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NEHA News

The Newsletter of the New England Historical Association

September 1, 1976

Vol. III., No. 2

MEETING DATES

October 16, 1976, Exeter Academy, Exeter, New Hampshire.

If you are not a member of the association you will not receive formal notification of this meeting unless you write the Secretary, Professor John Voll, History Department, University of New Hampshire, Durham, New Hampshire 03824.

May 7, 1977, Harvard University, Cambridge Massachusetts.

PROGRAM FOR THE FALL MEETING:

Morning Sessions:

- I. Religious Change and Reform: Different Agents and Their Impacts
 - 1. The State: The State and Ecclesiastical Reform in Nineteenth-Century Prussia and England
Professor Gwendolyn Jensen, University of New Haven
 - 2. Laymen: Lay Participation in the English Reformation
Professor Marc Schwarz, University of New Hampshire
 - 3. Religious Leaders: Reform by Religious Leaders without a Church - Islamic Messianism in the Sudan
Professor John Voll, University of New Hampshire

II. British Diplomacy in the Twentieth Century

- 1. Prelude to Entente Cordiale: The End of Anglo-French Rivalry in Morocco in 1902-1903

Professor Minton F. Goldman
Northeastern University

- 2. Britain and the Jews of Danzig, 1938-1939

Professor Joshua Stein, Roger Williams College

- 3. British Diplomacy and the Possibility of Dutch Entry into World War I

Professor Charles A. Watson,
Roger Williams College

Professor Paul Helmreich, Chairman and Commentator, Wheaton College

Luncheon Address:

Professor Owen Chadwick, Regius Professor of History, Cambridge University, Hitler and the Pope

Afternoon Sessions:

III. Lincoln Through New Lenses

- 1. Lincoln in the Computer: A Preliminary Report on the Content Analysis of Lincoln's Writings

Professor G.S. Boritt, Memphis State University

2. A Psychohistorian's Approach: Struggle for Love and Identity in the Young Lincoln
Professor Charles B. Strozier, Sagamon State University

3. A Traditionalist Approach: Lincoln's Opposition to the Mexican War
Mark Neely, Jr., Director, Lincoln National Foundation and Museum (Fort Wayne)

Comment:
Richard N. Current, University of North Carolina, Greensboro
Oscar Handlin, Harvard University

Professor R. V. Bruce, Chairman
Boston University

IV. Aspects of British Foreign Policy Towards Eastern Europe

1. Stratford Canning and the Origins of the Crimean War
Professor Vincent O'Brien, Boston College

2. Upper Silesia: Case Study in British Foreign Policy, 1919-1921
Professor Joseph Harrington, Framingham State College

3. V. V. Tilea and the "Ultimatum" to Romania, March 1939
Professor Paul D. Quinlan, Rhode Island Junior College

Professor Radu R. Florescu, Chairman and Commentator, Boston College

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The vice-president, Giles Constable, urges that all members who are interested in presenting papers in the spring meeting should communicate with him at Widener Library 116, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. 02138. He is particularly interested in receiving proposals for integrated sessions of three twenty-minute papers or two half-hour papers on particular themes or problems in American, European, and Third World History. Any proposals that cannot be included in the spring meeting will automatically be considered for the fall meeting of 1977.

The spring 1977 meeting of the New England Slavic Association will be held in April under the auspices of the Russian Research Center and the Ukrainian Research Institute of Harvard University. Those interested in participating in the meeting are invited to send proposals, including suggestions for complete panels, by 15 October to: Professor Donald Carlisle, Program Chairman NESA, Russian Research Center, Harvard University, 1737 Cambridge Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138.

The Berkshire Conference of Women Historians has awarded the following prizes for 1975: Fawn Brodie, Thomas Jefferson: An Intimate History (Norton); Louise Tilly and Joan Scott, "Women's Work and the Family in Nineteenth Century Europe" (Comparative Studies in Society and History); and a special award Natalie Zemon Davis, Society and Culture in Early Modern France (Stanford).

Nominations for the 1976 award for the best book and article by women historians should be sent to: Gwendolyn Evans Jensen, Graduate School, University of New Haven, 300 Orange Avenue, West Haven, Connecticut 06516.

NEHA News is the newsletter of the New England Historical Association. It appears twice a year, in April and September. The deadline for the April issue is January 1; the deadline for the September issue is June 1. Contributions and suggestions are welcome and should be sent to: Gwendolyn Evans Jensen, Editor, NEHA News, University of New Haven, 300 Orange Avenue, West Haven, Connecticut 06516.

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SESSION SUMMARIES: SESSION I - PUBLIC AND PUBLIC OPINION IN MEDIEVAL EUROPE

This session included three papers: "Vox populi non est vox Dei: the Changing Concept of the People in the 12th and 13th Centuries" by Professor Charles W. Connell of West Virginia University, "Public Attitudes toward Muslims in 14th Century Spain" by Professor John Boswell of Yale University, and "The English Public, the Church, and Royal Propaganda during the Hundred Years War" by Professor W. R. Jones of the University of New Hampshire.

In the first paper, Professor Connell outlined and discussed the general problems of the study of public opinion, both now and in the past, in the light of the theoretical work on the subject of Paul Lazarsfeld, Floyd Allport, Wilhelm Bauer, and Tamotsu Shibutani, whose "basic premises are that if opinions exist, there is disagreement; that the reactions of individuals who comprise a public are mixed; and that publics are responsive to news" and who sees public opinion as "one phase in the mobilization of a public for action." Professor Connell mentioned the recent contributions to the study of public opinion in the Middle Ages of Jeremy Adams and Nancy Regalado and emphasized the value of content analysis for the understanding of such key terms as populus, publicus, gens, and plebs. He then summarized the results of his own research on the use of these terms by William of Malmesbury, Otto of Freising, Matthew Paris, Salimbene, and Humbert of Romans, showing in particular how the meaning of the term populus changed in the course of the Middle Ages from the more "Augustinian" sense of a group united by a common other-worldly purpose to an "Aristotelian" concept of pragmatic groupings of individuals in society. In conclusion, therefore, he suggested that "by the 13th century the vox populi is no longer to be interpreted in the Augustinian sense and that a transformation has taken place which moves the populi in a more pluralistic, individual direction that is temporarily labeled Aristotelian."

In the second paper, Professor Boswell analyzed the different attitudes of different social groups towards the Muslims in 14th century Spain. He began by stressing "that the general level of tolerance and co-operation among the disparate elements of Hispanic society in the fourteenth century was surprisingly high in view of the hostile religious attitudes of the era" and by citing various instances of harmony not only in military, social, and governmental affairs but also in the religious and intellectual spheres. He went on to show, however, that the real picture underneath this apparent harmony was "less rosy than it seems." He particularly emphasized the hardening of hostile attitudes as time went on and the differences in their views and actions toward the Muslims of different groups in Christian society. "The attitude of the 'public' toward the Muslims in 14th century Spain turns out not to have been an attitude at all, but rather a complex interaction of many attitudes, all of them altering with time, and each one reacting to the others, which in turn reacted and were further altered themselves." Thus the monarchy, aristocracy, clergy, merchants, and lower classes differed in their attitudes depending on their particular circumstances and interests. Professor Boswell in particular analyzed the shifts of opinion, and concluded that, "the self-interest of the upper classes con-

tributed to an era of remarkable tolerance in Spanish history But this same self interest induced the monarchs to succumb, gradually, to the increasing hostility of the lower classes toward the Muslims, and, eventually, to expel them."

