

# ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume X, Number 4

Fall 1976



Daniel Schorr at recent OHA colloquium

## SCHORR HIGHLIGHTS COLLOQUIUM

Daniel Schorr, who recently resigned his CBS News position of twenty-three years after testifying before the U.S. House Ethics Committee investigating the leaking of a report on American intelligence work, linked oral history and journalism in a major address at the final session of the OHA's Montebello (Quebec) colloquium on September 12, 1976.

Schorr, in his speech to oral historians, identified and discussed the shared interest oral history and journalism have in recording technology and the "repeatable experience" they both capture. "Oral history is forever; journalism is for now," Schorr said in comparing their objectives. He commented generally on potential problems journalists may cause for oral historians as the public becomes more engrossed in sensations of the moment and finds that its memory becomes shorter. The blurring of reality by television, as people fail to distinguish between news, fiction, documentaries, and other TV programs, may create problems for oral history, according to Schorr. In his September 12 address, Schorr summarized his situation as a

newsman under congressional investigation and vowed that he would claim the protection of the First Amendment, advocacy of unintimidated sources, and guarantee of confidentiality, also major concerns of the oral historian.

The newsman's remarks earned him the applause of OHA members present and assured the association's interest and participation in any subsequent legal proceedings should they occur. Alice Hoffman, 1975-76 president of the OHA, telegraphed the House Ethics Committee of the association's concern immediately following Schorr's address.

Three days after his OHA appearance, Daniel Schorr nine times refused to violate the confidentiality of his sources in sworn testimony before the House Ethics Committee in Washington. The committee, on September 22, narrowly defeated a motion to recommend criminal charges against Schorr. The issues of the case remained unresolved.

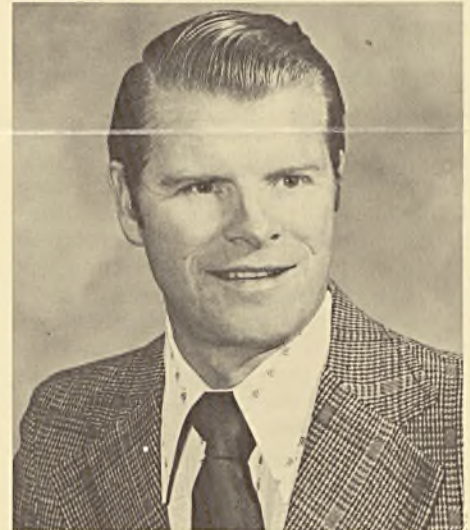
### ON SEPTEMBER 12, 1976, THE FOLLOWING OHA TELEGRAM WAS SENT TO WASHINGTON:

HONORABLE JOHN J. FLYNT, JR.  
CHAIRMAN OF HOUSE ETHICS COM-  
MITTEE  
HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

IT HAS BEEN UNDERLINED RECENTLY THAT OUR DEMOCRACY OWES MUCH TO A FREE PRESS. THEREFORE, IT IS IN MY OPINION DANGEROUS TO ATTEMPT TO FORCE DANIEL SCHORR TO REVEAL HIS SOURCE. A FREE PRESS DEPENDS ON UNINTIMIDATED SOURCES. IF THE COMMITTEE WANTS TO STOP LEAKS LET IT DEVISE METHODS TO PREVENT THOSE LEAKS IN ITS OWN HOUSE. IT OUGHT NOT ASK A JOURNALIST TO BETRAY HIS SOURCES ANY MORE THAN A PHYSICIAN SHOULD BE ASKED TO ALLOW HIS PATIENT TO BLEED TO DEATH OTHERWISE YOU DO VIOLENCE TO THE BEST PROFESSIONAL ETHICS OF JOURNALISM.

Alice M. Hoffman, President  
The Oral History Association

## PROFILE



William R. Wyatt

### WYATT HEADS OHA 1976-77

William R. Wyatt, president of the Oral History Association for 1976-77, brings to the office a background of teaching, research, and wide experience in oral history. A native of Miles City, Montana, Bill Wyatt holds the B.A. degree from St. Olaf College (Minnesota) and the Ph.D. in American history from Tulane University.

Wyatt taught from 1961-69 at Augustana College, Sioux Falls, South Dakota where he directed the Center for Western Studies' research under Rockefeller Foundation and Endowment on the Arts and Humanities grants during 1967-69. He served as a special consultant to the South Dakota governor's office on several occasions. Since 1972, Wyatt has led Western Health Systems of Rapid City, South Dakota, a research firm which studies and develops models for health service delivery, and which has been funded as a pilot project since 1974 by DHEW.

