book publishes for the first time Noah Webster’s formal autobiography as well as several other articles, none of the various aspects of his life. Historians will find this collection quite useful for research on virtually any aspect of American life between 1778 and 1863. 358 pages, Cloth-#8734, $39.95

SOUTHERN HISTORY

Charleston! Charleston! The History of a Southern City by Walter J. Fraser, Jr. This book recovers the development of Charleston, South Carolina—often called the “most Southern” of Southern cities—from 1670 to the present, drawing with special care on information from every facet of the city’s life. “Literally, with frequent colorful descriptions, I found myself enthralled.”—Don Doyle, Professor and Chair of History, Vanderbilt University 480 pages, Cloth-#8643, Photographs, $29.95

Evangelicals and Conservatives in the Early South, 1748-1861 by Robert M. Calhoun While historians have noticed a pattern of conflict, collaboration and mutual acceptance between religious evangelicals and political conservatives in early Southern history, this book is the first continuous reconstruction of the religious-political engagement in the South prior to the Civil War. 342 pages, Cloth-#8177, $24.95

ANNOUNCING A NEW SERIES

Women’s Diaries and Letters of the 19th Century South
edited by Carol Bleser and Elizabeth Fox Genovese


University of South Carolina Press
1100 East Assembly Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29208
1-863-777-8073

OAH NEWSLETTER
Organization of American Historians
1152 North Bryan Street
Bloomington, Indiana 47408
ISSN: 0196-3341

Fascinating New Titles
In America’s Naval History

DICTIONARY OF ADMIRALS OF THE U.S. NAVY, Volume I, 1662-1900
by William H. Cooper
This volume, written by a professor of history at the U.S. Naval Academy, presents biographical sketches of the 211 men of rank from 1662 who served as the head of a branch of the armed forces from 1662. The author gives the rank of admiral from 1662, when the rank of rear admiral was first used, to the end of the nineteenth century. Each entry contains personal information, military ranks and the dates each entry achieved, a chronological summary of each man’s entire career. 552 pages. 101 photographs. #431-1. $28.95

NEW INTERPRETATIONS IN NAVAL HISTORY
Selected Papers from the Eighth Naval History Symposium edited by William B. Cogar
These essays provide a broad review of the latest and most significant research being done in the field of naval history. Written by both established scholars and newcomers in the discipline here and abroad, they bring important new interpretations and information to their subjects, demonstrating that naval history is a field for the traditionalist and for the detective researcher almost exclusively on battles, tactics, and strategy.

Available from the
NAVAL INSTITUTE PRESS
2062 General’s Highway, Annapolis, Maryland 21401
Toll-Free: 1-800-233-8764 / In MD: 1-301-224-3378 / 8 - 4, EST

Joan Hoff-Wilson, Executive Secretary
Organization of American Historians
1152 North Bryan Street
Bloomington, Indiana 47408
ISSN: 0196-3341

OAH NEWSLETTER
Organization of American Historians