The Institute for Historical Study Newsletter

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Nominating Committee, which will meet next month, is soliciting suggestions for new members of the Board. Members are urged to propose themselves or others, by mail or phone, to the convenor of the committee, Mary Agnes Dougherty, 909 Carmel Avenue, Albany, CA 94706: 415-526-6135.

One of the perks of Board membership (past and present) is attending the annual retreat at Jules Becker's house at Tahoe. This year the Board will focus on the structure of the Institute—that is, the distribution of responsibilities among officers, Board and committees. We shall also dust off our last five-year plan, rather yellow by now, to see where we stand, and we'll look at possible long-range programs. We'll also enjoy lots of food, exercise and talk.

The annual potluck supper, intended as a purely convivial occasion for old and new members, was held September 22 at Lyn Reese's house in Berkeley. About forty attended, swimming, eating delicious food, and enjoying spirited conversations. I only wish we could take the potluck on the road north and south so that we could include more members.

A reminder for independent scholars: if you have a Ph.D. you may wish to apply for Research Associate (or Visiting Scholar) status at the appropriate department of your local university, so as to obtain library and other privileges, and formalize contact with colleagues there. Ask the graduate secretary about application procedures.

—Georgia Wright

WORK-IN-PROGRESS

On Sunday, August 18, Institute members and friends met at the Montalvo Estate in Saratoga as guests of Nancy McCauley to hear Agnes Peterson's stimulating work-in-progress, "A Footnote in History: The Greeting to Rosa Luxemburg from an American Socialist Women's Group in February 1915."

Agnes, archivist for Middle European Collections at the Hoover Institution, first related the dramatic story of how the Hoover Institution acquired a significant collection of Rosa Luxemburg's letters, diaries, and miscellaneous letters and postcards written to her, as well a manuscript by Mathilde Jacob, her longtime secretary, friend and confidante.

Ralph Lutz, the first director of the Hoover Library, was traveling in Germany on business in the fall of 1939, amid the tensions of the outbreak of World War II. Through a connection he was put in contact with Mathilde Jacob in Berlin, who entrusted him with all the papers in her possession concerning Luxemburg. They obviously posed a danger to Jacob and needed to be safeguarded abroad. Lutz spirited these documents out of Germany via diplomatic pouch to their new "home" at the Hoover Institution.

Agnes' project started with a request for a contribution to a conference program. Her search for a small, manageable project led her to these papers, among which was one particular letter, noteworthy because it had been written in English, in pencil, and mailed from Columbus, Ohio on April 2, 1915, addressed only to: Rosa Luxemburg, Germany.

It is amazing that such an incompletely addressed letter would reach its destination at all, considering the time and circumstances. Additions in three different hands supplied successive parts of the address: first Berlin, and finally Suedende, Lindenstrasse 2. The number 344 on the envelope is most likely a censorship marking.

Rosa Luxemburg was at that time serving a one-year prison sentence in the women's prison in Barnimstrasse in Berlin. A year earlier she had been convicted of interfering with military discipline; her appeal having been denied, she had now begun serving her term. Most likely it was Mathilde Jacob, one of the few associates allowed visitation rights, who received the letter on Lindenstrasse and delivered it to Luxemburg in prison.

Though postmarked in Columbus, Ohio, the letter was actually written in Coshocton, Ohio, a small county seat about 80 miles northeast of Columbus. The occasion was a Women's Day Meeting of the Socialist Women's Group of Ohio on February 22, 1915. The letter conveys greetings and sympathy to "Comrade Rosa Luxemburg" for her "attitude toward the present European war," and expresses admiration for her "uncompromising devotion to revolutionary principles." In an ironic twist, the letter is signed by two men, John House and Dan McCarton, the former a sought-after speaker at socialist meetings, the latter an unknown sympathizer about whom Agnes has not been able to learn anything so far.

