The Institute for Historical Study Newsletter

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ORIENTATION AND TOUR

A Day at Stanford

"Go ahead," said the docent as she handed out pieces of chamois, "rub the bronzes. You can almost feel the contours of Rodin's hands." At first we were hesitant, but after a few minutes most of us were rubbing away with our cloths. No, this was not a secret plot to cut down on maintenance by having visitors help with the dusting—but rather a refreshing introduction to the Rodin collection, the first stop on our Institute afternoon on the Stanford University campus.

The docent tour led us through the impressive collection in the University Museum and into the new sculpture garden, which boasts a recent casting of the "Gates of Hell" and will soon have a casting of the "Burghers of Calais." The former piece, with its complex details, is worthy of an afternoon's investigation in itself. The setting encourages the visitor to view it from a distance while resting on a bench, before moving closer to focus upon individual figures and groupings. For many of who had been intending to visit the collection, the docent tour was an informative introduction, providing an overview, historical background and technical information.

At the end of the tour, our program, planned jointly by Institute members Agnes Peterson and Elena S. Danielson, staff members of the Hoover Institution, and Nancy McCauley, slide curator of the Stanford University Art History Department, led us to the courtyard of the Hoover Institution for refreshments and then into the library itself for our orientation. Like all archivists worthy of the name, Elena loves the materials she works with and is eager to share them with researchers, and she had prepared a display of sample items to whet our appetites. Next to a first edition of *The Communist Manifesto*—possibly the only such edition in a U.S. collection—the face of young Leon Trotsky stared at us from a collection of mug shots from the files of the Okhrana—the Czar's secret police. The Okhrana dossiers in the Hoover Institution collection, which contain names of about 30,000 suspected subversives, are a unique source for researchers.

A typed and annotated draft of Nicholas II's abdication statement, a signed letter from Lenin to comrades in New York, and a copy of volume one, number 1 of *Pravda*—rare because the paper quality of the early issues of the official Party newspaper is so poor that other copies have fallen apart—were among the other samples of materials dealing with modern Russian history. Hitler Germany was represented by a volume from Himmler's six-volume diary (kept during the time when he was developing his racist views), a photo album kept by Ribbentrop to commemorate his visit to Moscow in 1939 to sign the German-Soviet anti-agression pact, part of Goebbels' wartime diary, and x-rays taken of Hitler's skull after the bungled assassination attempt in 1944.

Items for the study of modern Chinese history included excerpts from a collection of about 100,000 photographs of Chinese Communists in the 1930s and '40s, and a signed letter from Chou En-Lai negotiating foreign aid for China in 1946. United States involvement in World War II in the Pacific was represented in two very different documents—General "Vinegar Joe" Stillwell's diary, which presents an irreverent view of military personalities, and the matter-of-fact Order for the Day which sent the Enola Gay on its bombing mission to Hiroshima.

Elena discussed the history, nature and scope, and the mechanics of using the collection. Founded in 1919 by Herbert Hoover with a donation of $50,000 for the purpose of collecting "material evidence" on war and revolution in the 20th century, the library and archivists include one million printed books (housed in the Hoover Tower) and a special wing, named after Lou Henry Hoover, for Japanese and Chinese documents.

A number of research aids, such as catalogues of manuscript material and registers of individual collections make the materials easily accessible to researchers. But Elena also told a story to illustrate the importance of plain old serendipity. At an Institute luncheon on the Stanford campus not long ago Elena happened to be sitting next to Nancy McCauley when Nancy mentioned the work in which she and her husband Gardner are currently involved, on the restoration of James D. Phelan's mansion, the Villa Montalvo. Elena "thought" she had seen an old movie in the Hoover archives, taken at the Villa Montalvo in the '20s. When she unearthed the film, it proved to be invaluable in documenting furnishings and landscaping.

Our day at Stanford reminded us, if we needed reminding, that there is no substitute for an archivist who knows the collection—and that we are indeed fortunate to number among our members archivists and librarians at major research facilities in the Bay Area. We call them our "friends in high places." By all means, pay them a visit sometime soon.