Wyatt has been active in the OHA since the Third Annual Colloquium. He served as chairman of the nominating committee (1974) and vice president (1975). A scholar and an eloquent

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT



**William Wyatt**

It was with mixed feelings of trepidation that I accepted the presidency of the Oral History Association at the recently concluded associational meeting at Montebello, Quebec. The ever-growing responsibilities inherent in serving an organization as dynamic and expansive as the OHA, not unnaturally, generate trepidation, while the outstanding tradition of leadership that has characterized the Oral History Association from its inception, inspires in me a determination to maintain a quality of leadership that you, as members, have come to expect.

The growth of the oral history movement over the last few years has been nothing less than phenomenal. Aided and abetted by the historical fervor of the nation's bicentennial year, oral history projects and programs have sprung into existence in every corner of the country. To serve the needs of these new practitioners of the discipline, a host of new consortia and regionwide oral history associations are developing, and the OHA must quickly and effectively develop mechanisms for professionally relating to them. This may, indeed, be the most important concern facing this organization this year, and I know that the council shares equally in my feeling on this matter. Were it not for the abundant talent that surrounds me, both on the council and throughout the membership as a whole, I would approach my presidential year with an even greater sense of apprehension than I presently feel. Fortunately, I am able to draw upon the multifaceted talents of literally hundreds of people within this stimulating organization, and those of you who feel strongly about the various issues facing the association are urged to express those concerns to either a council member or to myself.

The Oral History Association has been blessed with outstanding leadership over the years, and its dynamism today is an eloquent expression of that blessing. I am both humbled and gratified to stand in that tradition, and I look forward to a challenging and rewarding year. As with my immediate predecessor in this office, Alice Hoffman, I hope to use the pages of

the Newsletter to inform you of questions, concerns and actions that this association faces. I reiterate my desire to hear from you, as members, as we move into our second decade, and I pledge my best effort in your behalf as I work to provide a continuum of leadership essential to the ongoing development of this organization.

### WATCH FOR MAIL BALLOT

It was decided at the 1976 OHA business meeting in Montebello, Canada, that members of the association should be asked if they want to participate in OHA elections via mail ballots. Therefore, the next issue of the Newsletter will contain a mail ballot proposal. To carry, an affirmative vote by a majority of the eligible voters will be required.

### PROFILE - Wyatt

speaker, Wyatt has the academic background and the far-ranging research interests to carry the OHA to new heights of achievement in his year at the helm.

### GWU PROGRAM SERVES COMMUNITY

The oral and print documentary collection on school integration and busing in a Washington, D.C. suburb is now in its fifth year at the George Washington University Library Oral History Program. The project, an outgrowth of an oral history workshop directed by Mary Jo Deering, focuses on a relatively isolated episode in 1972-73 which intensified and enlarged into a county-wide issue. The GWU collection aided individuals and county groups in preparing legal testimony in 1976.

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Newsletter deadlines: Winter 1977, January 21; Spring 1977, April 15; Summer 1977, July 1; Fall 1977, November 4. Articles should be no longer than 400 words. Send change of address to: Executive Secretary, Box 13734, N.T. Station, Denton, Texas 76203.

## MORE DEGREES IN ORAL HISTORY

The OHA will remember 1976 as a milestone in the education of oral historians. Although graduate schools have offered seminars in oral history for several years, the nation's undergraduate programs made their first oral history degree awards during the bicentennial year.

The Summer 1976 issue of the Newsletter recognized Linda Beattie as the first recipient of a baccalaureate degree in oral history. Recognition is also due Terry Kirker and Nancy Whistler, both of whom completed undergraduate degrees this year.

Terry Kirker completed the B.A. degree in January 1976 at California State University-Fullerton with a "Special Major in Oral History," a cross-disciplinary academic program. Kirker's experience in oral history is varied, including work in CSUF's South-Eastern Utah Project, interviews for the Sierra Club, direction of a Swedish-American project, and editorial work on *Harvest*, a local study of Orange County, California.

Nancy Whistler completed a "Structured Major in Oral History" and received the B.A. at the University of Colorado-Denver spring 1976 commencement. Her degree plan included work with an interdisciplinary faculty committee of historians, philosophers, and sociologists. Whistler organized two statewide oral history workshops in Colorado and most recently, working under an American Issues Forum grant in an AAUW centennial project, interviewed six seventy-five-year-old Denver women. She now works under a grant jointly administered by the Denver Public Library and the Colorado State Historical Society to establish a Colorado statewide clearing house for oral history.