The activities of Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht (who were assasinated during the unrest in Berlin at the end of the first World War), and other European socialists, were well known to socialists in the United States through newspaper reports and translations of anti-war messages which had been smuggled out of Germany in an effort to reach the public abroad. On January 25, 1915, the socialist *New York Call* featured as its headline, "Rosa Luxemburg Goes to Jail for Defying War Lord." To the Socialist Women's Group of Coshocton the choice of Luxemburg to honor on Woman's Day must have seemed natural.

The letter, however, was not mailed until about five weeks after it was written, probably because John House,

whose name is on the return address, tried to find Luxemburg's address before sending it off with only her name and country of residence. It is a testimonial to the efficiency of the world postal system, and, even more, to Luxemburg's renown far beyond the borders of Germany, that the letter reached its destination.

Agnes' well-documented and fascinating presentation provided the stimulus for a lively discussion of this "footnote in history."

—Monica Clyde

DIALOGUE

In the May-June, 1985 issue of the Newsletter, Kathleen Casey began a dialogue on the status of women's history in which she observed: "I can perceive two inextricably connected reasons why the majority of historians have not flocked to talk with practitioners of women's history. We are highly specialized, and we lack basic texts." In a subsequent issue Karen Offen and Margo Horn responded. In this issue we publish the response of June Stephenson, inviting readers to keep this dialogue going —or to begin others, on topics of general interest.

Dear Editor:

As a member of the Institute and as a former teacher of women's history at Napa High School, I am responding to Kathleen Casey's commentary on "What's Women's History Worth?" I agree with Kathleen except for her comment that there is no introductory text for women's history. Please refer to *Books in Print* and specifically to *Women's Roots* which I wrote in 1981 because there *was* no survey text on gender-based world history.

Women's Roots is used in many college and university women's studies classes and in many high schools throughout the United States. A second edition will be published in October, 1985, available from Diemer, Smith Publishing Company, Inc., 3377-B Solano Ave., Napa, CA 94558, $14, tax and postage included. I really don't intend for this to be an advertisement for my book, though it would be of interest to Institute members.

I have additional concerns. All boys and girls in grades kindergarten through twelve should learn women's history to the same extent they learn men's history. Of course we'd like women's history integrated into the "larger history," but until it is, let's at least get it taught. Students who had learned about women in grades K-12 would expect to continue that balanced curriculum in college. High school women's studies courses would be feeder courses for college women's studies.

However, as high school is terminal education for most people it is, for most, the last opportunity to learn of women's contributions to the world. In a controlled research study involving five northern California high schools, it was learned that students studying about women increased their respect for women, decreased sex discrimination and increased self-esteem. Learning about women could very possibly reduce violence against women. Wouldn't it behoove The Institute, the Western Association of Women Historians, the Women's Studies Association and others to join forces to require educational equity in history in grades K-12? Educational equity is legislated in the Fourteenth Amendment and in many states as it is under California Title IX which specifically requires the *equitable* portrayal of roles of women in textbooks, a law which is being ignored.

I believe it will require a court case to bring equity to the teaching of history. The case will need to involve a school district which receives tax money to teach required history courses to boys and girls who are required to attend school. This means a public elementary, junior high, or high school. Not providing girls the same opportunity as boys to learn their own history is denying girls equal protection under the law.

The history curriculum should be carefully monitored because it affects males' respect for females, and it affects girls' self-esteem, their aspirations, accomplishments, and eventual economic well-being. We should be working to rectify the way history is taught with as much vigor as we would use to rectify any other injustice.

—June Stephenson

FIRST PERSON— MEMBERS AT WORK

The Census of Gothic Sculpture

I am currently working on a project that I thought I would share with Newsletter readers. It is not in my normal line, so that I am full of the enthusiasm of the converted one day, and at a loss the next. I am working as one of a team of specialists on The Census of Gothic Sculpture in American Collections, an ambitious project headed by an independent scholar, Dorothy Gillerman, and funded by NEH under the Research Resources Organization and Improvement program. The first phase, New England museums, will take three years and cost around $56,000 including funds provided by the Getty Foundation for photos. Eventually a catalogue will be published, but in the meantime the entries will be available at the museums for curators, docents, and scholars.