Professor Jones in the third paper argued that, "War was the most important determinant of English public life during the late Middle Ages," and that as wartime needs and activities expanded there emerged "an official mentality attuned to the importance of public opinion for facilitating the exploitation of community resources for military purposes." He studied the various ways in which the kings sought to influence public opinion, including bulletins, writs, broadsides, and manifestoes, and especially through the Church, by prayers, masses, sermons, and processions, of which the importance as influences on public opinion has often been overlooked by historians but which were consciously designed by a cooperative clergy to obtain the blessings of God for the king and kingdom and to win the support of the people. "In the requests for prayers pro rege and in his other communications with the English people Edward I was evidently trying to publicize as widely as possible his biased interpretations of recent political history in order to create a sense of national solidarity supportive of the ambitions of monarchy; and all of this represented a new departure in the use of the Christian liturgy to sanction the role of the English king as defender of the national interests against his and the people's common enemies." The same policy and practices were used by Edward II and Edward III in their struggles against both the Scots and the French. As a result, Professor Jones concluded, "In its effort to broaden the base of community support of the wars with Scotland and France, the crown itself created and popularized the concept of 'public opinion.'"

The commentator in his concluding remarks emphasized the broad interest of these papers for the study of medieval "public opinion," which raises important questions concerning the nature of society and power throughout the Middle Ages. He stressed in particular the need to investigate what constituted both the "public" and "opinion" at different times, who influenced public opinion and how it was formed and expressed (mentioning the importance of visual and aural as well as verbal communication at that period), and the function it exercised in society.

In the discussion, questions were raised concerning the precise meaning of the term "public opinion" in the Middle Ages, and the need was stressed to avoid the modern connotations of the term. The point was made that opinion grows from below as well as being formed from above and is influenced by changing popular attitudes and feelings that had to be taken into consideration (and that were often shared) by the leaders of society.

Giles Constable
Chairman and Commentator
Harvard University

SESSION II - RADICAL NATIONALISM

Radical nationalism was a component of both Italian Fascism and German Nazism. Its origins preceded the First World War, and in the years after its end, radical nationalists accepted and even supported these more violent forms of political activism that overshadowed and finally engulfed them.

Professor John Leopold, Western Connecticut State College: "Hugenberg and Radical Nationalism."

From 1890 to 1933 Alfred Hugenberg--bureaucrat, business man, chairman of the board at Krupp's, and organizer of a nationalist press syndicate--was active in German politics, first in the Pan-German League, then as chairman of the DNVP, and finally as a member of five months of the Hitler government in 1933. Hugenberg championed the ideas set forth in Heinrich Class's Kaiserbuch, published in 1912, which demanded a government controlled by men of "education and property." Such a government was antithetical to democracy, and Hugenberg led those who would not accept social and political democracy within Germany after 1918. As the DNVP seemed to become increasingly committed to collaboration with the Weimar republic, Hugenberg and his Pan-German allies sought to gain control of the DNVP and succeeded. Through the years 1929-31, Hugenberg helped to finance the Nazis, at the same time hoping to control them, but 1932 saw a growing disaffection between the DNVP and the NSDAP. Nonetheless, Hugenberg is largely responsible for the ultimate triumph of Nazism. Hugenberg's machinations during the years of the Weimar republic and especially after 1929 encouraged and aroused strong nationalist feelings among Germans, which, however, the DNVP could not satisfy. The ultimate beneficiaries were the Nazis who appealed to the unemployed and to the more extreme elements within Germany. Until the end Hugenberg hoped to control Hitler and in December 1932 and January 1933 threw his influence in support of the latter, only to be discarded once Hitler was in power.

Professor Ronald Cunsolo, Nassau Community College: "Enrico Corradini and the Theory of Proletarian Nationalism."

Enrico Corradini became converted to nationalism in 1896, the year Italy was defeated at Adowa. Journalist and writer, Corradini was able to exert considerable influence in the pre-World War I years. He evolved a theory of proletarian nationalism for Italy and expounded it at the inaugural congress of the Italian Nationalist Association, which he helped to found in 1910. Adapting Marxian concepts, he said "there are proletarian nations just as there are proletarian classes; nations, that is . . . disadvantageously subordinated to other nations, similar to . . . classes." For Italy, which Corradini considered a proletarian nation, France, England and other more advanced countries represented the bourgeoisie. Corradini's use of the Marxian analogy went even further, as he applied Marx's theory of surplus value to Italy, saying it was being drained of its share of earnings from the commodities it produced. In its early years, the Italian Nationalist Association retained a leftist orientation, distrusting Italy's industrial and commercial bourgeoisie.

After Austria's annexation of Bosnia-Herzegovina in 1908, Corradini's appeal became more action oriented, and the nationalists supported Italy's war against Turkey in 1911 and urged participation in the First World War. Mussolini appropriated many of Corradini's ideas on proletarian nationalism, found supporters and allies among its ranks after 1919, and used its concepts to legitimize the reorganization of the state and the establishment of corporativism, and to try to discipline his countrymen. Nationalism as "the socialism of the Italian people" was used to explain and justify an aggressive foreign policy.

Corradini's ideas have not vanished with Italian Fascism. Many Third World nations today have used a similar rationale to justify nationalization and confiscation of alien property, production and economic controls as efforts to safeguard their independence vis-à-vis more advanced countries.

Professor Emiliana P. Noether, University of Connecticut (Storrs):
Commentator.

It appears that substantial differences exist between the nationalism of Hugenberg and that of Corradini. Continuing to follow and support the ideas of the Pan-German League, Hugenberg seems to have remained a representative of Wilhelminian Germany, or a man of the pre-World War I era, while Corradini could perhaps be labelled the prophet of post-World War I Italy. What both men shared was an anti-liberal and anti-democratic orientation.

Can Hugenberg really be labelled a radical nationalist, in the same sense that Corradini, with his blending of Marxism and nationalism, most assuredly was?

Discussion followed on many of the points made by the two speakers and on the general topic of the session.

Emiliana P. Noether, Chairperson
University of Connecticut (Storrs)

SESSION III - ANTE-BELLUM VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATIONS;
FREEMASONRY IN CONNECTICUT AND NEW YORK

Some 25 persons attended this session and almost all stayed to the end at 12:30 PM. Many questions came from the floor, several audience members provided information from their own research, and an informal and universal give and take prevailed during the last part of the session.

Minimally, the papers showed the importance of Masonry in ante-bellum culture and the necessity of a historical and sociological approach to this almost entirely neglected institution.

Free-Masonry as a Counter-Culture: Connecticut (1789-1830)

Freemasonry flourished in post-Revolutionary Connecticut and until the 1820's as one frame for the increasing pluralism within almost every community. Masonry was useful because it provided parts of those communities with the form for expressing a world-view and a style and mood that differed from that of the community as a whole. The surge of social and political Antimasonry in the late 1820's and early 1830's can therefore be seen as an important episode in the quest for a viable balance of public and private institutions that characterized America's phenomenal pluralism. The voluntary association as a counter culture continuously tested the limits of the surrounding society's tolerance.

As a male secret society designed to foster its definition of social morality and wisdom through fraternity, Freemasonry formed in England in the early 18th century. Because of its structured inclusiveness and universalism, the fraternity spread to Europe and America throughout the century, and fared in the communities within each country according to local political and social arrangements. In post-Revolutionary Connecticut Masonry became a center of anti-establishment activity which could claim social space similar to that of a dissenting religion. A case study of Putnam Lodge, whose membership was drawn from six towns in northeastern Connecticut, examines questions about who the Masons were and what they did as Masons. The records of the Lodge and of the towns show that Masons came from every segment of the population: Masons tended to be wealthier and more prominently active in politics than non-Masons, but Masonic membership did not coincide with that of the religious, political, or social establishment. The lodge functioned as a sub-culture by setting its own standards of morality, dispensing charity to its members, adjudicating differences among them, acting as a religious surrogate for some, and, in general, providing a mutually re-enforcing community in life-style that differed from that of the surrounding society. In the Putnam Lodge area the Masonic counter-culture was tolerated until external social and political events led to the perception of Masonry as a threat to the proper functioning of the society as a whole by a sizeable segment of the local population.