## "SOUNDSCAPE" — UNIQUE ORAL HISTORY IN CANADA

The World Soundscape Project at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia was created in 1972 "to bring together research on the scientific, sociological and aesthetic aspects of the acoustic environment." Goals of the project are to control sound pollution and to teach people to listen on a daily basis. Soundscape researchers have crossed Canada—country and city—tape recording sounds, and documenting time/place/date, weather conditions, equipment used, historical and social observations, and sound level. Many "documents" including publications and recordings have been issued by Soundscape. Further information on the project and its documents may be obtained from: Sonic Research Studio, Communication Studies, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby 1, B.C. Canada.



## ROHO SCENE OF MUCH ACTIVITY

There are signs at the Regional Oral History Office, University of California at Berkeley, that oral history is being increasingly recognized and accepted in wider circles. Willa Baum, ROHO's head, was selected to deliver the annual Coulter Lecture of the California Library Association last December. Two months later she gave the annual LSU Library Lecture at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge on "The Expanding Role of Librarians in Oral History." She was also recipient of an Award of Merit by the California Historical Society in recognition of her work in oral documentation of California history. Amelia Fry, director of the Earl Warren Project, received her fifteen-year pin as a ROHO interviewer. ROHO's Miriam Stein has earned a Ph.D. for her dissertation, "The King-Ramsey-Connor Case: Labor, Radicalism and the Law in California, 1936-1941" (University of Wisconsin, 1976), which relied heavily on oral history research.

Keeping pace with this activity is ROHO's Ruth Teiser, who was named a Fellow of the Gleeson Library, University of San Francisco, in recognition of her writing and oral history work in the fields of local history, fine printing, and the history of the California wine industry. Her interviews with twenty-four California vintners cover winemaking and grape growing from the early years of the century and fill gaps dating from prohibition-era disruption in the recording of the industry's history. The bound, indexed volumes are available at Berkeley's Bancroft Library and at UCLA. Copies may be purchased by libraries and depositories from: 486 Library, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720.

## MENNONITES RELIVE WWI IN PROJECT AT BETHEL COLLEGE

Oral history can heighten the sense of identity of a community. An example is the Schowalter Oral History Project at Bethel College in North Newton, Kansas that includes about three hundred interviews with Mennonites concerning their World War I experiences.

Persecuted for their pacifism during the war, the German-speaking Mennonites had suppressed their memories until Bethel researchers began interviewing them in 1968. The interview process helped the men remember and share their experiences with their families and the community, adding a new dimension to Mennonite heritage. Community activities which have grown out of the project include conferences and banquets for interviewees and production of a slide show and a musical drama based on the interviews. The tapes and transcripts are housed in the Mennonite Library and Archives at the college.

## RADCLIFFE'S SCHLESINGER LIBRARY HANDLES NEW FUNDS

Radcliffe College, Cambridge, Massachusetts, has received a two-year grant from the Rockefeller Foundation to support an oral history project on the lives of older black women in entertainment, writing, social work, and government who began their careers prior to the 1930s. Schlesinger Library at Radcliffe will administer the \$98,700 grant and be the center for transcribing and housing the interviews. Limited copies of the transcripts will be distributed to selected black colleges and universities throughout the country.

Also funded by the Rockefeller Foundation is a program in progress documenting the roles played by women in the birth control movement, the delivery of maternal and child health services, sex education, marriage counseling, and changes in abortion statutes. The first eleven transcripts of this project are now available to libraries on interlibrary loan or for permanent collections. The interviews were conducted by James W. Reed and Jeanette B. Cheek.

## IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM OPENS ORAL HISTORY ARCHIVES

David G. Lance, keeper of the Department of Sound Records, Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Road, London SE1 6HZ, England, announces that July 1977 will mark the official opening for public use of the IWM oral history archives.

Subjects encompassed by the IWM relate to war in the twentieth century in seven projects, approximately two thousand recorded hours. Three catalogs are in print, as are several articles by staff members. Future topics are the British army in India up to 1939, British army mechanization to 1939, Spanish Civil War, Royal Air Force, and radar development.