Each specialist is responsible for some twenty-five entries, each of which will include a careful description of the object and its condition, comparisons, and proposed localization and date. Objects are assigned according to the current idea of their date and country of origin (localization). My area is French Gothic (13th and early 14th centuries), but four or more of my objects have turned out not to be French. Several are of doubtful authenticity (and have never been on public display, I may add) and some are in wretched condition, the left-overs from a sale of an important collection that the Fogg Art Museum at Harvard bought at a distress price.

The process of writing the entries has taught me a lot about my own strengths and limitations. While I may be expert in sepulchral monuments (not surprisingly as I've spent twenty-one years, with time off for good behavior, in the tombs), I bumble around amongst pieces from outlying areas or from the hands of provincial sculptors. And I'm not very good at analyzing stone surfaces for weathering, which is necessary when dealing with questionable works. Most of my tomb sculpture is still *in situ* and indoors. Laboratory analysis of stone is still in its infancy, very expensive, and not much use unless one is

trying to match a sculpture to a specific church. We are still dependent upon the trained eye.

Three of my pieces were sepulchral, but even one of those had me fooled for some time. It is, I now believe, a Spanish provincial sarcophagus, so primitive that one might first suspect a Romanesque work were it not for the pointed arches with crockets that indicate the thirteenth or even fourteenth century. I took it to be a saint's tomb or stone reliquary, not only because one side depicted Christ and the Apostles but because on the other side, in a liturgical scene, an acolyte apparently pries up the lid of a coffin, an act that might indicate a translation of the body of a saint. But I should have discounted this because of the presence of mourners. The acolyte has one hand on top of the lid so that he is probably closing it, an unusual motif but one that shows the sculptor was improvising even while copying a standard model.

Some pieces are only fragments, yet among these are a couple of fascinating works, especially for a "tombologist." The upper torso and head of a knight, lying on his side with his hand under his cheek on a pillow, must be English because the figure is not on his back, but the so-called crusader tombs usually depict figures actively struggling, even trying to draw their swords. This one appears to have succumbed to sleep! In spite of the loss of the face and most of the body, the figure adds a curious item to a census of knightly tomb figures.

Another piece in poor condition, *sans* head, hands, feet, and an inch or so of the front surface, would never be displayed in a museum but makes an interesting puzzle to decipher. [Figure 1] A hint of breast as well as the robe, brooch, and mantle indicate that it is a woman. Decisive,

Figure 1

Figure 2

however, is the movement from weighted left leg through the torso twisted towards its left, typical of one figure in French Gothic sculpture, the Virgin holding the Child. This Virgin once held the Child high above her left hip (the arm and Child were probably doweled into the figure), and turned towards him. [Figure 2] Her right arm probably held a scepter or fleur-de-lis balanced on the thigh of her bent right leg. The open mantle, revealing the dress, disappears after 1300 in favor of a heavy mantle pulled across the body; this mantle, along with the long thin pleats of the dress, helps to date the figure to the last third of the thirteenth century. The figure is placed against a column, and that poses another question. The Virgin and Child are usually free-standing above an altar, in a niche, or pinned to a flat post supporting the lintel of a portal flanked by jamb statues against columns. Represented with the Child, the Virgin should not appear on an equal footing with saints on a jamb. This figure came from the ruins of St-Père, Chartres, according to the meager records. St-Père had no facade sculpture, but it had a cloister and, just possibly, a Virgin attached to a column of the arcade. Or the records could be wrong, as they often are.