—Joanne Lafler

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Board had its annual retreat at Tahoe at the home of Jules Becker, where we enjoyed the company, the food, and an occasional walk. We focussed on the report on organizational structure prepared by a task force charged with analyzing the jobs of officers and committees and suggesting a more equitable distribution of work. The task force broke down the work of officers and committees into administrative, budgetary, policymaking, and clerical components, attempting to see, for example, if it were not possible to delegate the latter to a paid secretary. The Board wrestled with the problem of trying to form more effective committees and of separating out those tasks that tend to shorten the tempers, if not the tenures, of overworked committee chairs.

The task force will continue to work on the problem of setting up some sort of clerical service to assist both Board members and committees. We are already acting upon the proposals for changes in the Membership and Program committees, urged on by the fact that both Lyn Reese and Mary Agnes Dougherty were hired by the California Historical Society and, with their other jobs, have little time to devote to these tasks. The Program Committee's plans have been completed through March except for works-in-progress. The scheduling of those has reverted to Lorrie O'Dell; please note her new daytime phone is (415) 624-1419. We shall call upon geographically proximate members to serve on small committees for individual events. In this way we may ask for short-term commitments for measurable amounts of work.

The membership committee has just been reorganized on a geographical basis on the Peninsula with Nancy McCauley as acting chair, which will enable us to have several discrete functions handled by different committee members. Membership services, for example, might include grant advice and referral and external job referrals (finding appropriate candidates for positions we hear about a short notice). The committee will also handle recruitment, orientation, and certain member activities.

The Board is in agreement that we must engage more of the membership in the work of the organization or we will not survive. Commitment is more important than money.

Lyn Reese has resigned from the Board and we want to thank her publicly for her tremendous contribution to the Institute in her work as membership chair, planning the last Annual Meeting with its new format, originating and sustaining the Nineteenth Century Study Group, and contributing excellent ideas to the Board.

—Georgia Wright

WORK-IN-PROGRESS

October

"An Art Historian Looks at the Ballets Russes" was the topic of Adela S. Roatcap's work-in-progress presentation on Sunday, October 26 at the home of Ethel and Steve Dunn. Adela's interest in Russian art led her to explore the world of the Ballets Russes and the role of Serge Diaghilev, a multi-dimensional personality who became the mentor of many great artists of his time. Picasso, Matisse and Derain were among the artists who created designs for Diaghilev's ballets—enjoying both the challenge and the public exposure that they received. Some of their work has been perpetuated in modern productions such as the San Francisco Ballet's "The Prodigal Son," with scenery and costume designs by Georges Rouault.

Adela is currently working on an artistic biography of Diaghilev, an ambitious undertaking which involves reconstructing the 71 ballets he helped stage during his lifetime, using photographs and pictures of set and costume designs. Her extensive slide collection offers a dazzling survey of Diaghilev's accomplishments and the various styles and ideas which he tried. In her presentation she often focused on a comparison of different interpretations of scenic and costume designs for the same ballet, to show the influence of different personalities, fashions and countries upon an artistic concept. Comparisons of photographs of actual performances with the designers' original sketches showed that pragmatic considerations often resulted in compromises with the artists' concepts. As a consultant to companies who wish to use the original designs when performing Diaghilev ballets, Adela uses both kinds of documentation.

Serge Diaghilev was born in 1872 into a wealthy and cultured family in St. Petersburg. He had originally wanted to become a musician, but was dissuaded by his teachers' —and his own—realization that he did not have sufficient talent. Instead he became a connoisseur of the arts, a wealthy bon-vivant who understood the artistic climate of his time. Many of Diaghilev's ideas, such as Stravinsky's "Rite of Spring," which he commissioned, became artistic manifestos. It was his great talent to know how to manage artists and put the right people in touch with each other so that they might in turn inspire each other's work.

