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NEHA News

The Newsletter of the New England Historical Association

September 1, 1978

Vol. V, No. 2

MEETING DATES

October 14, 1978--University of Lowell,
Lowell, Massachusetts

If you are not a member of the association you will not receive formal notification of this meeting unless you write the Secretary, Professor Jonathan Liebowitz, Department of History, University of Lowell, Lowell, Massachusetts 01854.

April 21, 1979--Boston College
Chestnut Hill,
Massachusetts

PROGRAM FOR THE FALL MEETING

- I. Family Life in the Nineteenth Century: Fact and Fiction
 1. Keeping a Perfect Balance:
Julia Ward Howe's Family Life

Deborah P. Clifford, Middlebury,
Vermont
 2. The Family in Popular Literature

Barbara Welter, Hunter College,
CUNY

Jennie V. Stoler, University of
Vermont, Chairman and Commentator
- II. Artifacts as History: Two Case Studies
 1. Joinery in Dedham and Medfield,
Massachusetts, 1635-1685

Robert Blair St. George, Boston
Museum of Fine Arts

2. Traditional Chairmakers in
Coastal Connecticut

Robert F. Trent, Boston Museum
of Fine Arts

Donald R. Friary, Executive Director,
Historic Deerfield, Chairman
and Commentator

III. The Revolution of the Flowers:
Myth vs. Fact in the Portugese
Revolution of 1974

A Panel Discussion

Douglas L. Wheeler, University of
New Hampshire, Chairman: Robert V.
Daniels, University of Vermont et
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IV. Walking Tour of Historic Lowell

Anne Welcome, Lowell Heritage State
Park, Department of Environmental
Management, Director

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ross W. Beales, Jr., and Randall K. Burkett have prepared a 38-page booklet, Historical Editing for Undergraduates. The booklet, prepared as part of Education Projects Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, analyzes the development of historical editing, problems of methodology, and the potential uses of historical editing in undergraduate courses. Copies

are available for \$1.00 (checks payable to the College of the Holy Cross) from Mr. Beales, Department of History, College of Holy Cross, Worcester, Massachusetts 01610.

The Department of History at Salem State College is preparing for publication A Guide to Oral History Interviews, Projects, and Collections in New England. Information concerning pertinent projects should be forwarded to Prof. John J. Fox, Department of History, Salem State College, Salem, Massachusetts 01970.

The Dunlap Society, a non-profit association whose aim is to increase the awareness and encourage the study of American art, has received a \$45,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for a pilot program for a regional consortium in western New England. The purpose of the grant is to bring together the many different institutions and organizations that, although organized around American art and culture, nevertheless have diverse aims and methods. For further information contact Daniel Robbins, RFD #2, Braintree, VT 05060.

The American Studies Association announces an Institute on The Newtonian and Darwinian Revolutions in American Intellectual History funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Institute will be held at Haverford College in July and August, 1979. The focus will be interdisciplinary teaching in American Studies, history, philosophy, and religion. For details and applications write Roberta Gladowski, American Studies Association, 4025 Chestnut St., University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104.

Foundation Grants for Individuals provides guidelines on how an individual applicant can obtain a foundation grant. The report gives information about how to prepare a grant application and lists foundations that award grants to

individuals as well as organizations. It is a useful reference for anyone who needs financial aid to support writing-research projects and independent study programs. The cost is \$5.00 and it can be obtained by writing to H. T. Jackson, 1617 N. Wells St., Chicago, IL 60614.

The Radical History Review has published a special issue on labor and community in Rhode Island. This study emphasizes the role of the ethnic group, the family, and the community as well as the union in labor struggles. The volume may be ordered from: Rhode Island Labor History Forum, c/o Dorrwar Bookstore, 224 Thayer Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02906. Cost to individuals is \$3.50.

The American Antiquarian Society has announced two categories of fellowships for study at the society. At least two Fellowships will be awarded under funds provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The stipend and duration of each Fellowship are negotiable up to a limit of \$1,666 per month for six to twelve months residence. Short-term Fred Harris Daniels Fellowships are also available. The maximum stipend is \$1,800. The deadlines for each competition is February 1, 1979. Further information and application forms may be obtained from John B. Hench, Research and Publication Officer, American Antiquarian Society, 185 Salisbury St., Worcester, Massachusetts 01609.