Dorothy Lipson
New Haven

Freemasonry in New York: The Case of Genesee County, 1809-1842

Freemasonry functioned as a powerful symbol for both Masons and non-Masons in antebellum America. Yet, historians know little about the organization. Indeed, most images of the Craft have emerged obliquely from studies of Antimasonry and have generally accepted the Antimasonic critique of Masonry as a village-oriented institution. Freemasonry in Genesee County, in western New York, confounds that general image. This colony of New England, first settled in 1801, provided fruitful ground for Masonry. Lodges were among the first institutions established by Yankee settlers. From 1809 to 1826 when William Morgan was kidnapped at Batavia, some 16 lodges and two Royal Arch chapters were founded, almost all of them in rural townships where only a rudimentary market economy had emerged.

This paper focused on the nature and function of Freemasonry in Genesee County, including its persistence after the organization of a powerful Antimasonic political movement. A major question concerns the influence of Free Masons in politics since the institution clearly provided a major recruiting ground for local political elites. The paper also included a social analysis of Masonic leaders juxtaposed to non-Masonic political leaders as one indicator of the relative social status of the Masonic hierarchy.

Kathleen Kutolowski
State University College at Brockport

Richard D. Brown--Comment

Kutolowski's analysis of lodge membership before and after the onset of Anti-Masonry in the region where the latter first erupted is impressive. Yet one wonders whether there was a greater "need" for Masonry in frontier areas, rather than settled communities. Perhaps Masonry arose in both old and new settlements because latitudinarian and liberal ideas were popular. We need to explore kinship linkages within Masonry, and to compare the characteristics of Masons and Anti-Masons before making inferences from the social and political correlates of one group only. Yet considering Kutolowski's evidence of the political offices held by Masons in Genesee, it is no wonder that outsiders feared their domination.

David H. Fischer--Comment

Freemasonry is an historical subject which is filled with anomaly. Its modern condition in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries gives us no way of accounting for the intensity of reactions that it aroused when it was young. Either freemasonry has changed, or else the world has changed around it.

One possible explanation comes to mind, which might also be a frame for synthesizing the different results of the two papers. We might think of Masonry in two different ways, as part of a Gesellschaft, or on the other hand a vehicle from Gemeinschaft to Gesellschaft. In other words, it might be one of a new family of pluralistic, voluntary associations, or else a vehicle by which men moved from a world of unitary to a world of pluralistic associations.

Perhaps in its earliest form, Freemasonry was the latter, a surrogate for a unitary system, within a pluralist system. In a later form, it became merely one of many plural associations. The evidence from Connecticut looks like the first; the evidence from New York, a generation later, looks like the second.

The chairman observed that whereas in the early nineteenth century Masonry had been at odds with Protestant small-town culture and classified by evangelicals as an enemy similar to Popery & Co., after the Civil War a less pretentious Masonic fraternity acquired legitimacy in part because it so thoroughly shared the prejudices of native Protest America.

Ronald P. Formisano
Chairman
Clark University

SESSION IV: ARCHIVAL SECURITY: SAFEGUARDING THE
MATERIALS OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH IN
A WICKED WORLD

The news that archival theft has become a major dilemma for scholarship will surprise few historians or archivists. Most of us have heard those hair-raising stories about teams of criminals carting off hundreds of priceless documents from institutions all over the country. Worse yet are the tales about scholars and staff members stealing from their own libraries and manuscript repositories. Philip Mason and John Kinney skillfully review and analyze many of these incidents in the October, 1975 issue of the American Archivist, thus there will be no need for me to repeat what they so ably report. Suffice it to say that the problem becomes more critical each year, and the bicentennial celebrations of 1976 will certainly encourage thieves to expand their activities.

The Society of American Archivists has begun a comprehensive archival security program, and major facets of the project are supported by a \$99,690 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Ann Morgan Campbell, Executive Director of the SAA, is directing the project and Timothy Wakh has joined the Society's Chicago staff as associate director of the program. He has assumed primary responsibility for implementation of various phases of the work plan. Kathryn M. Nelson is the program assistant for the project.

The staff has conducted a large-scale investigation of the nature and extent of the archival security problem and of possible solutions. Legal and technical experts, manuscript dealers, as well as archivists and manuscript curators, have been consulted. In brief, the agenda for the program consists of four facets: a register of stolen or missing materials; a newsletter to report theft, replevin, criminal proceedings, and security news; a technical consultant service to help individual institutions develop security programs and procedures; and a Security Manual to meet the needs of archives and libraries, especially those institutions with limited resources. Each of these facets deserves further explanation.

The security staff has recently established a register of lost or stolen archival materials. The Register contains all relevant information about such items, including description, dates, identifying marks, nature, and estimated date of theft. Legal advice has been sought to insure that only proper information is collected, retained, and distributed.

Registration and theft report forms for the "Register of Lost or Stolen Archival Materials" of the Security Program are now available. A white, two-part form will be used formally to register repositories, societies, libraries, corporations, dealers, and collectors who have lost manuscript materials. Each registrant will be assigned an identification number to facilitate the reporting of individual losses. A yellow, four-page form will be used to report the loss of particular items or groups of items.

The register has been established primarily to handle manuscript materials. Printed materials such as rare books may be listed if they have markings that make them unique and readily distinguishable from other extant copies. Moreover, since there is little chance of recovering items that have been missing for more than twenty years, the security program staff is concentrating its efforts on those manuscripts known to have been missing since 1955.

Further information and copies of the registration and theft report forms can be obtained by writing to the Associate Director, SAA Archival Security Program, Box 8198, University of Illinois at Chicago Circle, Chicago, Illinois 60680.

In addition to the Register, the Society of American Archivists is now publishing an SAA Newsletter supplement devoted exclusively to archival security. It contains announcements of thefts, descriptions of stolen archival material, and related information. It also contains notices and accounts of court trials of apprehended thieves and articles on various security systems and related matters. In the near future, the newsletter will be expanded to include listings of lost or stolen archival materials. Because of the sensitive matters involved in theft and criminal action, the contents of the Newsletter are approved by legal counsel.

Beginning in the Fall of 1976, the Society will develop and maintain a list of qualified security experts, based upon such considerations as geographical area, expertise, and experience. Such consultants will be available to archives and manuscript repositories on a cost sharing basis. The SAA will set standards for written reports of consultants and review their findings and recommendations. On the basis of a preliminary study, we are convinced that such experts are not only available but also willing to participate in such a cooperative consultant program.

The Society continues to publicize good security procedures as widely as possible. The SAA Newsletter, the SAA quarterly journal American Archivist, the publications of the various regional archival organizations, and library and historical publications all have been contacted.

We will also prepare and publish a "Manual on Archival Security" for the use of archival institutions, but it will be specially designed for the smaller archival institutions that do not have security officers or unlimited resources. The Manual will include chapters or sections on theft of archival materials, replevin, marking archival materials, security systems and hardware, and legal problems. The Manual will be ready in the fall of 1977.

The Manual, the register, the newsletter, and the consultant service constitute the thrust of the SAA Archival Security Program, and we definitely believe that it will be an effective deterrent against archival theft. We also realize that this project cannot be the first line of defense. Clearly the protection of valuable and irreplaceable archival materials is the responsibility of everyone working in an archives or manuscript repository. All archivists will have to ask themselves tough questions about their security procedures. What type of identification should be required of patrons? What kind of

information should be included on call slips? What should patrons be allowed to bring into the reading room? Should valuable items be stamped and/or separated from archival collections? The answers to these and other security questions are not easily found. Yet, as the Archivist of the United States noted nearly ten years ago, "through our collective efforts we can make real progress toward convincing the document thief that he has made a tragic error in his choice of a career."