A most dissatisfying problem is the anomalous figure, one that has sufficient questionable areas to look like a fake but which may at first strike one as of very high quality. There are two small wooden Virgins among my pieces, one quite outlandish and probably a twentieth century imitation of a German Gothic figure, the other very beautiful and only slowly revealing odd traits—an unusual pattern of drapery, an uncertain stance, and asymmetrical features. Photographed from the front she is fine but from the sides she is doubtful. But I've also found that much Gothic sculpture should not be studied from single, frontal photographs. The sculptor reveals his period, eccentricities, and weaknesses from the sides. The photographer often hides these qualities by shooting only the best view. Drapery, conceived for the frontal view, may be pedestrian or contradictory on the sides. The "beautiful Virgin" may have suffered from this frontality rather than from a modern misunderstanding, although I still worry about her asymmetrical face and grotesque hand. We have few devotional wooden figures that are assuredly authentic. One curator has told me that ivory statuettes were often imitated in wood in this century. Unfortunately for purposes of comparison, known forgeries do not tend to be displayed or published.

Normally I choose what to work on. In the case of the Census I feel I am back in graduate school taking a slide exam, yet curators who acquire works have to authenticate them, sometimes very quickly and with more at stake. One bright note. I was able to make a specific identification of a figure from the destroyed church of Charroux near Poitiers because I had done a research paper twenty years ago on the monument. It was exciting to find this dark and badly weathered figure of a Wise Virgin in the crowded basement of the Fogg Museum and later to confirm the identification through measurements and decorative details of another Wise Virgin from Charroux, now in the Louvre. The piece has stimulated me to go back to work on Charroux.

—Georgia Wright

The Editorial Board welcomes further contributions from members about projects they have undertaken in various disciplines and for a variety of reasons. The focus should be upon challenges or problems which shed light upon the work of the historian.

LIVING HISTORY

Bosworth Revisited—Is This the Queue for the Loo?

Prologue: On a mellow summer day near the end of our holiday in England in 1980 my husband, daughter and I picnicked with my sister and her family at Bosworth Field. After the picnic, replete with pork pie, scotch eggs and other delicacies, we traversed the battlefield, treading warily past uncurious cows and stopping to read an occasional historic marker. We noted the place on Ambion Hill where Richard III assembled his superior (if not altogether trustworthy) forces just before dawn on August 22, 1485; the site below the hill where Henry Tudor's much smaller army, having rested after the long march through Wales and the western midlands, took its position on that same morning; and the high ground to the north where Sir William Stanley's troops waited until the tide of battle turned before sweeping down on Richard's right flank, crying "a Stanley! a Stanley!" On the small monument that marks the spot where Richard was slain lay two bunches of white roses, placed there the day before—the 495th anniversary of the battle. The discovery of the tribute was unexpectedly moving. When we learned that the quincentenary would be celebrated in grand style, I resolved to return to Bosworth on August 22, 1985.

. . . . .

Inching along the road from the village of Sutton Cheney—where, incongruously, one house was decked with Union Jacks—to the turn-off for the Visitors' Centre, my sister and I had the answer to our speculations about how many fellow-devotees would be making the pilgrimage to Bosworth: far too many for the narrow country roads. Later we learned that we were lucky to gain admission at all; others, coming later, were turned back for lack of parking space.

This summer having been one of the wettest and most dismal in recent memory, the pasture-turned-carpark was rapidly becoming a mire, as was the area between the Visitors' Centre and the arena. The committee of the Leicestershire County Council in charge of the proceedings had not, and probably could not have anticipated the great numbers who would be attracted to Bosworth on a Thursday, especially since the full-scale reenactment of the battle was scheduled for the following Sunday. But few can resist the magic of being where a great event happened on "the day" itself.

It was no easy task to accommodate and entertain the multitude during the long intervals between special events. Near the spot where Richard III had pitched his tent on the night before the battle, a blue and white striped tent sheltered an impromptu commissary and a scale model of the battle. Queues began to form in front of the tent and at the Visitors' Centre, where books and souvenirs were on sale, and—equally important to the wary tourist—where the toilets were located. Near the arena were exhibitions of medieval weaponry, birds of prey and "British wool."