The Oral History Association has inaugurated an advisory service to assist individuals, institutions, foundations, or groups beginning an oral history program or for those interested in assessing the progress of an on-going project. Enquiries should be addressed to the Oral History Association, Evaluation Service, North Exas State University, Box 13734 NT Station, Denton TX 76203.

The Public Historian will feature specially commissioned research articles by practicing public historians; will publish reviews of books, projects, and reports that deal with public history; and will print news of research contracts, grants, funding opportunities, projects in progress. The Public Historian also welcomes methodological essays and reports and will serve as a clearing house for news and information on all programs in Public and Applied History. For additional inquiries, contact: The Public Historian, Dept. of History, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106.

The NEHA is saddened to learn of the passing on May 8, 1978, of Prof. Robert J. Herault of St. Michael's College, Vermont.

The Vice-President, Neil Stout, urges that all members who are interested in presenting papers at the spring 1979 meeting should communicate with him at the Department of History, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05401. He is particularly interested in receiving proposals for integrated sessions. Any proposals that cannot be included in

the spring meeting will automatically be considered for the fall meeting.

The summary of the session on "The Politics of Riot" which appeared in the April, 1978, issue of the NEHA News was submitted by Prof. John Bohstedt, Harvard University. His name was inadvertently omitted.

NEHA News is a 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 15. Contributions and suggestions are welcome and should be sent to Robert J. Imholt, Editor, NEHA News, Albertus Magnus College, 700 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT 06511.

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SESSION SUMMARY: THE HISTORIAN AND PUBLIC SERVICE: TRAINING THE PUBLIC HISTORIAN
SPRING, 1978

Professor John R. Crowl, Coordinator of the Public History Program at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, spoke on "Problems of Designing a Program in Public History." He pointed out that the demand for academic historians in teaching capacities is already bleak and that forecasts show a future "negative demand" for traditionally trained historians. One answer is to train "public historians" for a variety of positions in historical preservation, oral history, museology, and the like. A number of institutions have instituted such programs, and RPI is about to launch into the area. Professor Crowl noted that the public historian is differentiated by his role of interpreting history to the public at large as opposed to teaching students or publishing for his or her academic peers. Also the preparation of a public historian stresses methodology and skills especially related to this objective. An institution offering preparation for this field should stress the strengths of its faculty, urge graduate students to decide early whether their career will lead in this direction, and give particular attention to public policy problems since many positions suitable for a public historian are in government agencies, state or federal.

RPI has been doing a survey of the potential demand for public historians, but Professor Crowl did not have the detailed results in hand at the time of the meeting. However, he did report that response from the corporate business sector was low--some 17 percent of those queried. It was noted that a person with an M.A. and a one-year internship stood as good or better chance than a Ph.D. in competing for public historian jobs. In the ensuing discussion it was brought out that at present federal positions for historians have no graduate degree requirements.

Bruce Craig of the National Park Service, Boston, described "Public History Education from the Inside: Experiences of an Intern in the Graduate Program in Public Historical Studies of the University of California at Santa Barbara." He explained that the program developed from Professor Robert Kelley's experience as an expert historical witness in a case involving water resource management in the Sacramento, California, area. Kelley's familiarity with the past dimensions of the problem impressed his listeners, who regarded him as a "talking document." That experience led to creation of the program from which Mr. Craig graduated. With support from the Rockefeller Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities, the program has developed with a problem-solving orientation, more specifically seeking to develop public historians who can assist government with issues ranging from urban problems to environmental impact analysis.

Mr. Craig described in some detail the operation of the Santa Barbara program in Public Historical Studies. Its core is a seminar, which involves team research on community problems with important historical dimensions. His own experience was with a team investigating the history of three blocks on Santa Barbara's main street as background for a decision on whether they should be preserved or leveled. The results of this research were presented to the City and widely publicized as part of the team's "hands on" approach. Other facets of the program include a number of guest speakers in the seminar.