Timothy Walch
Society of American Archivists

SESSION V: HISTORIANS AND ARCHIVISTS IN THE SEARCH FOR HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION

Panel: Harold D. Moser, Associate Editor, Daniel Webster Papers,
Dartmouth College
Frank C. Mevers, Editor, Josiah Bartlett Papers,
New Hampshire Historical Society
Richard K. Showman, Editor, Nathanael Greene Papers,
Rhode Island Historical Society

This session brought together reports on techniques employed and results achieved by three projects devoted to the identification, collection (in photocopy or transcript), and publication (in letterpress and/or microform, selectively and/or comprehensively) of the personal papers of eighteenth and nineteenth-century figures in American public life. All three projects are assisted by the National Historic Publication and Records Commission of the National Archives.

As was incidentally appropriate to the meeting in a bicentennial year, two of the figures were intimately involved in the military and political events of the Revolution. Josiah Bartlett (1729-1795), New Hampshire physician, colonel in the colonial militia, and later successively chief justice of the Court of Common Pleas and governor of the State, was at the time of the Revolution a member of the Committee of Correspondence and one of his state's representatives in the Continental Congress. Nathanael Greene (1742-1786) was both a brilliant tactician as a line commander, especially in the South Carolina Campaign of 1782, and a resourceful supplier and equipper of military units as Washington's Quartermaster General. Daniel Webster (1782-1852), of course, as constitutional lawyer, congressman, and secretary of state, was a dominant figure in national affairs in the period between the War of 1812 and the War with Mexico.

Harold Moser began the session by describing the goal of the Daniel Webster project: departing from a knowledge of the three substantial collections of Webster papers at the New Hampshire Historical Society, Dartmouth, and the Library of Congress, to locate and secure copies of every extant letter or other writing of Webster-- a perfection not of course attainable, but significantly approachable. As a national figure, Webster had been the object of considerable previous documentary publication, but the finding of the Webster Papers project was that the "received" version of his life and career is based on perhaps one quarter of the documentary materials now known to be extant.

After becoming familiar with monographs on Webster, catalogues of Webster materials, and catalogues of dealers in manuscripts, the staff undertook a canvass of agencies and individuals likely to possess Webster papers. One staff member made personal visits to libraries, historical societies, and courthouses throughout New England. Others undertook an inquiry by correspondence with a mailing list composed of the names of some five thousand agencies and over a thousand individuals, compiled from the American Library Directory, the AASLH Directory of Historical Societies and Agencies in the U. S. and Canada, and directories of private collectors. Responses came in from 2100 of the addressees, and of these, 276 had holdings of Webster papers to report. The net result was the discovery of some 4,600 "new" Webster items, some of them in two substantial collections not widely publicized and previously unknown to the project. Although the project staff is aware at least in part of what is still lacking to a complete bibliographical control of Webster papers (items once known to exist now no longer to be found), it feels that this phase of the project--locating materials--has been very successful.

Securing copies of materials located, however, has been far from easy, in part because of the uncertainty of some repositories as to their responsibilities under copyright laws, in part because of the unwillingness of others to give up exclusive control of materials, in part because of the desire of at least one person controlling Webster materials to turn a monetary profit therefrom.

On balance, however, the project has been a distinct success, owing to the large number of cooperative agencies and individuals. It has resulted in making available, in the 41-reel set of microfilm (which takes its place beside the Library of Congress and the National Archives films of other Webster papers), and the first volume of a selective letterpress edition, of documentation indispensable for an understanding of American life in the first half of the nineteenth century.

In the question period following the three presentations, Frank C. Mevers, Editor of the Josiah Bartlett Papers, agreed with Moser that some of the differences between the experiences of the Bartlett and the Webster papers projects were owing to differences in the eminence of the principals and in the scope of their respective careers, and some to the emergence of a clearer sense of professional identity and responsibility on the part of archivists and manuscripts curators between the early '60's, when the Webster project was conducting its search, and the early '70's, when the Bartlett project was engaged in that activity.

Mevers reported that in both phases of the "acquisition" process--locating and obtaining copies--the Bartlett project enjoyed considerable success. Six hundred inquiries went out to repositories, and responses came in from four hundred, or 67%, of them--as against 2100, or 35% for the earlier Webster inquiry. In addition, a gratifying response came from the scores of private collectors who received the letter. Ultimately, eighty-five sources contributed information about 3,000 documents, and problems of obtaining copies proved usually to be technical and soluble. The microfilm edition of the papers is now complete, and work proceeds on the selective letterpress edition.

Richard K. Showman, of the Nathanael Greene papers project, reported that the experience of his enterprise had not been generically very different from those of the Webster and Bartlett projects. Twelve hundred letters went out, and documents came in from 103 of them. Showman emphasized that sometimes there are important effects of serendipity in quests of this sort, plan as one must in a systematic way. For example, quite by accident, the Greene project was led to six Greene letters at Glassboro (N. J.) State College and no fewer than 100 in the possession of the New Jersey State Department of Defense--neither of which was of course thought of as a recipient of the letter of inquiry.

As to acquiring copies, Showman noted that private owners were the most resistant, in part because of the fear that documents in their hands might be subject to an action of replevin by some public body to whose files they of right belonged. Others perhaps believe that the monetary value of their possessions would be reduced if the information in them were published.

In summary, the session provided a valuable close look at distinguished current efforts of scholars and institutions to make available the source materials for historical research.

John Kendall, Chairman
Bibliographer for American Studies
University of Massachusetts

AFTERNOON SESSION: A BRITISH VIEW OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

J. H. Plumb, Professor Emeritus of Modern History, Cambridge, University.

ARCHIVES AND MANUSCRIPT ACCESSIONS

Recently acquired for the Edwin Arlington Robinson memorial collection were five letters in Robinson's hand addressed to Black writer William S. Braithwaite. The letters (1913-1920) indicate more than a passing acquaintanceship between the two men and show they were familiar with and admired each other's work.

The papers of two prominent graduates of Colby College have been made available for research. Henry Clay Merriam (1864) was a career military man. His papers provide information on his role in organizing and leading a contingent of Black troops during the Civil War, his later participation in the western Indian wars and, at the turn of the century, his work as quartermaster for the American military forces in the Philippine Islands in 1898 and for the Alaskan exploring expedition of that same year. George Otis Smith (1893) was Director, U. S. Geological Survey from 1907 to 1930. His collection contains letters from major American political leaders of the period, including personal letters from Presidents Theodore Roosevelt, Taft, Wilson, Harding, Coolidge, Hoover and Franklin Roosevelt. The collection also contains copies of Smith's speeches and published articles which provide a valuable resource for a study of environmental thinking during the first third of the twentieth century.

On June 5th a special program was held to dedicate the Alfred King Chapman room in Special Collections. The Chapman Room, which houses the Colby College Archives, was refurbished through the generosity of Bernard H. Lipman (1931).

The Schlesinger Library opens interviews on women in birth control and maternal health movements

The Arthur and Elizabeth Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America, Radcliffe College, announces the availability of the first transcripts from a series of oral history memoirs on the role of women in population-related issues. The interviews, being conducted by the Library as part of a project funded by The Rockefeller Foundation, document the vital part played by women in the birth control movement, the delivery of maternal and child health care services, marriage counseling, sex education, and the repeal of the abortion laws.

Among the oral history memoirs now open for research use are interviews with Elizabeth Arnold, clinic supervisor at the Margaret Sanger Research Bureau for fourteen years; Dr. Mary Calderone, medical director of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America and subsequently director of the Sex Education and Information Council of the United States; Loraine Leeson Campbell, a Massachusetts family planning leader and President of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America; Dr. Florence Clothier, a psychiatrist who has led the efforts to provide contraceptive services to the medically indigent in Massachusetts; Dr. Martha May Eliot, retired chief of the Children's Bureau and national and international leader in the maternal and child health field; Frances Hand Ferguson, a volunteer who has worked with most of the leaders of the birth control movement from Margaret Sanger to Dr. Alan F. Guttmacher; Mrs. Alan F. Guttmacher, widow of the president of Planned Parenthood; Louise Hutchins, a physician who travels through rural Kentucky to provide family planning and health services; Dr. Emily H. Mudd, a pioneer and national leader in marriage counseling and sex research; Dr. Adaline Satterthwaite, a physician and researcher who conducted many of the early trials of oral contraceptives; and Dr. Julia Tsuei, founder of the family planning program in Taipei.