Diaghilev's most important work occurred after his dismissal from a post with the Russian Imperial Ballet, when he turned his attention to promoting Russian art abroad. He put on a Russian exhibition in Paris, held musical evenings and produced twelve operas (including Mussorgsky's "Boris Godunov" and "Khovantchina") and numerous concerts. In 1909 he introduced Russian ballet to Paris, bringing along such great performers as Pavlova, Nijinski, Adolph Bolm, and Tamara Karsavina. A strong Russian influence in Diaghilev's ballets, which often took Russian fairy tales as their inspiration, could be seen in the slides of costume designs.

Diaghilev died at the height of his success as a manager and producer in 1020, when he was ready to try another career—as bibliophile and country gentleman. Adela's slides and commentary indicated the great range of his creative genius.

—Monica Clyde

WORK AND SCHOLARSHIP

Keeping Afloat

How does a modern Chinese historian become a historical consultant? Responding to Kathleen Casey's piece on the marriage of work and scholarship [May-June, 1984], Institute member L. Eve Armentrout Ma talks about how she manages to "keep afloat" as an independent historian.

. . . . .

Within the next few months my current employment will come to an end and, to put it bluntly, I have few prospects lined up for the future. Recently I have also begun an internal debate on how much time I want to put into "doing history," and in what field. Much of this will in fact be determined by what job offers I manage to secure.

Cautionary notes aside, I received my doctorate in modern Chinese history in 1977. Earlier I had earned an MA in United States history (post-reconstruction) and a BA in English literature/creative writing. I also was a teaching assistant for three years for a course on the survey of Asian history. I would say that to date I have relied on all aspects of my training.

Currently I am completing a volume of military history for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The subject of the volume is the engineering effort of the Corps districts in Japan (including Okinawa) and Taiwan since 1945, and the work of U.S. Army Engineers in the Army of Occupation in Japan. The job pays well, and my manuscript will be published upon completion. I got the job in part because a friend told me it was being offered, and in part because only two qualified people applied for the job. I was the low bidder.

How does a specialist in modern China end up writing such a study for the Army? For one thing, my *curriculum vitae* makes me look competent. I have published close to twenty articles. Perhaps six of these can be considered major articles, appearing in prominent scholarly journals. I also had a brief stint as assistant professor at a good university. I have competence in several languages, including Japanese. As a practicing consultant for six to eight years I have learned to be flexible: to pick up new topics and new ways of looking at old ones. In other words, I have not restricted myself to modern China, broad though that topic may be.

Prior to my current job, I'd also done work in U.S. history and Asian American studies. I had written articles from an anthropological and sociological viewpoint, and organized museum exhibitions. Furthermore, I had earlier written historical studies for other branches of government. Finally, I am co-author of one book and editor of a second. Presumably this background helped prepare me for my current job.

My career as an independent historian—a historical consultant—has to date been reasonably satisfying. However, it is not what I had hoped for and still rather wish I had found: a teaching position in a four-year college or university. I love teaching and I love Chinese history. It seems to me life could have been very comfortable if I could have become a professor of Chinese history at a respectable institution.

A historical consultant has to be self-motivated. You must constantly look for jobs, even when you have one. (They all come to an end; there's no tenure.) When working, you must keep yourself going and require of yourself a quality product. You must find ways of interesting yourself in topics and approaches that you had not previously thought too much about. The people you work for often are not historians themselves, and you may find that you have no network of colleagues with whom to discuss your work. Many academic historians will act as if they consider you "beyond the pale." In addition, I personally find writing the rough draft of anything to be a difficult chore, although I enjoy research and rewriting.

There are satisfying elements, of course. I enjoy my flexibility. I do not feel I'm simply rehashing the same old topic, or topics, *ad nauseam*. Almost every piece of work I pick up is different from what came before. Because I have to publish so much, I know I'm going to leave something behind me when I'm through. I have the satisfaction of "bringing history" (and certain aspects of Asian culture) to people who would otherwise rarely encounter it. And finally, I have been able to support myself, at least most of the time.