Professor Arthur Johnson of the University of Maine at Orono served as chairman and commentator. In his remarks he questioned whether public history as described was more than a special application of what academic historians are trained to do. Therefore, he felt the problems of team research as experienced by Mr. Craig were more significant as a lesson in small group interaction than a novel approach to history. He advocated that public historians first become soundly trained historians and that part of this training should include quantitative skills. He also said that if the products of public history research were sound, the historian has an obligation not to just report them but to take an active role in decisions relating to them. Commenting on the poor response of the business community to the RPI questionnaire, he noted that lack of active contact by historians with businessmen and frequent attacks on business by academic historians had created a negative business perception of all historians. Public history, interpreted to include the private sector, could, he felt, be mutually enlightening and beneficial.

Discussion was lively and in part focused on the question of whether public history, which serves specific clienteles, can escape being constrained by its obligations to these clienteles.

Arthur M. Johnson
University of Maine, Orono

SESSION SUMMARY: CRITICAL MOMENTS IN NEW ENGLAND HISTORY: A STRATEGY FOR
SPRING, 1978 TEACHING AND RESEARCH

The session which focused on the Lizzie Borden murder case of 1892-93 and the Beecher-Tilton adultery scandal of 1874 was well attended and productive of some lively discussion. In the former, Professor Stephen Nissenbaum of the University of Massachusetts placed the famous double murder in the context of the economic development of Fall River in the 19th century and the frustrations Lizzie Borden had experienced as the niece and cousin of some of Fall River's richest mill-owning families, but the daughter of a self-made entrepreneur who had consistently refused to adopt a style of life commensurate with his wealth. In the second paper, Altina Waller, a doctoral candidate at the University of Massachusetts, discussed the political, social, and psychological roots of the adultery scandal, noting the stresses in the marriage of Elizabeth Tilton and her ambitious husband Theodore, the tribulations she underwent in attempting to live up to the image of women held by her husband and his generation, and the appeal which the theology and personality of Henry Ward Beecher held for her. Both speakers described the way in which these two "famous footnotes" to history have been used for teaching purposes at the University of Massachusetts. Discussion focused on the quite specific but perennially intriguing questions of whether Lizzie, Lib, and Henry actually committed the deeds attributed to them. A participant from Fall River suggested that in the 1890s Fall River's Second Street - where Lizzie's family lived - was in fact considerably more high-toned than Professor Nissenbaum had implied.

Paul Boyer
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

BOOK REVIEW: Maine: A Bibliography of Its History. Edited by John D. Haskell, Jr. Boston: G. K. Hall & Co., 1977. 279 pp.

Massachusetts: A Bibliography of Its History. Edited by John D. Haskell, Jr. Boston: G. K. Hall & Co., 1976. 583 pp.

These volumes are the first in a series of reference works to be published under the auspices of the Committee for a New England Bibliography. For historians and other researchers who have spent hours searching for works on a given topic, these works will be of inestimable value. Not only are the bibliographies extensive (the Maine volume contains more than 5,000 citations and that on Massachusetts more than 13,000), the editor has also included the location of works not listed in the National Union Catalog and a list of supplementary reference works where additional sources may be located. Items which deal with the history of the state as a whole are listed first, followed by listing according to towns. Since the vast majority of bibliographic citations in each work fall into the latter category, these guides will be of most assistance to those engaged in local history. At the end, an exceptionally well prepared index will aid those whose interests are topical rather than geographic.

The main problem encountered by the compiler of any bibliography is the question of inclusion. Items often seem to have been selected on the basis of key words or reference to a given town, rather than actual historical importance. For example, while Cotton Mather's account of the Salem witch trials is included, his Magnalia Christi Americana is not. While some published primary sources are included, others are omitted. Most significantly, the compilers have also omitted most biographical studies. Hopefully future volumes in the series will overcome these few weaknesses in what are otherwise welcome additions to the reference collection.

Lisa Fasano
Hartford Public Library

BOOK REVIEW: The Logic of Millennial Thought: Eighteenth-Century New England. By James West Davidson. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1977. 308 pp.

The Sacred Cause of Liberty: Republican Thought and the Millennium in Revolutionary New England. By Nathan O. Hatch. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1977. 197 pp.

The world of the eighteenth-century New Englander appears so remote to contemporary Americans, suggests James W. Davidson, in part because we fail to recognize the significance of millennial thought to our Puritan ancestors. Millennialism or a belief in the validity of the Book of Revelation was not simply part of a larger religious orientation which contemporary secularism deemphasizes, but more significantly provided an interpretive schema for assessing the direction of society, the stages of history, and the manifestations of good and evil in the world.