These interviews were conducted by James W. Reed, a research fellow on the Population Project at the Schlesinger Library from 1973 to 1975 and currently Assistant Professor of History at Rutgers College, and Jeannette B. Cheek, retired director of the Schlesinger Library and consultant on the Population Project.

The interview transcripts range in length from 25 to nearly 500 pages. Copies are being deposited at the Regional Oral History Office at The Bancroft Library and the Columbia University Oral History Office. Copies of unrestricted transcripts may also be acquired by other libraries and borrowed through inter-library loan.

The oral history interviews are part of two projects funded by The Rockefeller Foundation to develop the resources of the Schlesinger Library on issues related to women and population. The initial two-year project, supported by a grant of \$82,000 was awarded in 1973, and included research fellowships, manuscript processing, and an undergraduate course. An additional one-year grant of \$20,500 was awarded in 1975 and is supporting the continuation of archival work and additional oral history interviews, especially with women leaders in the campaign to repeal the abortion laws. Interviewees whose memoirs have been recorded, but not yet completely processed, include Constance Cook, Estelle Griswold, Virginia Johnson, Patricia Maginnis, Dr. Helen Taussig, and Sarah Weddington.

For additional information contact: The Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe College, 3 James Street, Cambridge, Mass. 02138.

Christopher Bickford of the Connecticut Historical Society (1 Elizabeth Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06105) will edit the archival section beginning with the next issue. Please send information on acquisitions, finding aids, and any other archival news to him by December 1 for the spring issue and by May 1 for the fall issue.

BOOK REVIEWS: The Mediaeval Vision: Essays in History and Perception.
by Carolly Erickson. New York: Oxford University Press,
1976. Pp. 219. paper.

Ms. Erickson has endeavoured to present a view of mediaval society and thought based upon the phenomenon of "visionary imagination." She shows the need for the modern student of Middle Ages to appreciate the different world view held by mediaeval man. The mediaeval perception of reality differed greatly from our own, and to ignore this difference presents a false impression of mediaeval life and belief.

This perceptual difference creates a distance for the modern scholar between his own time and the Middle Ages. Using the "visionary imagination" as expressed in sources which use "metaphors of sight to convey abstract thought," Ms. Erickson seeks to bridge this distance. Yet she in no way attempts a "definitive account of mediaeval perception." Her work highlights perceptual differences exhibited in certain aspects of mediaeval civilization. As such, this book is a complement to standard introductions to mediaeval society like Norman Zacour's An Introduction to Medieval Institutions and R. W. Southern's The Making of the Middle Ages. Zacour states in the preface to his second edition (St. Martin's Press, New York, 1976) that his intention is to acquaint the student with mediaeval society's basic structure. Therefore, he has deliberately avoided historical narrative. Ms. Erickson's extended use of narrative fleshes out Zacour's more technical approach. Similarly, her bibliography, divided into primary and secondary sources, extends those provided by Zacour and Southern. However, the book in no way serves as a substitute for these works.

Ms. Erickson's first chapter sets down the guidelines and definitions needed in the discussion of visionary perception. It treats the Neoplatonic cosmology that formed the basis of mediaeval thought. This cosmology allowed for realities not deduced from the physical senses. The unseen was as real as the seen. This extended view of reality permitted one, under certain circumstances, magical or otherwise, to "see" more fully.

The emphasis on sight is carried through the second chapter. Visions and apparitions were simply part of the experience of life. That did not make them any less remarkable, but their reality was firmly believed. Ms. Erickson illustrates this point with many quotations emphasizing sight as an avenue to knowledge.

Supported by extended narratives, the next six chapters are useful and informative investigations into legal, moral, and religious attitudes. Unfortunately, they are sparsely documented and lack unity. The metaphor of the first two chapters is not carried through as consistently as one would expect from the title, and does not meaningfully reappear until the conclusion. For example, in the chapter on disorder, the topic of divine retribution, mentioned briefly on pages 158-9, could have been more fully discussed in accordance with the theme of the visionary.

Moreover, some subjects pertinent to the topic are missing entirely. There is no treatment of chivalry with its quest for the Holy Grail, nor is there a chapter devoted to art. Illuminations and carvings render graphically the types of enchanted geographies described in Chapter One. It was one thing for the learned to read and believe accounts of the visionary journeys into Hell, but it was another for the peasant to see Hell above him on the tympanum of his church. Also, no mention is made of the visionary perception expressed in the chronicles. This subject is touched upon by R. C. Petry in "Three Medieval Chroniclers: Monastic Historiography and Biblical Eschatology in Hugh of St. Victor, Otto of Freising, and Odericus Vitalus," Church History 34 (Sept. 1965), 282-93. He points out that the vision of God in history was the grander unfolding, of which the gesta were only a part. Another omission is a discussion of mediaeval drama. In viewing a play, time was thought to be transcended. People in York could participate directly in a past event while maintaining their identity as a mediaeval audience.

While the book encompasses mainly the twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth centuries, the chronology is jumbled. The leap back into the early Christian era in the chapter devoted to women is particularly disconcerting. In no chapter does she discuss the possible fluctuations in visionary perception through the time span covered.

Despite these weaknesses, Ms. Erickson's approach, as presented in the first two and last chapters, is important. The discrepancy between the modern materialistic approach to reality and the mediaeval acceptance of data other than physical must be acknowledged before a full appreciation of the period can be achieved. Mediaeval givens are not modern givens. That must be realized before any meaningful criticism or value judgment can be applied to the period.

Ellen Evans Whiting
Storrs, Connecticut

Bibliography of The Commonwealth Caribbean, 1966-1976

This bibliographical essay on the Commonwealth Caribbean will limit its scope to books published roughly within the space of the past ten years. During that decade there has been a renewed interest in the history of the region. An important segment of the scholarly world has focused on the study of comparative slavery and emancipation and also on the transformation from colonial to independent nations. The 1960's has called attention to a new substratum of nations within Latin America and the third world. The Castro revolution brought world attention and scholarly interest to Cuba at the very time that Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, and Guyana became independent nations.

During this decade there has been a rapid growth of new historical monographs while some of the standard works of the past have been reprinted. Independence has also fostered a new introspection that has institutional support in research institutes of regional universities. Local historians have found audiences and support for their research and have been able to publish their findings. Journals like Social and Economic Studies, Journal of Caribbean History, and Caribbean Studies with their editorial offices situated in the Caribbean have further increased the opportunities for research and writing.

The first type of book to be discussed in this bibliography is not specifically on the Commonwealth Caribbean but has significant information on it. Helmut Blume's The Caribbean Islands (Longman, 1974) is a lavishly-illustrated geographical study of the entire region. Blume employs much history to discuss the geographical changes in the territories. Each Commonwealth island is discussed in detail. Political, economic, and demographic facts are skillfully woven into the geographical discussion.

Political scientists have employed the historical perspective in their discussion of more recent events in the region. Herbert Corkran's study is not confined to the Commonwealth Caribbean, but his Patterns of International Cooperation in the Caribbean, 1942-1969 (Southern Methodist University Press, 1970) gives generous space to recent developments in the region and their impact and inter-play with the non-English speaking territories. Robert Crasweller's The Caribbean Community: Changing Societies and U. S. Policies (Praeger, 1972) focuses more on the effect of United States foreign policy on developing politics. David Lowenthal's West Indian Societies (Oxford, 1972) uses history as an interdisciplinary tool for analyzing and making sense out of the economic, geographic, and ethnic diversity of the region. Harold P. Mitchell's Caribbean Patterns: A Political and Economic Study of the Contemporary Caribbean (2nd ed. Wiley, 1973) is a good reference for basic facts and dates as well as for the contemporary political situation. Roy Preiswerk's compilation entitled Documents on International Relations in the Caribbean (Institute of Caribbean Studies, University of Puerto Rico, 1970) is the only anthology of its kind. Dates of documents go back to events leading to independence and therefore are of interest to historians.