—L. Eve Armentrout Ma

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CONFERENCE REPORT

Nairobi Women's Conference

On October 3 Jane Bernard Powers gave a report on the Nairobi Women's conference to a group of Institute members and friends at the home of John and Sally Brunn in San Francisco. The conference, held in July, was attended by approximately 14,000 women, many more than had been predicted. There were actually two conferences: a forum for non-governmental organizations and an official conference for government representatives.

Jane gave a vivid account of her personal experiences, which included being evicted from her hotel to make room for official delegates. She talked about the security measures and the sweeping up and detention of the city street people. Among her happier experiences were many individual encounters with women from all parts of the world and a wonderful pervasive feeling of energy and purpose.

Jane visited a technology and tools exhibit and brought back a booklet on solar cookers produced in India. In many parts of the world women spend an inordinate amount of time in gathering firewood, getting clean water and preparing food, and the smoke from the firewood causes health problems. The point was made, however, that introducing new technology should be done carefully, in consultation with the users.

Jane also visited the craft exhibit and showed slides of the colorful African fabrics and baskets on display. Her slides of local people and the city of Nairobi gave us a feeling for the country.

Prominent at the forum, which was held on the University campus, was the Peace Tent. Great concern was expressed about peace and the dangers of nuclear war. Jane's impression was that the peace movement is much

stronger away from the United States and that there was much networking going on. One of the events at the Peace Tent was a dialogue between Bella Abzug, representing the United States, and a woman from the USSR.

There were several controversial issues at the conference, including Zionism, apartheid, the New Economic Order, and Palestinian women. A reference linking Zionism to racism was deleted from the final draft of the report, published at the end of the conference, which recommended strategies that look forward to the year 2000.

The meeting was attended by a small but enthusiastic audience and there were insightful comments, questions and lively discussion over wine and cake.

—John Brunn

St Paulus Lutheran Church, an outstanding example of Gothic Revival. *Sacred Places of San Francisco.* Roy Flamm, photographer.

CONFERENCES

WAWH—Call for papers

The annual conference of the Western Association of Women Historians will be held at the Huntington Library, San Marino, May 9–11. Panel and paper proposals should include three copies of the paper abstract and the *curriculum vitae* of the participant. Deadline for submission is January 30, 1986. Send abstracts to: Maryanne Horowitz, Department of History, Occidental College, Los Angeles, CA 90041.

MAKING CONNECTIONS

Bay Area Labor History Workshop

The Bay Area Labor History Workshop holds informal meetings throughout the year on a wide range of topics. All interested persons are invited to participate. The following meetings are scheduled:

February 2 at 1:30, Sue Cobble will speak on "Waitresses and the Unions in the Twentieth Century" at her home, 1003 Keith Avenue in Berkeley, 526-3207.

April 5 at 1:30, Oscar Berland will speak on "The Railroad Strike of 1877" at the home of Marge Lasky, 1540 Grant Street in Berkeley. 845-3812.

May 4 at 1:30, Stephen Schwartz will give a presentation on "The Haymarket Square Massacre of 1886." Place to be announced.

June 8 at 1:30, Jim Gregory and Anne Loftis will speak on "Labor and the Okie Migration to California" at the home of Bob Cherny, 1462 9th Avenue, San Francisco (near Judah). 665-2868.

For further information contact Don Watson, 1676 Dwight Way, Apt. C, Berkeley, CA 94703.