The current interest in millennial thought in eighteenth-century New England began with the publication in 1966 of Alan Heimert's Religion and the American Mind: From the Great Awakening to the Revolution. Heimert argued that out of the religious

revivals of the 1730s and 40s emerged a new school of millennial thought. The traditional post-millennialism which foresaw the triumph of the saints only after the second coming of Christ was challenged by a new premillennialism which held that a period of earthly bliss would intervene between the final destruction of the forces of evil and the end of the world. This new premillennialism contained a vision of human progress and held out the promise of human reformation through individual and collective endeavor. It is this reforming impulse which Heimert maintains is essential to an understanding of the Revolutionary era.

Both Davidson and Nathan O. Hatch use Heimert's monumental work as the starting point for launching their own studies of millennial thought. Davidson takes Heimert to task for what he considers a too stringent categorization of thought into pre- and postmillennial schools. Heimert failed to recognize, Davidson points out, that premillennialism had emerged long before the Great Awakening in the writings of both English and American exegesis. Indeed, most religious thinkers wavered throughout their intellectual careers between the two interpretations. The intricacy and vagueness of the numerous symbols in Revelation rendered all interpretations speculative and sent men on a feverish search to discover eschatological significance in even the most natural of occurrences.

It is this mad search for significance that is the core of the Logic of Millennial Thought. In exhausting detail, the author recounts how New England religious thinkers from the Mathers to Timothy Dwight attempted to find scriptural parallels for every fire, epidemic, and weather phenomenon. Each might be the beginning of the plagues prophesied to mark the final days. Active minds pondered what form the Anti-Christ might take, Catholicism, Quakerism, dissidence within the Congregational order, or would he be found among the growing number of fellow New Englanders without religious orientation. Even the conversions of the Great Awakening were questioned as possible premonitions of the false hope that according to Revelation would pervade the godly before the final assaults of Satan.

On the whole, Davidson has presented an enlightening and fascinating book which illuminates an aspect of the New England mind never previously fully explored. Despite this success, however, the author fails to present his material in a clear and organized fashion. Themes developed in one chapter are re-presented in others and the lack of a central unifying purpose often leaves the reader as adrift as eighteenth-century New Englanders were in trying to interpret the Book of Revelation.

In stark contrast to the lack of clarity often apparent in Davidson's work, Hatch's Sacred Cause of Liberty presents a tightly drawn argument concerning the transformations of millennial thought from 1740 to 1800. These years, he argues, "witnessed a fundamental reordering of values that give a profoundly new religious significance to political life" (p. 11). While this conclusion varies little from that presented by Heimert, Hatch contends that the French and Indian War rather than the Great Awakening was the key catalyst in transforming millennial thought. Just as English Protestantism was engaged in a cosmic struggle with French Catholicism, so free English institutions waged war on French despotism. Developed further during the 1760s and 70s, this new "civil millennialism", as Hatch terms it, saw the triumph of republicanism replace religious conversion as the central process in heralding the approaching millennium. Republican virtue became synonymous with religious morality and the American nation had conferred upon it a millennial mission of spreading God's kingdom through republican institutions.

For students of the Revolutionary era, much of Hatch's work will seem familiar. The themes developed by Bernard Bailyn, Edmund Morgan, and especially Gordon Wood on the importance of a virtuous citizenry in a republic are brought out in what at times seems needless repetition. What is important, however, is that Hatch goes beyond these explorations of political thought and links them with the numerous writings on the religious thought of the era by Heimert, William G. McLoughlin, and others. Hatch thus provides a much needed synthesis.

James T. Swain
New Haven, Connecticut

BOOK REVIEW: Freemasonry in Federalist Connecticut, 1789-1835. By Dorothy Ann Lipson. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1977. 380 pp.

Most students of United States history are familiar with the short-lived yet important Antimasonic movement. Yet even well versed scholars have little more than a vague notion of what it was they opposed. Lipson's study of Masonry in Connecticut goes a long way towards filling that gap. She does not, however, approach her study from the negative perspective of the Antimasons, but rather chronicles the development of modern Masonry from its roots in early eighteenth-century England to its full flowering in post-Revolutionary Connecticut in an effort to understand the important role that Masonry played in the communities of the early Republic.