A standard short history of the region that has been brought up to date to include the independence era is John H. Parry and P. M. Sherlock's A Short History of the West Indies (3rd ed. St. Martin's Press, 1971). The emphasis of this book is on the development of the English-speaking islands, although some attention is paid to the Hispanic, Dutch, and American territories. Carl Sauer's The Early Spanish Main (California, 1966) deals with early settlement in Jamaica and Trinidad before they became British colonies. The reprint of Anthony Trollope's The West Indies and the Spanish Main (2nd ed. Frank Cass, 1968) gives historians the opportunity to absorb his shrewd observations about social life in the islands two decades after emancipation. Eric William's From Columbus to Castro: The History of the Caribbean, 1492-1969 (Harper & Row, 1971) is written from a Marxist view. While careful scholars might find William's energetic style too summary and conclusive, his life-long involvement with Caribbean history as well as his political role as Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago require that we give some attention to his work. D. A. G. Waddell's The West Indies and Guianas (Prentice Hall, 1967) is a general survey for undergraduates. Finally, an indispensable reference guide to bibliography for the Commonwealth Caribbean is Irene Zimmerman's Current National Bibliographies of Latin America: A State of the Art Study (University of Florida, 1971).

The next section of this bibliographical survey will cover books on the Commonwealth Caribbean as a whole. Here is historical turf particularly attractive to historians; although, other disciplines have also been involved. Carl and Roberta Bridenbaugh's No Peace Beyond the Line: The English in the Caribbean, 1624-1690 (Oxford, 1972) covers in rich detail the earliest years of settlement. Frank Cundall's pioneering bibliography of West Indian history Bibliography of the West Indies (excluding Jamaica) was reprinted by Johnson in 1971. Richard S. Dunn's Sugar and Slaves: The Rise of the Planter Class in the English West Indies, 1624-1713 (North Carolina, 1972) uses the economic underpinnings of British settlement to analyze the social and demographic developments in the region. Gordon K. Lewis' Growth of the Modern West Indies (Monthly Review, 1968) weaves history into a critical evaluation of contemporary nationalism in the Commonwealth region. Comprehensive in scope, the book covers not only the major territories such as Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago but smaller groups in the Leewards and Windwards that have a unique status of their own. David Lowenthal and Lambros Comitas have edited a three volume series that combines both documents and readings in Commonwealth Caribbean history. They are called Aftermath of Sovereignty, Consequences of Class and Color and Slaves, Freeman and Citizens and were issued by Anchor-Doubleday in 1973. While this collection is a mixed bag of good and mediocre it provides convenient source material for possible use in courses and lectures. A major scholarly treatment of the sugar economy as it affected the growth of the British West Indies as a whole is Richard Sheridan, Sugar and Slavery: An Economic History of the British West Indies 1625-1775 (Johns Hopkins, 1974). More comprehensive in scope than the other recent studies of the period, Sugar and Slavery will remain a definitive work for a long while. What is yet to be written is a study of the economy of Jamaica and her sister islands between 1807-1833. Meanwhile picking up where Sheridan left off is a valuable monograph on the slave trade and its effect on the British economy as well as in the islands--Roger Anstey's The Atlantic Slave Trade and British Abolition 1760-1810 (Humanities Press, 1975).

Mention of the slave trade leads into another significant area of history, and that is slavery and emancipation. Studies centered in one nation or territory will be listed with their respective country. Here are some titles that refer to the entire Commonwealth. Michael Craton's comprehensive introduction to the entire issue of British slavery Sinews of Empire: A Short History of British Slavery (Anchor-Doubleday, 1974) gives the essential data on social relations within the slave society, on the global reach of British slavery, and on emancipation and its results. The reprint of Alfred Caldecott's The Church in the West Indies originally published in 1898 and reprinted by Frank Cass in 1970 provides the essential information concerning early missionary efforts and the institutionalization of the church. David Brion Davis', The Problem of Slavery in The Age of Revolution 1770-1823 (Cornell University Press, 1975) has incisive information related to events in the islands although the general scope is philosophical and international. Jack Gratus' The Great White Lie: Slavery, Emancipation and Changing Racial Attitudes (Hutchinson, 1973) argues that emancipation of the slaves wasn't humanitarian but merely a rationale for white racism and British Imperialism. This author's Politics and the Public Conscience: Slave Emancipation and the Abolitionist Movement in Britain (Barnes and Noble/Harper & Row, 1974) argues that slave emancipation came out of the protestant fabric of British Society and offers an interpretation of the emancipation act from the perspective of British politics. It also offers the first anthology of documents related to slave emancipation both from the writings of the abolitionists, the planters, and the British government. Rolando Mellafe's Negro Slavery in Latin America (California, 1975) while concentrating on events in South America and Mexico offers some comparative data on the Caribbean. William A. Green British Slave Emancipation: The Sugar Colonies and the Great Experiment 1830-1865 (Clarendon Press, 1976) is the most recent book to cover the issue. Green's scholarly monograph is most comprehensive since it covers both economic and social and political conditions in the English speaking islands from 1800 to 1865. The British Anti-Slavery Society's work in the post emancipation era is analyzed by Howard Temperley in British Anti-Slavery 1833-1870 (South Carolina Press, 1972). While the society's work in other areas of the world is discussed in this book, a major part of it focuses on the West Indies, conflicts over sugar duties, and protected trade and its relationship to a free economy. The Maroon communities were a somewhat different kind of slave society. Richard Price's Maroon Societies: Rebel Slave Communities in the Americas (Anchor-Doubleday, 1973) is a selection of essays on these successful guerilla insurgents. Several sections are devoted to West Indian Maroon Communities where both documentary and interpretive material is presented.

Since Jamaica is the third largest island in the Caribbean and the first in size and in population in the Commonwealth, it has had much scholarly attention paid to it. The most recent comprehensive history from the beginning of Western settlement until the present is this author's Jamaica-A Historical Portrait (in collaboration with Samuel J. Hurwitz, Praeger, 1971). As told through the interplay of social and political events, the book is an interpretive synthesis of the most recent scholarship on Jamaica.

Ivy Baxter's The Arts of an Island: The Development of the Culture and Creative Arts in Jamaica - 1492-1962 (Scarecrow, 1970) is poorly written but informative. Orlando Patterson's The Sociology of Slavery (Farleigh Dickson, 1969) is an important study of slave society in Jamaica marred only by Patterson's particularly virulent hatred for the planter class. A lively, well-researched biography of a charismatic Baptist minister in the island during slavery and after is Philip Wright's Knibb 'the Notorious' Slaves Missionary 1803-1854 (Sedgwick & Jackson, 1973). A study of the economic and social life of one plantation as viewed through estate records is Michael Craton and James Walvin's A Jamaican Planation: A History of Worthy Park (W. H. Allen, 1970). An uneven, didactic look at creole life in Jamaican slave society is Edward Brathwaite's The Development of Creole Society in Jamaica 1770-1820 (Clarendon Press, 1971).