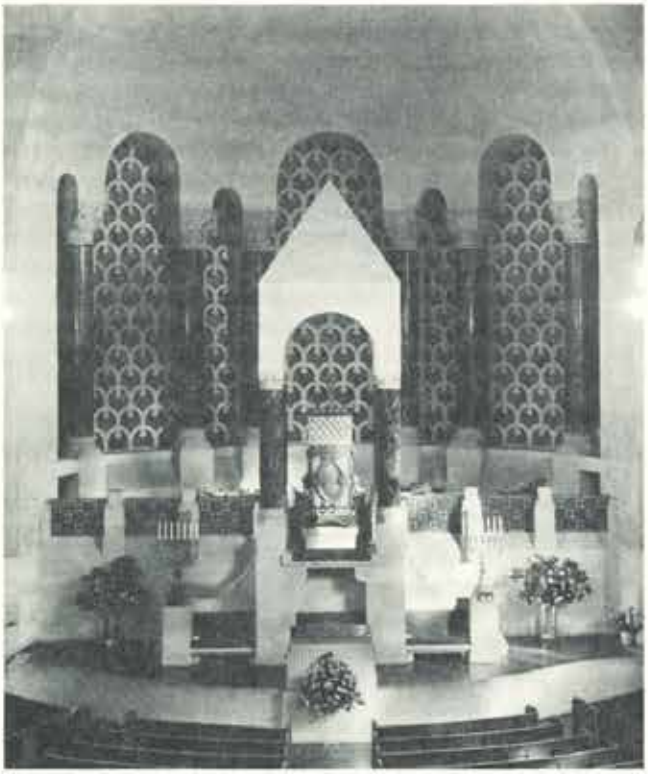
BOOK REVIEW

Ruth Hendricks Willard and Carol Green Wilson, *Sacred Places of San Francisco.* Novato, California: Presidio Press, 1985. 300 pp., 88 photos, map, bibliography, index. $35.00, cloth.

Here indeed is a trove of treasures with which to fill our eyes. *Sacred Places of San Francisco* is a celebration of San Francisco's religious and artistic diversity. Roy Flamm's photographs capture the interior of the Church of the Advent of Christ the King and the Konko Church of San Francisco, the soaring sculptured cascades of St. Mary's cathedral and the French Romanesque facade of St. Anne of the Sunset.

Descriptive sketches accompany the photographs. The text, written with clarity and style by Institute member Ruth Willard and the late Carol Green Wilson, draws upon extensive research carried out by members of the San Francisco Alumnae Panhellenic, sponsor of the book. Ruth, who enjoys working with community groups such as this, served as project director, coordinating the efforts of volunteer researchers, working with the photographer and finding consultants as needed.

Arranged according to the date of the founding, the photographs with the text that accompanies each picture form something of a narrative of San Francisco's eclectic history. The buildings are placed in the context of their historical times, some finding their way into the colorful panorama of the Gold Rush city, others carefully described as part of the tradition of their respective religions. How many of us knew that the Swedish Baptists



The splendidly spacious interior of Temple Emanu-El has overtones of Byzantine in a modern setting. *Sacred Places of San Francisco.* Roy Flamm, photographer.

fled their homeland to escape persecution for their religious beliefs? Who would expect to find, in the Presidio Post Chapel, a mural done by a student of Diego Rivera?

With architectural commentary by Joseph Armstrong Baird, Jr., this volume inspires the reader to look more carefully at neighborhood churches, as well as at the dramatic cathedrals that dominate the skyline. As Ruth points out, American travelers who visit churches, temples and synagogues around the world can also enjoy ecclesiastical architecture at home.

One comes away from a perusal of this book not only with the feeling that in San Francisco we walk in beauty, but that it is the great diversity in beauty that offers the most lasting monument to the city and its multicultural people.

—Carole Hicke

CONTINUING EVENTS

The Bancroft Readers' Roundtable meets on the first Wednesday of each month at noon in Room E of the Faculty Club on the UC Berkeley Campus. For information on speakers and topics, check at the reference desk in the Bancroft Library.

The Nineteenth-century Studies group meets regularly to discuss meetings in the field. For information about the readings and the meeting times and places call Pat Sanders, 415-482-4656.

LIBRARY UPDATE

Caveat User

I thought I would share a recent experience with other users of the UC Berkeley library system who may have experienced similar frustrations. Over the years I've always known where to find the materials I need, virtually blind-folded. Imagine my distress, then, when I sashayed down to tier 1 of the main library stacks last June, only to discover that 43 of the 44-volume Yale edition of Horace Walpole's correspondence—a major source of gossip for eighteenth-century researchers—were gone. Vanished, without even leaving a gaping hole. Oh, no! they've gone to Richmond! was my immediate paranoic response. Without bothering to note the call number on the remaining volume I raced upstairs to the loan desk—then over to the card catalog to get the necessary documentation. Perhaps because I was nervous, I couldn't find what I needed in the author-title catalog. (Other editions of Walpole's letters, but not the *sine qua non* Yale edition.) Try the shelf list, I thought. But nothing was there, either.