Of these, the demonstration of bow and arrow making by the "Bowmen of Bosworth" chiefly attracted our attention, for this was the site of the last important battle in which the long bow played a role. The gentlemen in charge of the exhibit, a manufacturer of modern long bows, discoursed knowledgeably on the use of the weapon at Crécy, Agincourt and Bosworth. After a while a young man who had paused to listen asked if we were Americans, which I readily admitted. Would I, then, agree to be interviewed by a local radio station, Leicester Sound? As it would take only a moment, and moments were something we had plenty of, I was happy to oblige. The thought of being someone's token American rather tickled me.

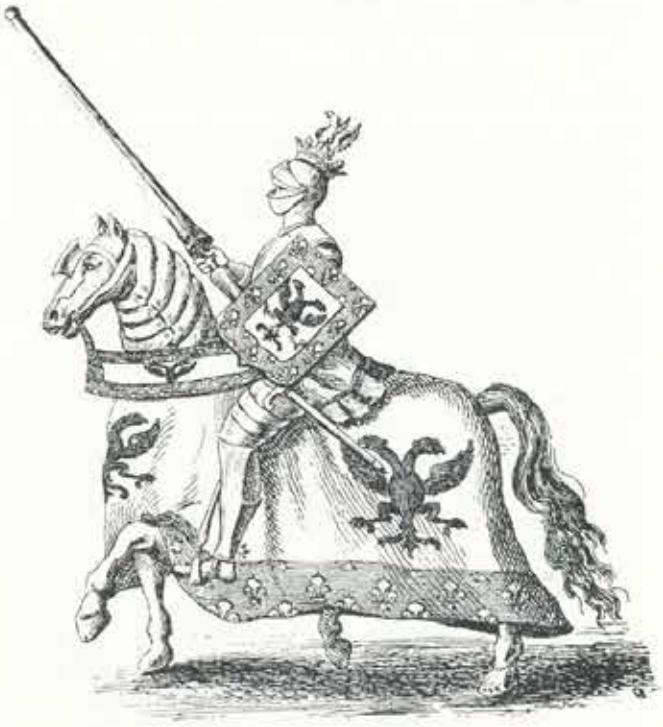
My name (or a reasonable approximation) and point of origin having been established, the studio announcer switched over to "our reporter on the scene," who reported that no more cars were to be admitted to the battle site, so great was the crush of spectators from all over the world. "And here with me is Joanna Lasler from [pause] California! Joanna, will you tell our listeners what brought you here today?" I muttered something about my "long-

standing interest in history" and managed to give a very abbreviated account of our picnic five years earlier and my vow to return. In the longer, taped interview a few minutes later I was asked THE question: who was I "for," Richard or Henry? My reply was properly equivocal: that I felt emotionally drawn to Richard, having read Josephine Tey (please, folks, this is not my period), but that on the other hand I was a great fan of Elizabeth I, and I would hardly wish to rewrite history and have the Tudors lose. Thus did I take refuge in what might fatuously be called "historical perspective." But we soon discovered that the personalities, if not the issues, of Bosworth, 1485, were very much alive at Bosworth in 1985.

In an atmosphere of good-natured chaos, the next few hours passed quickly. The queues for sandwiches and drinks, and for the "Porta-loos" which, happily, took some of the pressure off the Visitors' Centre, might have been tedious on another occasion. But now they gave me an opportunity to chat with fellow captives, observe the heterogeneity of the crowd, and reflect upon the British talent for patience. Only once did tempers seem at all strained.

With sandwiches and drinks in hand, my sister and I had been grateful to find seats in a small, unattended grandstand which soon began to fill up. You can imagine the dismay when, shortly before 2:30, just as the main event—"The Death of Richard III and the Crowning of Henry VII"—was about to begin, a harried-sounding voice on the loudspeaker informed us that those of us occupying the grandstand would now have to pay for our seats. A rugby-type scrum, rather than a queue, immediately formed in front of the booth nearby, as anxious spectators hurried to purchase tickets. A local resident standing behind me wondered aloud why, with "all this time to prepare"—five hundred years?—things were not better organized. She was concerned that the home folks were not putting on a good show for us foreigners.