Grafted as many colonial institutions were onto the stronger English strain, American Masonry came into its own during the Revolutionary War. Unlike many other institutions which found the wartime experience disruptive, Masonry flourished. "In the heterogeneous communities of camp life," Lipson argues, Masonry provided "a steady reference point when many familiar institutions no longer seemed important" (p. 62). Most importantly, Masonic fraternities established during the war created a communications network which served to knit together local lodges and state councils after the peace.

By its very nature, the author points out, Masonry was a challenge to the social, religious, and political establishment. The Masonic code emphasized talent and ability and a commitment to the Masonic brotherhood as the basis for advancement rather than family and wealth. In contrast to the narrow sectarianism of the Congregational establishment, Masonry was latitudinarian both in structure and philosophy. They professed a moral and social code which had its foundation in reason and common sense rather than in scriptural and ministerial authority. Uniting men of all religious persuasions in a larger fraternity, Masonry looked askance at the denominational conflicts of the era.

Given the nature of Masonic dissent, the strength of its organization, and the nature of the political system under the old order in Connecticut, it seems surprising that Masonry did not become an active political force. Yet as Lipson points out, "there is very little evidence that they tried to wield organized political power as Masons" (P. 113). Masonic lodges had both Federalist and Republican members and frequently divided leadership positions between them in an apparent effort to maintain bipartisanship. Indeed, political activism may have served more to disrupt Masonry than enhance its power. Its dissent on social and religious questions so intimately connected as they were with political ones, however, could not prevent

Masonry from being perceived as a threat to the Standing Order. Nor could Masonry's concern for its own interests prevent it from occasionally running "on a collision course with the political state" (p. 226).

The attractiveness of Masonry was not its dissent from the Standing Order, but rather, as the author constantly emphasizes, stemmed from "the variety of satisfactions which membership afforded." Masonic lodges served as charitable organizations dispensing needed assistance to unfortunate brothers and their families. They served as important mechanisms for both social and geographic mobility, allowing close communication with members in different social classes and distant towns. Masonic courts handled disputes among members on a variety of topics without recourse to the less personal state judicial system. And most importantly, Masonic lodges provided fellowship and conviviality. In an era when traditional courses of authority were being questioned and traditional institutional identifications were breaking down, Masonry provided an order and stability that had enormous psychological benefits.

That the exclusiveness and secrecy of Masonry was distrusted from the very beginning and that it eventually came under widespread and organized attack does not surprise the author. Indeed, she argues, that Masonry stood in opposition to the beliefs of many Americans by the 1820s and 30s. The Masonic social order, even though based on talent, was contrary to the egalitarianism of the age. Masonic charity defied the prevailing belief in self-reliance and individualism and its exclusiveness seemed a threat to the rising democratic tide. Masonry survived the attack upon its foundations, but in greatly reduced form. The passing of Masonic strength, however, should not detract attention from the important role which it played in the life of Federalist Connecticut.

Lipson's work is a fine study of a hitherto neglected subject. Though it comes close at times, it never becomes the hagiography that the heavy reliance on Masonic sources might lead to. Nor does the author let herself be satisfied with a narrow parochial study which the writing of local history often produces. She constantly keeps her reader aware of the larger ramifications of her study. Her judgments are judicious and firmly grounded in the courses which she has painstakingly assembled. While this reviewer may have wished for some analysis of the relationship between Masonry and the benevolent, literary, and other societies which emerged during the period, he is thankful for this enlightening and important work.

Jeffrey Knowles
Quincy, Massachusetts

BOOK REVIEW: Anthropology Toward History: Culture and Work in a 19th-Century Maine Town. By Richard P. Horwitz. Middletown, Connecticut: Wesleyan University Press, 1978. 197 pp.

For more than a decade, many historians have exerted themselves in a frantic effort to discover some new lens to see through the fragmented record of the past and the dust of time and to reveal exactly what previous generations were like. The result has been a deluge of works which make use of various techniques and models developed by sister disciplines. So many new lenses have been tried that often the attempts appear more as scavenger hunts than historical investigations. Richard Horwitz's Anthropology Toward History is one such attempt.