I was beginning to have intimations of one of my favorite old movies, about a young woman who searches for her brother in Paris during the great exposition and discovers that the hotel room he had been using didn't even exist. In my growing hysteria I virtually flung myself upon fellow Institute member Frank Brechka, who patiently took me once more through the author-title catalog. When that yielded nothing, he suggested that we look in the microfiche catalog—Catalog 2: Books: Base Set. What we found there eventually enabled me to run the missing volumes to earth in Humanities Graduate Service. But in the process I learned something truly disquieting.

As we all know, Catalog 2: Books, a set of microfiche with *white top borders,* contains 940,000 records of books received (not necessarily published) after 1977. Unfortunately, corrections are too costly to make in this yearly catalog. The current set will perpetuate errors and omissions until next July.

Enter Catalog 2: Books: Update—a set of microfiche with *blue top borders,* which is issued every two weeks and contains all books received (not necessarily published) since July 1, 1985, *in most of the UC Berkeley [campus] libraries.* This catalog also contains corrections of erroneous listings in the white-bordered fiches. Thanks to Frank and my little problem last June, this updated catalog indicates to the savvy user that the Yale edition of Walpole's letters is now in HGS.

The moral of this story? Well, as posters throughout the library warn us—but as some of us oldtimers still haven't learned—check both microfiche catalogs for current information. And be sure to check the card catalog for books received before 1977, in the hope that something sinister has not happened to them.

—Joanne Lafler

BANCROFT READERS ROUNDTABLE

At the November meeting of the Bancroft Readers Roundtable graduate student Maresi Nerad discussed her research on the history of the Home Economics Department at UC Berkeley. In the course of her work she discovered that key issues in the women's studies movement today—namely, whether women's studies should be integrated into relevant disciplines or kept separate, in a department—concerned the scholars who established the Home Economics Department early in this century. Aware that a female-oriented department might be vulnerable, and that the components of the program, nutrition studies and decorative arts, had little in common, the faculty committee first recommended that home economics at UC Berkeley should be a separate school, or at least a college. These recommendations were ignored.

The department's status was always problematic, despite the fact that it was headed by distinguished women scientists. Shortly after it was given a building of its own in the mid-fifties the department was deemed not academically high-powered enough for the Berkeley campus and—except for nutrition sciences—was removed to UC Davis, which in the 1950s was still primarily an agricultural campus. Thus, Nerad observed, the argument that a female-oriented department is vulnerable seemed to be substantiated.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Congratulations to Jean Ackermann, who has been appointed Playwright in Residence of The Western Stage of Hartnell College. Jean, who lives in Pacific Grove, is the author of two prize-winning historical dramas: *A Pride of Heroes,* a celebration of historic women which won a prize at the National Festival of Women's Theatre, and *Jessie,* a play with songs about Jessie Benton Fremont which won a Sam Shubert award. As Playwright in Residence for this new program at Hartnell, Jean will be a "dramaturg" in the European tradition, working on her own new historical music play, writing program notes and background pieces, and acting as advisor for other aspects of the programs.

Jo Gillespie writes from the Institute of Early American History and Culture in Williamsburg, Virginia: "If anyone had told me I'd be absorbed in writing about the family interactions of a woman whose father made his fortune as a slave-trader in pre Revolutionary War Charleston, I wouldn't have believed it." The woman is Martha Laurens Ramsay, author of a pious memoir. In Williamsburg Jo found much additional material about Ramsay; the study of her religious diary is now growing into a biographical and family study. Jo's article on the genre of pious memoirs, "The Clear Leadings of Providence," was published in the July, 1985 issue of *Journal of the Early Republic.*

Jack Boas has recently returned from a trip to Berlin where he attended an international historical conference, held under the auspices of the Leo Beck Institute, on the theme "Self-Assertion in Adversity: The Jews in National Socialist Germany, 1933-1939." The purpose of the conference, under the direction of Peter Gay, was to open new areas of research in this period. But Jack feels that its importance was also symbolic. This was the first time that the Beck Institute, formed after World War II to preserve German Jewish heritage, had convened on German soil. In recognition of the historical significance of the event, Chancellor Helmut Kohl was a speaker.