But I was having a fine time. Bosworth, 1985, may not have been a sterling example of living history, but as a "happening" it was great fun. The tedium had been relieved



by occasional announcements on the loudspeaker and the amusing, if faintly embarrassing, unfurling of a banner reading "CALIFORNIANS FOR RICHARD III." It happened that we were sitting among a fervently pro-Tudor contingent. Dissociating myself from my Yorkist compatriots, I decided that if put to it I would shout "a Stanley! a Stanley!"

At last Henry Tudor rode into the arena on a magnificent armored stallion. A chorus of boos issued from the "Plantagenet side" of the grandstand, through which I could hear one of the California women shouting "villain! usurper!" Perhaps encouraged by the fervor of the crowd, at least some of the amateur actors were stirred to histrionic heights. One infantryman, daubed with a blood-like substance around his eyes, died so convincingly a few yards away from us that I was afraid he might really be injured. (He wasn't.) Special effects could have been better; the sparse flights of blunt arrows from the opposing forces and the sputtering of blanks from the small cannons were more risible than awesome. But matters concluded successfully when Richard's body was slung over the back of his horse, and the victorious Henry was handed the crown—plucked from an imaginary thorn bush. A few cheers were now mixed with the boos. Near me a Tudor supporter announced to her children, "THAT's how the Wars of the Roses ended!"

Later my sister asked me how I thought the quincentenary would have been handled in America. I replied that of course we would have managed things more efficently and stylishly at a "Wars of the Roses Faire" in Marin County. But one could not deny the historic accident that placed the fateful confrontation between Richard III and Henry Tudor in a cow pasture in Leicestershire. It was at Bosworth Field that my imagination had first been stirred, and if the return journey did not quite live up to my expectations I was still glad to have made the pilgrimage.

—Joanne Lafler

HISTORY COLLOQUIUM SERIES

The History Department of the University of California, Berkeley, holds a weekly colloquium series on Wednesdays at 4 p.m. in the Regents' Room, 150 University Hall. All persons interested in the presentations are cordially invited to attend. Speakers and topics for October and November include:

Martin Jay, "Modernism, Post-Modernism and the Denigration of Vision in 20th Century French Thought." (October 23)

John Merriman, Yale University, "The Texture of Urban Life: France, 1815-1851." (October 31)

Günther Lenz, Professor of American Studies, Frankfurt University—title to be announced. (November 6)

Christopher Hill, Balliol College, Oxford and the Open University, "Bunyan and the English Revolution." (November 13)

Robert Darnton, Princeton University, "First Steps toward a History of Reading." (Friday, November 15)

Michael Crowder, Visiting Distinguished Professor, University of Botswana, "The Politics of Slavery under British Colonial Rule: Aristocrats, Administrators and Missionaries and the Plight of the Basarwa (Bushman) in the Bechuanaland Protectorate, 1926 to 1940." (November 20)

If you wish to receive announcements of future meetings, call 642-0016 and ask to be put on the mailing list.

ON-GOING EVENTS

Nineteenth-century Studies Group

The next meeting of the nineteenth-century studies group of the Institute will be held on Sunday, October 27 at 2:00 p.m. at the home of Glenna Matthews, 2112-C McKinley Street, Berkeley 94703. The reading to be discussed is Eugen Weber's *Peasants Into Frenchmen.*

Bancroft Readers Roundtable

Meetings of the Bancroft Readers Roundtable continue on the first Wednesday of the month in Room E, The Faculty Club, on the University of California Berkeley campus. In October the Roundtable hosted the three Bancroft Fellows for 1985-6. Like the Institute's "Work-in-Progress" meetings, these Roundtable sessions are informal gatherings at which users of the Bancroft Library talk about what they're doing, and members of the staff discuss the work of their departments and answer questions. For announcements of future meetings, check the reference desk in the Bancroft Library.