Fernando Henriques' Family and Colour in Jamaica (2nd ed. MacGibbon & Kee, 1969) probes Jamaican history during slavery and after to explain the color caste system that survived in island social life for many generations. Owen Jefferson's The Post-War Economic Development of Jamaica (Institute of Social and Economic Research University of the West Indies, 1972) is a detailed study of the factional politics of the nationalist movement and the constitutional structure that was the heritage of British colonialism. Rex Nettleford's Identity Race and Protest in Jamaica (Morrow, 1972) is a stinging attack on color-caste by a political and cultural leader who uses historical analysis as a tool for understanding social relations of the present. Trevor Munroe's The Politics of Constitutional Decolonization: Jamaica 1944-1962 (Institute of Social and Economic Research University of the West Indies, 1972) covers the constitutional changes in Jamaica as political independence was gradually achieved.

To conclude the Jamaica list are two books by successive generations of Jamaican nationalist leaders. Norman Washington Manley and the New Jamaica: Selected Speeches and Writings 1936-1968 (ed. by Rex Nettleford, Africana, 1971) presents an important selection from the pen of one of the leaders and ideological architects of Jamaican nationalism. His son Michael--so often in the news now for his courting of Castro's Cuba and his moves toward socialism and dictatorship as the island's Prime Minister--has written an explanation of his motives. His Politics of Change: A Jamaican Testament (Deutsch, 1974) offers a rationale for socialism and explains in detail the future program for economic and social progress that his Peoples National Party plans to implement in Jamaica.

Other nations of the Commonwealth offer some plentiful fare in history as well. Almost neglected by scholars before independence, Trinidad (known as a nation by its collective name of Trinidad and Tobago) now has several important studies. Her internationally-acclaimed novelist V. S. Naipaul has discussed the earliest years of British rule in his romantically-written biographical study of Spanish and British colonial ambitions in the island The Loss of Eldorado (Knopf, 1970). Donald Wood's Trinidad in Transition: The Years After Slavery (Oxford, 1968) is a careful monograph and the first serious study of the post emancipation period in Trinidad. James Millette's Genesis of Crown Colony Government: Trinidad 1783-1810 (Curepe, Trinidad, Moko Enterprises, 1970) is a factual, thoroughly-researched account of the transfer of power from French colonial rule to British colonial rule.

The coming of East Indian indentured servants in the nineteenth century that today make up almost half of Trinidad's total population has been explored for the first time in two recent studies. Judith Ann Weller's The East Indian Indenture in Trinidad (Institute of Caribbean Studies, University of Puerto Rico, 1968) is one study of this important ethnic group. A selection of essays covering the past and the more immediate present is J. LaGuerre's Calcutta to Caroni: The East Indians of Trinidad (Longman's 1974). Though dealing with the decade of independence almost exclusively, A. N. R. Robinson's Patterns of Political and Economic Transformation in Trinidad and Tobago (M. I. T. Press, 1971) is of interest to historians. Robinson analyzes the economic dominance of the United States in Trinidad's economy, asserting that because of her dependence on the United States Trinidad is independent in name only.

Trinidad and Tobago's people have made significant and enduring contributions to Afro-American culture in the new world. The genesis and refinement of these contributions are explored by Errol Hill in The Trinidad Carnival (Texas, 1972). Using a historical analysis, Hill explains how calypso music and the steel band developed from the demands of the Lentin Carnival. The growth of these forms from the African slave culture and the reformulation of music and words to create new expressions in succeeding generations is brought out in Hill's analysis. Lavishly illustrated with both contemporary photographs and historical prints, this book is very useful for understanding the relationship between culture and history.

The Leeward Island Group centered in Antigua has been the subject of two historical monographs. Elsa Goveia's Slave Society in the British Leeward Islands at the End of the Eighteenth Century (Yale, 1965) is a scholarly treatment of economy and society that is particularly rich in its discussion of social life during slavery. Douglas Hall, Five of the Leewards, 1834-1870: The Major Problems in The Post Emancipation Period of Antigua, Barbados, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Kitts (Caribbean University Press, 1971) picks up some decades after Goveia's and offers a summary account of events. Margo and Gregson Davis' Antigua Black: Portrait of an Island People (Scrimshaw Press, 1973) offers interesting historical reproductions of life under slavery as well as pictures and prints of more recent times.

Of the Bahamas there has been nothing of recent vintage of scholarly importance. For Barbados there is an important scholarly monograph on the free black community in the islands--Jerome Handler's The Unappropriated People (John Hopkins, 1974). Handler has also written a reference volume to Archival sources on Barbados, A Guide to Source Materials for the Study of Barbados History 1627-1834 (Southern Illinois University Press, 1971).

Belize (formerly British Honduras) is also included here because of its historical ties to other English-speaking nations. A newly-published survey of land tenure, useful to Latin Americanists is O. Nigel Bolland and Assad Shoman's Land in Belize 1764-1871: The Origins of Land Tenure, Use and Distribution in a Dependent Society (Institute of Social and Economic Studies, University of the West Indies, 1975). Though not written by a historian, the short survey by William D. Setzekorn, Belize (Dumbarton Press, 1975), adequately covers the basic history and includes the economic and social backdrop for independence.

Situated on the eastern coast of South America, Guyana is a member of the Commonwealth Caribbean although not an island society. Yet historical continuities between that nation and the Antilles warrant her inclusion in this survey. The most politically extreme of all the Commonwealth nations, Guyana has had socialist leadership almost from the beginning of her independence struggle in the 1960's, most notably from Cheddie Jagan, American-educated leader of the East Indian population in the island. A revised edition of his autobiography, The West on Trial: My Fight for Guyana's Freedom (International Publishers, 1972) explains his political philosophy and gives a good account of the role the British played in keeping him out of power. Another informative look at Guyana in more recent times are the essays in Guyana: A Composite Monograph (ed. by Brian Forbes, Inter-American University Press, 1972). The power struggles of the ethnic politics of East Indian versus black are discussed by Leo A. Despres in Cultural Pluralism and Nationalist Politics in British Guiana (Rand McNally, 1967). The most recent account of the controversy between the East Indian forces led by Jagan and the blacks led by the present Prime Minister Forbes Burnham is Basil A. Ince Guyana's Struggle for Independence (Schenckman Publishing Co. 1972).

There is a paucity of research on purely historical themes. A biography of Captain John Stedman, an early explorer of the interior of the country, is Louise Collis' Soldier in Paradise: The Life of Captain John Stedman, 1744-1797 (Harcourt-Brace & World, 1966). Unlike Jamaica and the Leeward Islands where we have studies of their slave societies, in Guyana we have only the narrow economic history of post emancipation society, such as Alan H. Adamson's Sugar Without Slaves: The Political Economy of British Guiana, 1838-1904 (Yale, 1972). An earlier economic study of greater scope is J. R. Mandle's The Plantation Economy: Population and Social Change in Guyana 1838-1960 (Temple University Press, 1973).

Should more explorations in Caribbean bibliography be needed this author's "Bibliography of the Caribbean" (Choice: July-August, December 1975) covers with broader scope and greater detail not only the Commonwealth but the Spanish-speaking, French-speaking and Dutch-speaking territories. In conclusion, it might be noted that the richness of research and publication in the decade 1966-1976 has created a new stream in Commonwealth Caribbean history. The empirical approach of many generations of historians, which emphasized the relationship between Great Britain and the Colonies as being West Indian history, has been set aside. The present generation has been concerned with an historical understanding of the social, political, and economic relations from inside their communities looking out to the greater world. The nationalists of the islands have found a very useable and meaningful past.

Edith Hurwitz
Hamden, Connecticut

ASSOCIATION BUSINESS: President's Remarks.

Our temp'ral blessings did abound,
But spiritual good things
Much more abounded, to the praise
Of that great King of kings,
God's throne was here set up, here was
His tabernacle pight;
This was the place and these the folk
In whom He took delight.

Such, O New England, was thy first,
Such was thy best estate;
But lo! a strange and sudden change
My courage did amate.
The brightest of our morning stars
Did wholly disappear;
And those that tarried behind
With sackcloth covered were.