In Amsterdam, on the way back to the United States, Jack and his wife bumped into another Institute member, Ilse Sternberger, who was returning from a lengthy stay in Europe. Ilse started out in Brussels, where her husband had begun his career as a professional photographer. (Ilse will be curator of an exhibition of her husband's portrait photography to be held at the San Francisco Jewish Museum in the late spring.) She then traveled to the village of Entrevaux in Provence, to stay in a friend's house while working on her historical novel. But the ambience of the 11th century village (whose newer sections date from the 16th century), and the harsh, beautiful landscape proved distracting. During her seven-week stay she managed to do little writing, but did do some important research and, best of all, got to know the surrounding area.

As an example of the fact that you never know where you're going to encounter an interesting historical item, Ilse relates her experience in browsing through the library of her borrowed house. In a collection of reprints from Belgian and French newspapers for the years 1914-1945 she came across a 1916 issue of the Belgian *Le Monde* that piqued her curiosity. A long article thanked the German authorities fulsomely for allowing the Belgians to celebrate their national holiday; among the advertisements was a "help wanted" ad for a spy. She learned later from a Belgian friend that this issue was a successful hoax perpetrated by the underground, which produced its own issue of *Le Monde* in the exact type of the original, and distributed it through regular channels before anyone caught on.

Congratulations to Lyn Reese and Mary Agnes Dougherty, who are job-sharing in a new program of the California Historical Society. Lyn is the director, and Mary Agnes the coordinator of the Elementary/Secondary School Program of the CHS, whose aim is to get children excited about local history. The program begins this year with fourth-grade classes, exploring ways to develop curriculum based upon themes from local history—such as early California history in San Diego, the history of oil discovery and production in Bakersfield, and Gold Rush history in the Sierra foothills. Local historical societies and academics who are teaching local history will be invited to collaborate in the program, which will involve students themselves as producers of materials, such as video cassettes, that can be shared with other schools. Initial response to a questionnaire sent out to over 700 teachers statewide has been very encouraging.

DIALOGUE

Dear Editor,

To the initial question posed by the Newsletter's editorial board, "What has been, or could be the contribution of women's studies to the larger discipline of history?" I offer the following.

From my male perspective the key contribution of women's studies has been to pull off the blinders of the male domination ideology, and give us all, females and males alike a new and more profound understanding of what it means to be human.

This core statement leads to five historical questions. 1) What is an *ideology,* what makes an ideology so stable and how can an ideology change? 2) What was human life like before the shift to the patriarchal ideology? 3) When did this shift in ideology occur? 4) Why did the ideological shift occur—in particular, why did men feel compelled to dominate women, and why is this compulsion still active in so many men today? 5) And lastly, did women (some or all resist or acquiesce to this change in ideology? Women's history and feminist scholarship have tackled all these questions, and developed a number of theories on the male domination impulse. I offer a theory of consciousness that I believe can tie together some of these theories and also provide a deeper understanding of both the first and fourth problems. (A discussion of the first question is beyond the scope of this letter, so I'll concentrate on the fourth.)

A summary of the theory follows. First, if you take Julian Jaynes' controversial theory of the origin of consciousness seriously, then human subjective consciousness, as we experience it, emerged only about 3000 years ago; and in fact he dates the origin of subjective consciousness in the ancient Middle East at about 1350 B.C.E., give or take a few centuries, or the same time that Rohrlich and Nash date the *Enuma Elish,* which is apparently the oldest extant documentation of the patriarchal ideology. Second, according to Jaynes, subjective consciousness is metaphorically speaking a "mind space," in which one has the ability, among other things, to imagine oneself in an imagined future.