MINI-COURSE

Berlin in the Twenties

Mini-courses, first offered by the Institute in the fall of 1983, are presented by and for members in the form of informal seminars on a wide range of subjects. The latest such course, "Berlin in the Twenties," will consist of eight sessions led by Institute members with backgrounds in economic, literary, art, music, theater, and film history. Topics include: "The Weimar Republic—an overview and eyewitness account," "The Great Inflation and Other Socio-economic Ills," "Art and Architecture in Berlin," "Dance and Music," "Bertolt Brecht in Berlin," "Alfred Döblin's *Berlin Alexanderplatz,*" "Satire in Literature and the Cabaret," and "Murnau's *Der Letzte Mann (The Last Laugh).*" The sessions will be held on Sunday evenings from October through February. There is no charge. Members interested in attending should contact Monica Clyde, 415-339-3385.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call for Papers—Southwest Labor Studies Association

The Southwest Labor Studies Association invites proposals for papers and panels for the 1986 conference, to be held March 14-15 at San Francisco State University. Papers may deal with any aspect of labor studies in the southwest: current issues facing the labor movement, labor history, labor economics, labor and politics, and social patterns affecting workers. The deadline for proposals is December 21, 1985. Send proposals to:

Southwest Labor Studies Conference
c/o Department of History
San Francisco State University
San Francisco, CA 94132

CCPH Fifth Annual Conference

The fifth annual conference of the California Committee for the Promotion of History will be held on October 25-27, 1985, at the El Rancho Tropicana Hotel in Santa Rosa. Registration begins at 10 a.m. on Friday, October 25. There will be panels and workshops on subjects ranging from historical archaeology and map interpretation to "The California State Plan," and two luncheons and two evening banquets with guest speakers. Conference registration (after September 15) is $20 for regular members, $15 for students and seniors, and $25 for all non-members.

NEW MEMBERS

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the members who joined in August and September.

Thelma Bryant is a psychotherapist and teacher who has a master's degree in psychology from Sonoma State University and has studied at the C. G. Jung Institute in Zurich. She has published articles in the San Francisco *Jung Institute Library Journal* and the *Psychotherapy Institute Journal.* Recently she has received grants to translate and study the papers of Sabina Spielrein, a psychiatrist who was associated with both Jung and Freud. An independent scholar interested in interdisciplinary study, she has attended and would like to continue to participate in work-in-progress sessions and meetings of the nineteenth-century studies group.

Diane S. Claerbout has a master's degree in history from Stanford and a master's degree in library and information science from UC Berkeley. She is interested in Jewish history in the medieval period and in the nineteenth-century American west, especially the Gold Rush period, and has taught courses and written on both subjects. Through her membership in the Institute she hopes to share her work with others and find ways to publish it.

Ethel Dunn, who has a master's degree in history from Columbia University and a Certificate from the Russian Institute, is an independent scholar who has lectured and published articles and reviews about various aspects of contemporary Soviet culture. She is doing fieldwork among Russian religio-ethnic groups in California and Canada, and is translator of A. I. Klibanov's *History of Religious Sectarianism in Russia from the 1860s to 1917* (in press). Her current interests are the psychological individuation of women and the status of women in sectarian peasant groups in the Russian Empire and the Soviet Union. She looks forward to "live contact with fellow historians."

Daryl F. Hyun has an undergraduate degree in history from UCLA and master's degree in history from CSU Northridge. His interest is primarily in modern American history, especially the legacy of Chief Justice Earl Warren to American society, Asian-American history, and California labor history. An independent scholar, he hopes through his membership in the Institute to benefit from interaction with professional scholars.

Rosaline Levenson, a professor of political science at CSU Chico, has a master's degree in political science from UC Berkeley and a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Connecticut. Recently she has become interested in the history of nineteenth and early twentieth-century Jewish communities in the Central Valley north of Sacramento—company-owned towns in northern California. She is also working on a biography of former congressmen Harold T. ("Bizz") Johnson, based in part on papers he donated to the CSU Chico library. An academically-affiliated scholar, she seeks contact with historians working in the same or similar fields.