Two BBC radio programs, in 1975 and 1976, were derived from IWM oral history. David Lance compiled and Margaret Brooks narrated those programs. IWM oral history is also present in museum exhibitions and educational services. More broadcasts will be created, and plans are underway to publish a series of audio teaching cassettes.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

Location of the 1977 Workshop and Colloquium will be the Hotel del Coronado, San Diego, California, October 21-23, 1977.



(L-R) Judy Rudoff and Corrine Crow survey nine month's work on the East Texas Bicentennial Oral History Consortium Project.

## EAST TEXAS BICENTENNIAL OH PROJECT COMPLETED

The East Texas Bicentennial Oral History Consortium has completed a nine-month project funded by The Texas College Bicentennial Program. Interviews were conducted with seventeen individuals and processing was coordinated by Corinne Crow at East Texas State University. Consortium members Texas A&M, Sam Houston State and Texas Eastern studied their institutions' histories; East Texas State, the history of railroading in East Texas; and Stephen F. Austin, veterans of World War I.

## APPLIED HISTORY TRAINING IN NORTH CAROLINA

The North Carolina Division of Archives and History has joined twenty-seven colleges and universities in the state to create the Institute of Applied History, offering seventeen courses, including oral history. This cooperative arrangement was developed in an attempt to deal with the dual problems of a restricted job market for historians and the frequent lack of adequate academic training for personnel in public historical agencies. The Division of Archives and History will also offer non-academic workshops and will develop internships and community job opportunities for young historians. For information, write: Larry E. Tise, Director, Division of Archives and History, 109 East Jones Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27611.



Judy Edquist (Baylor University)  
Newsletter Associate Editor



Michael Mullins (Alice Lloyd College) and Workshop session



(L-R) Shirley Stephenson (California State-Fullerton), Willa Baum (University of California-Berkeley)



Léo La Clare (Public Archives of Canada)  
host of 1976 Workshop and Colloquium



(L-R) John Neuenschwander (Carthage College), Mary Jo Deering (George Washington University), John Fox (Salem State College) at breakfast committee meeting



(L-R) Henoah Mendelsund (ILGWU), Louis Starr (Columbia University)

## OHA LEADERS FOR 1976-1977

Leading the OHA during 1976-1977 are the following officers and committee members, elected during the business session of the recent Colloquium in Montebello, Canada:

President: William Wyatt (Western Health Systems, Rapid City, South Dakota)

Vice President/President Elect: Waddy Moore (University of Central Arkansas)

Council Members: Enid Douglass (Claremont Graduate School), Bernard Galm (University of California, Los Angeles), Betty McKeever Key (Maryland Historical Society)

Nominating Committee: Sara Collins (Arlington County Public Library, Virginia), James Hammack (Murray State University, Kentucky), Samuel Proctor (University of Florida), Johnye Mathews (University of Arkansas at Little Rock), Edward Perzel (University of North Carolina at Charlotte), Shirley Tanzer (Oregon Jewish Oral History and Archive Project)

It was also announced that Bernard Galm (UCLA) will serve as chairman of

the Twelfth National Colloquium on Oral History which will meet in San Diego in October 1977 and that Charles Schultz (Texas A&M) will preside over the National Workshop which will precede the Colloquium.

## COLLOQUIUM PROGRAM CHANGES

The fine program planned by Enid Douglass and the program committee for the recent Eleventh National Colloquium on Oral History, which met at Chateau Montebello on September 10-12, 1976, included presentations by the following persons, not listed on the printed program:

### SPEAKERS:

William W. Moss (John F. Kennedy Library) "The Historian Looks at Oral History and Oral Documentation"

Lydia Bronte (Rockefeller Foundation) Panelist: "Grants: A Dialogue with Funding Institutions"

Michael Gillette (Lyndon B. Johnson Library) Panelist: "The Presidential Libraries: Bicentennial Perspectives"

Barbara Efrat (British Columbia Provin-

cial Museum) "North American Indians"

### SESSION CHAIRPERSONS:

Charles W. Crawford (Memphis State University) "Canadian and American Approaches to Oral History"

Elizabeth B. Mason (Columbia University) "The Historian Looks at Oral History and Oral Documentation"

Ernest Dick (Public Archives of Canada) "Videocassette Showing of Ten Lost Years and Six War Years"

Ronald E. Marcello (North Texas State University) "Political History"

Bernard C. Galm (University of California, Los Angeles) "Oral History and Folksong"

Charles T. Morrissey (University of Vermont) "Grants: A Dialogue with Funding Institutions"