.....
This O New-England has thou got
By riot, & excess:
This hast thou brought upon thy self
By pride and wantonness.
Thus must thy worldyness be whipt.
They, that too much crave,
Provoke the Lord to take away
Such blessings as they have.

Borrowed from Michael Wigglesworth's "God's Controversy with New England," these lines, originally written to lament Massachusetts' sad decline in 1682, seem--strangely apposite to professors'--and especially to historians' reduced status in 1976. Are not we now cursed by financial drought and students' dalliance with the moloch of worldly vocationallism? And, if this be so, are we not also, as New England historians, devastated by a controversy--albeit one less divine than Wigglesworth's?

We may draw consolation from the fact that we have fared better than our colleagues who teach in parts of the country that lack New England's strong sense of place and past. But, like our fellows elsewhere, we too are chastened by economic hard times. At odds with politicians and citizens in hot pursuit of balanced budgets and lower taxes, our public universities currently face not only dwindling appropriations but challenges to their social utility. Inflation has forced staff and program cuts in both public and private institutions. And even restructuring those truncated programs must now be done in an atmosphere shaped by budgetary concerns and student demands for vocationally useful training. Neither influence, it is clear, promotes humanistic values. And, to top it all off, some of us watch and others experience unemployment as diminishing interest in history adds to the other forces curtailing the number of jobs that utilize historians' training.

Perhaps because I live among hard bitten Yankees--although I am no birth-right New Englander myself--I am tempted to quasi-puritanical reflection. Whatever the reason, I wonder periodically wherein, as historians, we have failed. The conjunction of the Kirkendall report, which details history's near demise in the schools, with our highly visible Bicentennial celebration, raises some critical questions about the place of history in our society.

Some young British historians observed recently that they "are concerned at the narrowing of the influence of history in our society, and at its progressive withdrawal from the battle of ideas." I share their concern and also their conviction that "this shrinking of the stature of history cannot be ascribed to a decline in popular interest"--for how then could we reconcile the popularity of the Adams Chronicle or Vidal's Burr and 1876 with declining history enrollments? Is it because the popularizers are using Yankee guile to purvey wooden nutmegs? Or can it be that we ourselves are peddling an inferior product?

With all the insuridities of a puritan convert quite sure she is not of the elect, I'd like to reflect on this possibility. Perhaps some of our troubles with curriculum, employment, and enrollment stem from our "pride and wantonness." Have we, like our seventeenth-century predecessors, neglected a heritage of abundance--here the abundance of historical complexity. Did we succumb to a simplistic "relevance" in the 1960s that, although it damned the flaws in American society with evangelical vigor, promised heaven on earth as soon as Americans returned to their ideals? To the degree we did so, did we then slight that dark historical record of individuals and society's recurring failure--no matter what their intent--to deal rationally with the crises of their times? Or, have we allowed the "inter-disciplinary" "social scientism" in which we are newly expert to narrow rather than broaden historical understanding? Have we indeed isolated it from the historical narrative it was developed to explain? Have we permitted the "worldliness" of new tools and methods to distract us from our central purpose as historians, which is to explain change and stability through time? Have we, in one way or another, embraced the part, mistaken it for the whole, and in so doing damaged history's potential as a means to understand--and even to shape--the complex society of our time?

If this be the case, is it not time that we reach for synthesis in both our teaching and our writing, not only to save history but to return it to its central place in "the battle of ideas."

Jane H. Pease
President, NEHA
University of Maine, Orono

MINUTES: BUSINESS MEETING - St. Joseph's College, 8 May 1976.

President Jane Pease called the meeting to order after lunch. Sister Muriel Adams of St. Joseph College welcomed NEHA and the New England Association of Archivists. John Hunt was thanked for his work on local arrangements and the two associations separated for their own meetings.

A number of announcements were made. The nominating committee asked for suggestions and Giles Constable asked for papers and panels for coming programs. Gwendolyn Jensen was congratulated on the continued success of NEHA News and the treasurer's report was approved as distributed.

Professor Cazel outlined a recent action of the Connecticut Legislature which turned over a document from the state archives to a local town. He presented a resolution for the Associations consideration, noting that a similar resolution was being considered by the Archivists. William Pease moved that "all state legislators" be added to the resolution. That motion was seconded and passed. After some further discussion the resolution was unanimously approved. As amended the resolution is:

WHEREAS the Connecticut General Assembly recently passed an act to remove an eighteenth century document from the State Archives and transfer it to the town of Newtown, thus compromising the integrity of the archives and creating a precedent for further raids upon them.

IT IS RESOLVED by the New England Historical Association meeting in West Hartford, May 8, 1976, that this act is a matter for serious concern for the historical profession and that all possible steps should be taken to annul or repeal this act.

This resolution should be sent to the Governor, the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, State Librarian, and State Archivist of Connecticut, and all state legislators, and to all history departments in the region.

Professor Jane Pease welcomed the incoming president of the Association, Robert Lougee, and introduced Armand Patrucco, the Association's treasurer. She then delivered "The President's Remarks". The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,
John Voll, Secretary.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING - St. Joseph's College, 8 May 1976.

The meeting was called to order by President Robert Lougee after the social hour of the spring meeting. The resignation of F. David Roberts from the committee was announced. The first general subject was the relationship between NEHA and the American Historical Association. It was noted that since we are affiliated with AHA there are certain lines of cooperation that could be followed, such as exchanging newsletters, letting AHA have a copy of the NEHA membership list, and having a representative of the AHA "officially" at the NEHA meetings. The Executive Committee wanted the policy to be clear, however, and at this time only AHA could be permitted to have official representation at the NEHA meetings. Pease reported on the progress

of the AHA national coordinating committee on employment in history. Action has been slow. Activities of the committee, in which NEHA participates, might include asking for money. NEHA is not committed on this and it was agreed that NEHA should not undertake fundraising of this sort without consulting the membership. The possibility of establishing a state committee as a prototype was discussed. This is suggested by AHA and would be concerned with the "state of the profession of history." The Executive Committee authorized John Voll to explore the possibility of such a committee in New Hampshire and to begin work on organizing the committee after consulting with Emiliana Noether and Robert Lougee.

Patrucco reported that NEHA is solvent but that care is needed. He was authorized to explore the possibilities of corporate support for NEHA. The president was empowered to act to gain a tax-exempt status for NEHA to facilitate this. Problems with the mail service and address list were also discussed.

Constable discussed program problems, noting that there was some difficulty in securing adequate numbers of panels. The fall meeting will be in Exeter, N.H., on 16 October, and the spring meeting will be at Harvard early in May. Possible sites for the fall and spring meetings of 1977-78 were discussed.

Jensen reported on the development of NEHA News. She was authorized to explore possibilities of indexing the newsletter and also to approach about 30 archives in the region to determine if they would like to receive NEHA News.

Formisano reported for the nominating committee that a pool of candidates had been created and that a final report would be made during the summer. The meeting was adjourned at dinner.

Respectfully submitted,
John Voll, Secretary.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT. The nominating committee presents the following partial slate:

- Vice President (One year term)
 - Gordon M. Jensen, University of Hartford
 - Harold Gordon, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
- Executive Committee (two members, two year terms)
 - Albert C. Ganley, The Phillips Exeter Academy
 - Paul Tedesco, Northeastern University
 - Robert Imholt, Albertus Magnus College
 - Louisa S. Hoberman, Wesleyan
- Nominating Committee (two members, three year terms)
 - John Hench, American Antiquarian Society
 - Richard D. Brown, University of Connecticut
 - Sherrin M. Wyntjes, University of Massachusetts, Boston.

Ronald Formisano, Chairman
Nominating Committee

ANNUAL DUES.....\$4.00

STUDENT DUES.....\$2.00

NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CHECK: _____

HOME _____

or _____

OFFICE _____

ZIP _____

AFFILIATION _____

Please make checks payable to the New England Historical Association and mail to:
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Johnston, Rhode Island 02919