In addition, subjective consciousness provides a new emphasis on the self or ego, since one now has a private inner world separate from the previously all-encompassing social realm. Third, the impact of consciousness was to heighten the individual's awareness of his or her own death and to spark a powerful drive to transcend this life in some form of immortality. Fourth, and tragically, in order to deal with the newly emerged consciousness, men almost universally appear to have resorted to the control of women and children to gain at least a "symbolic" immortality by controlling the biological immortality process. Although the resultant patriarchal idology, customs and politics are seen today as anti-life, at the time of the origin of consciousness the male heroes were necessary to break the tribal and matri-centered psychological bonds if they were to emerge into consciousness.

In this theoretical model, then, it is the emergence of subjective consciousness, the concomitant heightened fear of death and the desire for immortality that initially drove and still drives the male patriarchal compulsion, especially whenever men's immortality scheme is threatened. For example, the renewed patriarchalism of the ninteenth century occurred when the successes of modern science, coupled with technology, threatened the traditional religious world view, while at the same time the growing modern focus on the worth of the particular individual increasingly imperiled the belief in a universal and immortal soul.

If the above theory is correct, then Women's History is part of the larger framework of the human condition. This supports Karen Offen's comment that she's "not sure at all anymore that history is a 'larger discipline' than women's studies." However, *history* has a unique contribution to the ongoing change in ideology, and woman's history is a key, because it points directly at the ideological issues. I support Kathleen Casey's call for a History of Gendered Civilization.

Yours,

Ross R. Maxwell
3060 Turk Boulevard
San Francisco, CA 94118
(415) 752-9166

MEMBERS—let us know what you are up to these days.

Clip this form and return it to Membership News, c/o Kathleen Casey, 1130 Delaware Street, Berkeley, CA 94702.

Name:

New affiliation, if any:

Degrees recently completed (give degree, date, institution):

Recent publications (give publication information) or historical projects:

Other recent scholarly activities:

EDITOR'S NOTE

This issue, volume six, number 6, will be the last bi-monthly issue of the Institute Newsletter. After December 31, 1985 the Newsletter will return to a quarterly publication schedule. The reasons are partly financial—our grant from the L.J. and Mary C. Skaggs Foundation, which underwrote expanded publication, has run out—and partly organizational. A bi-monthly publication schedule imposes burdens on the editorial staff of an all-volunteer organization. Freed of the responsibility of putting out two additional issues each year, staff members will be able to put their energies into other Institute work.

The Newsletter will continue to go to non-members who make donations, and to libraries and institutions in the Bay Area and around the country. In addition to the Newsletter, Institute members will receive four issues of a two-page interim "Update," with timely information about conferences, prizes and Institute activities. The first issue of "Update" will be sent out immediately after the election of new Board officers in early March, 1986. The next issue of the Newsletter will be published at the end of March. Deadline for submission of material is February 25. We particularly invite submissions on the experiences and work of independent scholars and on philosophical issues of concern of historians.

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual membership meeting will be held on Saturday, February 22 from 9:30 to 3 p.m. at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church in San Francisco. Following the successful pattern inaugurated last year, the business meeting, at which year-end committee reports are made and elections for Board members and the nominating committee are held, will be preceded by a morning program and lunch. Members will receive a packet with more information sometime in January—but be sure now to mark the date on your 1986 calendars.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, January 5 at 7 p.m., "Bertolt Brecht in Berlin," fifth session of the mini-course, "Berlin in the Twenties." Call Monica Clyde, 415-339-3385 for location and directions.

Sunday, January 26 at 7 p.m., "Döblin's *Berlin Alexanderplatz*," sixth session of "Berlin in the Twenties." Location to be announced.

Sunday, February 9 at 7 p.m., "Satire in Literature and the Cabaret," seventh session of "Berlin in the Twenties." Location to be announced.

Sunday, February 23, 7 p.m., "Murnau's *Der Letzte Mann* and German Film in the Twenties," last session of "Berlin in the Twenties." Location to be announced.

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