Sharie Stromli-Meyer has a master's degree in history from San Francisco State University and has done work in the Ph.D. program in history at UC Berkeley. Her interests are in modern, intellectual history in the United States, especially the impact of nineteenth-century literary women on culture and thought, and the twentieth-century response to post-war radicalism. She would like to share her work and interests with like-minded members of the Institute.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Wesleyan University Press has published Lucia Birnbaum's *Liberazione della Donna, A Cultural History of the Contemporary Italian Women's Movement.* The book came out in May.

"Empirics and Charlatans: the Genesis of the Classification of the 'Other' in Early Modern France," by Alison Lingo, has been accepted for publication in the June 1986 issue of the *Journal of Social History.* Alison has also been commissioned to write the article on "Midwifery" for an encyclopedia of Women's Studies to be brought out by Greenwood Press.

Glenna Matthews gave a presentation, "The Fruit Workers of the Santa Clara Valley: Alternative Paths to Union Organization During the 1930s," at a meeting of the Bay Area Labor History Workshop on September 22. The presentation focussed on food industry employees such as cannery workers and dried-fruit and nut packers who, unlike the more powerless field workers, managed to unionize during the Great Depression.

Ross Maxwell gave a paper on the topic, "Eternal Rome: Subjective Consciousness and Immortality," at the 14th annual meeting of the Society for the Comparative Study of Civilizations. The conference took place in May at Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio.

A grant under the Women's Education Equity Act to Lyn Reese and Jean Wilkinson will be used to develop a bibliographical handbook for teachers on student resources for women in world history and area studies. Lyn and Jean will be reviewing not only the existing curriculum but also all possible journal articles, novels or visual aids such as slide or tape shows for young adults. The compilation will avoid material that is overly technical or obscure. Suggestions from our membership will be very welcome and can be made by calling Lyn at 415-524-0304.

Kathleen Casey slithered through mud and driving rain to view the forlorn ruins of Tintagel Castle in Cornwall, in September, and concluded that the quest by King Arthur's knights for fire-breathing dragons may most simply be explained as a material necessity. This hypothesis will probably not be entertained seriously by any grant-awarding institution.

It is always a pleasure to see a work in progress come to fruition. At a work-in-progress meeting in 1982 Jack Boas presented material from his book on Transit Camp Westerbork (co-authored with his brother) for discussion and comment. On October 13 of this year he held a book signing party for the recently published *Boulevard des Misères: The Story of Transit Camp Westerbork.*

Joanne Lafler's article, "From Ritual to Drama: San Francisco's Bohemian Theater, 1880–1923," on the evolution of theatrical events at the Bohemian Club summer encampment, was published in the Summer, 1985 issue of *Encore,* the bulletin of the San Francisco Archives for the Performing Arts. Fellow independent scholars, take heart! The piece was originally written in 1979.

EDITOR'S NOTE

We would like to apologize for a misstatement in the entry for Singne A. Coe under NEW MEMBERS in the July–August issue. Singne has been a lecturer in art history at UC Santa Cruz in the past, but she is not presently affiliated with UCSC. The use of the present tense was our error.

The November–December issue of the Newsletter goes to press during the first week of December and should be in the mail just before Christmas. Deadline for submission of material is November 25.

Many thanks to Monica Clyde for her splendid work as interim editor, all without the aid of a word processor —although we may soon detect an electronic gleam in her eye.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, October 27, at 6:30 p.m., 32 Highgate Rd. in Kensington. Adela Roatcap will give a work-in-progress presentation: "An Art Historian Looks at the Ballets Russes." A postcard mailing will provide directions.

Saturday, November 2, at 1 p.m. Tour of the Rodin Sculpture Garden and the Hoover Library on the Stanford University Campus. Further details will be announced in a separate mailing.

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