Horwitz devotes his first three chapters to setting forth his theoretical foundation and methodology. Previous historical investigations are inadequate, he argues, because they too often impose the categories of the observer for those of the culture studied. Horwitz hopes to avoid this pitfall through techniques developed "in a field varyingly termed ethnohistory, ethnohistory, ethnographic linguistics, semantic analysis, and cognitive anthropology" (pp. 7-8). By examining how occupational terms were used and placing them in "taxonomies" and "paradigms", the categories in which men thought and how these categories are related to others will become clear and thus a truer picture of the past will emerge.

In the remainder of his work, Horwitz applies this methodology in studying the occupational structure of Winthrop, Maine, from 1820 to 1850. Like other New England towns during the era, Winthrop saw its overwhelmingly agricultural society give way to one in which manufacturing was more important than husbandry and agriculture itself became increasingly dependent upon external markets. Surveying all the extant sources, Horwitz examines the changing (or unchanging) perceptions of Winthrop's residents towards farmers, laborers, mechanics, gentlemen, and the business and professional classes. Constructing taxonomies and paradigms for each group, he presents an exceptionally clear picture of the work-world of the early nineteenth century.

Most of the results of Horwitz's study, however, hardly seem worth the effort, a fact which the author virtually admits. "Readers may," he points out, "be . . . disturbed to find many of the substantive conclusions about Winthrop intuitively obvious" (pp. 34-35). We discover that Winthrop residents in the age of Jackson had a high regard for the self-reliant individual; that those who owned their own farms were accorded higher status than wage earners; that manual labor was praised as character building, yet those business and professional men who succeeded with the use of their heads rather than their hands possessed the highest status of all; and that women's work was accorded almost no status.

Only two of Horwitz's conclusions seem valuable, though neither is totally new. First, he argues that in the agricultural sector there was an increasing acceptance of scientific or "book" farming and a corresponding denigration of those who continued to use tradition word-of-mouth techniques. Second, in contrast to the redefinition of good and bad farmers, there was little change in the perception of the mechanic despite the fact that an increasing percentage of Winthrop's residents found themselves in that occupational category. Historians long familiar with the dominance of the agrarian myth will hardly find this surprising.

On the whole, Horwitz's book is disappointing. But to state such a view without some exploration of the reasons for its inadequacy is to miss what is most instructive in the work.

Anthropology Toward History falls short of its potential for several reasons. First, the theoretical model, though presented quite lucidly, is one which historians will not find valuable in their attempts to better understand the American past. Developed, as the author is well aware, by anthropologists dealing largely with non-Western peoples, its value rests in its ability to compare and contrast widely disparate societies. To apply this method to nineteenth-century New Englanders whose vocabulary and categories of thought are not markedly different than our own, however, will yield few results. Anthropology Toward History, therefore, can provide

the student an object lesson on the indiscriminate use of social science methodologies.

The second failure lies in the choice of a subject upon which to apply the methodology. The numerous, highly regarded works on New England towns in the colonial and early national periods does not mean that all are equally suited to historical investigation. Indeed, Winthrop, Maine, seems a particularly poor choice. The extant sources relevant to Horwitz's investigation are few in number, forcing him to excessive reliance upon Ezekiel Holmes' Maine Farmer. Given the type of study and the methodological precision which the author hopes to achieve, it seems surprising that he should infer the mindset of Winthrop residents from that of Ezekiel Holmes.

Probably the most glaring fault of all, however, is the relationship between the theoretical model and its application. Models should serve to illuminate and clarify a previously developed field of historical investigation. They must not tyrannize the material. Despite all the author's assurances that his model is void of all such tendencies, the reader is nonetheless forced to the conclusion that the material is shaped and bent to fit the model. If the author's objective was to breathe life into the people of Winthrop, they emerge sterile, paradigmmed and taxonomied laboratory specimens who deserved a better fate.

Julius Rosenberg
Harvard University

PROMOTING HISTORY

During the first half of 1978, the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History has continued its efforts to promote a better understanding of the past through greater utilization of the special perspective and skills of the historian. Working with business, governmental, and other private groups, it has endeavored to create additional opportunities for historians and a greater awareness of the value of historical scholarship.

In Washington, a Business Resource Group has conducted a series of seminar bringing together history graduate students and faculty with representatives of the business community to discuss general career information as well as techniques of job search, patterns of advancement, resume writing, internships and a variety of other specific concerns. A similar New York based Business Resource Group met in conjunction with the April Organization of American Historians convention and discussed its plans for a career workshop in the fall. A Media Resource Group is currently being organized under the chairmanship of J. Herbert Altschull, Professor of Journalism, Indiana University.

The NCC has also continued to issue a series of Supplements on topics of interest to historians and available by writing the Washington NCC office at 400 A Street, SE, Washington, D.C. 20003. Recent additions to the supplement series include:

"Historic Preservation and the Federal Law"--
Prepared by Don Rickey, Historian, Bureau of Land Management,

U.S. Department of the Interior, it is a summary and annotation of preservation legislation and executive orders dating from 1906 to 1976. NCC Supplement # 15.

"Federal Historic Preservation Efforts and the National Heritage Program" -- Todd Phillips, Program Development Officer, Illinois Humanities Council, provides a brief overview of current federal historic preservation programs as well as an evaluation of the impact of the current reorganization of preservation activities. NCC Supplement # 16.

"Historic Preservation and Environmental Protection: The Role of the Historian" -- David Clary, Chief Historian, U.S. Forest Service, Discusses the role of professional historians in preservation activities in the past and possible roles for the future, as well as the current problem in cultural resources management owing to the lack of historical expertise and perspective. NCC Supplement # 17.

"State-Federal Cooperation in Historic Preservation" -- Peter King, Executive Director, National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, describes recent developments as they relate to the state level. NCC Supplement # 18.

Any inquiries concerning the role and function of the NCC should be addressed to Staff Associate Arnita Jones, NCC, 400 A Street, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003. If anyone wishes to contribute financially to the support of NCC activities, they may submit their contributions to Armand Patrucco, Treasurer, New England Historical Association, 151 Borden Avenue, Johnston, Rhode Island 02919.

THE HISTORICAL PROFESSION IN NEW ENGLAND

In order to aid communication and develop professional camaraderie among members of the Association, the NEHA News will publish a list of the current research and teaching interests of historians in New England. For inclusion in this section, please complete the form on the last page of the newsletter.

Cox, Stephen L., University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH
Research: New Hampshire Abolitionists
Teaching: U. S. Social History; Nineteenth-Century America

Diefendorf, Jeffry M., University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH
Research: Businessmen and politics in the Rhineland, 1789-1834; political justice in Weimar Germany
Teaching: German History; Introduction to Historical Thinking

Downs, Jacques M., St. Francis College, Biddeford, ME
Research: American Community in Canton, 1784-1844; origins of American China policy
Teaching: American Economic and Diplomatic History

Gordon, Harold J., Jr., University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA
Research: Weimar Police System; Freikorps; Reichswehr and the Extradition Clauses of the Versailles Treaty
Teaching: German History; Military History

Kern, Louis J., Windham College, Putney, VT
Research: Hopedale Community; Psychobiography of John Brown
Teaching: American Intellectual and Social History; Religion in America; History of the Family

McCarthy, Joseph M., Suffolk University, Boston, MA
Research: Vincent de Beauvais; Medieval Education
Teaching: Research Methods; History of Education

Rich, Gene, Springfield College, Springfield, MA
Research: History of Springfield College
Teaching: American Colonial; American Indian History

Samolin, William, University of Hartford, West Hartford, CT
Research: Ancient and Medieval Central Asia; the Kimmerians
Teaching: Archaeology and Art of Inner Asia; World War II

ASSOCIATION BUSINESS: BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Massachusetts, 28 April 1978.

President Giles Constable called the meeting to order after lunch. He expressed the thanks of the Association to the University of Massachusetts and the local arrangements committee led by Professor MacFarland, to Gordon Jensen for a well-planned program, and to the participants.

The minutes of the 8 October 1977 meeting were approved as distributed in the NEHA News.

Constable read a proposed amendment to the Association by-laws which had been distributed to the membership in the NEHA News. Prof. Norton moved to amend the proposed change by deleting the word "graduate" from the proposed section II. This was seconded by William Allen and this motion was approved. The motion to amend the By-Laws was made by Prof. Miller and seconded by Prof. Jensen. It was approved by the Association so that the approved By-Laws now read:

"BY-LAWS

I. Members of the New England Historical Association shall be assessed annual dues. Proposed changes in dues shall be voted upon at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Association. Members shall be given prior notice by mail of any proposed changes.

II. Individual membership shall consist of the following categories: regular, students, retired persons.

III. Sponsors of the New England Historical Association shall contribute annually a sum to be determined by the membership at a regularly scheduled meeting."

Armand Patrucco moved that \$25 or more per year be set as the dues for sponsor members of the Association. This was seconded by Gordon Jensen and approved. It was understood that this authorized the Treasurer to recommend a variety of rates to potential sponsors.

Patrucco presented a brief treasurer's report noting that the Association is solvent and that he would send a more detailed report to the membership.

Neil Stout was recognized by Giles Constable and introduced as the new Association Vice President and program chairman. Stout discussed possible programs for coming meetings and asked for proposals and suggestions.

Robert Imholt, editor of NEHA News, asked for contributions. Sherrin Wyntjes spoke for the nominating committee and asked members to send suggestions for future officers.

The business meeting was adjourned and was followed by the luncheon address presented by Arnita Jones.

Respectfully submitted,

John Voll
Secretary

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, University of Massachusetts/Amherst, 29 April, 1978.

The meeting of the executive committee was convened after the social hour. Sites for the Spring 1979 and Fall 1979 meetings were discussed. It was suggested that the former be held in a southern New England location and the latter in New Hampshire or Vermont. The committee agreed with Neil Stout's suggestion that the spring meeting be held a week or two earlier in April.

As part of the effort to increase the visibility of the Association, the Secretary will look into putting out a poster with meeting information for distribution to departments.

The committee agreed to explore the possibility of creating a job register, probably concentrating on junior college, part-time, and other non-conventional jobs.

The committee expressed its thanks to outgoing officers, President Giles Constable and Secretary John Voll. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan J. Liebowitz, Secretary

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The election of officers for the NEHA will take place at the fall meeting to be held at the University of Lowell on October 14, 1978. The following is the slate of candidates presented by the Nominating Committee:

Vice-President (one-year term):

George Billias, Clark University
Fred Cazel, University of Connecticut

Executive Committee (two positions, two-year terms):

Ross Beales, College of the Holy Cross
Miriam Chrisman, University of Mass. - Amherst
Ronald Formisano, Clark University
Ridgway Shinn, Jr., Rhode Island College

Nominating Committee (two positions, three-year terms):

Alice McGinty, Bentley College
Mary Emily Miller, Salem State College
James Patterson, Brown University
David Roth, Eastern Connecticut State College

The Nominating Committee appreciates the time and trouble that people took to send nominations. Any nominations received by the Committee after the deadline will automatically be considered next year. The Committee would also like to express its gratitude to the two retiring members, Ronald Formisano and Catherine Prelinger.

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The officers of the New England Historical Association for the 1978-1979 academic year are as follows:

President: Gordon Jensen, University of Hartford

Vice-President: Neil Stout, University of Vermont

Secretary: Jonathan Liebowitz, University of Lowell

Treasurer: Armand Patrucco, Rhode Island College

Executive Committee:

Albert Ganley, Phillips Exeter Academy
Paul Tedesco, Northeastern University
Ann Beck, University of Hartford
John Sutherland, Manchester (Ct.) Community College
Robert Lougee, University of Connecticut
Giles Constable, Harvard University

Nominating Committee:

Kenneth Lewalski, University of Rhode Island
Emiliana Noether, University of Connecticut
Richard Brown, University of Connecticut
Sherrin Wyntjes, University of Massachusetts, Boston
David Grayson Allen, Massachusetts Historical Society
Thomas Leavett, Merrimack Valley Textile Museum

ANNUAL DUES \$4.00

STUDENT DUES . . . \$2.00

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Please make checks payable to the New England Historical Association and made to Armond Patrucco, Treasurer, New England Historical Association, 151 Borden Avenue, Johnston, Rhode Island 02919.

In order to aid communication and develop professional camaraderie among members of the Association, the NEHA News would like to publish a list of the current research and teaching interests of historians in New England. Please complete the following form and forward to Professor Robert Imholt, Editor, NEHA News, Albertus Magnus College, New Haven, CT 06511.

NAME _____

AFFILIATION _____

RESEARCH INTEREST _____

Book _____

Article _____

Other _____

TEACHING INTEREST _____