Samuel Hand (University of Vermont) "Conversations with Barry Broadfoot and William Van Voris"

Waddy W. Moore (University of Central Arkansas) "The Presidential Libraries"

Mary Ellen Glass (University of Nevada) "North American Indians"

Jacques Gagné (Public Archives of Canada) "French-Canadian History"



# BOOK REVIEW

**YOU MUST REMEMBER THIS.** By Walter Wagner. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1975. 320 pp. \$8.95.

Reviewed by Ronald L. Davis (Southern Methodist University)

Presented here are twenty-four interviews on random aspects of the Hollywood film industry, selected from the more than fifty the author taped. The text has been highly edited and contains none of the interviewer's questions, thereby making it difficult to get any real sense of the interview itself. Certainly the quality of responses varies greatly, ranging from lightweight, self-serving chatter to sensitive, perceptive observations with a ring of truth. Much of the information is too generalized for good oral history, and Wagner has an irritating way of letting his subjects ramble on about events they have not witnessed and know only from hearsay. The reader is therefore burdened with unfounded theories on who really killed William Desmond Taylor, sandwiched in between a silent actress's telling how Valentino spent their date "chasing me around the room" and George Jessel's lamenting the fact that he was not given his stage role in *The Jazz Singer* on the screen.

Trivial though much of this material may be, *You Must Remember This* does have its redeemable features. The interview with Jesse Lasky, Jr., is remarkably candid—excellent on the elder Lasky and working with Cecil B. DeMille and exceptionally honest about the interviewee's own financial situation. But, Lasky stays with what he has experienced and seems unusually free of bitterness. Frances Goldwyn gives some illuminating insights into the personal side of her husband, and there is an intimate look at Walt Disney. Lew Ayres comes across as a man of considerable intelligence, while others are opinionated and angry that the New Hollywood has passed them by.

Perhaps the greatest pity is that Wagner seems to have here the last recorded interview with director John Ford. One suspects at this point that the limitations of the book may well rest with the interviewer himself, for Ford even chides Wagner for asking a stupid question. "I hope I haven't been rude," Ford says later. "You see, people have been asking me these questions for more than fifty years, and no one's yet come up with an original question." Ford does congratulate Wagner on being the only interviewer that has ever been punctual. Yet the opportunity for a culminating statement is clearly missed.

Several of the film pioneers appear too old for valid oral history. The remarks of a 100-year-old extra add up to little that is tangible. Mary Pickford's recollections are tinted with a golden glow that is better nostalgia than film history. She recalls the early days, when "we were all one big happy family," and confesses that she dreams often "that I'm before the camera again." Younger subjects also long for the good old days; Ann Rutherford remembers her film career as "just a great, larky adventure." But despite the glamour, Miss Rutherford recognizes that the stars were flesh and blood. "They laughed; they cried; they hurt."

The absence of questions does emphasize the importance of the interviewer as a pole in judging the credibility of responses. It is often difficult to know whether Wagner's subjects are simply determined to glorify their own position, whether they are foggy in their own thinking, or whether they are responding to flabby questions. Without the interaction between the interviewer and the subject, the researcher is denied an essential measuring rod for evaluating honesty.

Many of the people Wagner interviewed have been badly treated by the media and come into an oral history session full of misgivings. "I think it's a risk any time you talk to a writer," Jack Lemmon admitted, "even to the extent where we are talking now, except that you have a better reference with your tape recorder." This reflects one of the greatest problems with the type of interviewing Wagner has done and confirms why the oral historian must work with openness.

## ORAL HISTORY OF U.S. CONGRESS BEGINS

An oral history of the U.S. Congress is being sponsored by Former Members of Congress, Inc., an organization of 450 men and women who have served in the House and Senate at various times since 1914. The program studies the internal functioning of Congress and how different members have represented the interests of their constituents. Former Congressman Jed Johnson serves as director of the FMC program, Charles T. Morrissey, as procedural consultant and as an interviewer. Tapes and transcripts are deposited in the Library of Congress and in a library in the state or district which the interviewee represented in Congress. A nonprofit, bipartisan organization, FMC maintains its office at 121 Second St. NE, Washington, D.C. 20002.

## ORAL HISTORY EXPANDS IN AUSTRALIA

What began as a project for the blind has grown into the largest oral history collection in Australia. In 1960 the Na-

tional Library enlisted Mrs. Hazel de Berg, a former photographer and radiographer who made recordings of Australian poets reading their works for the blind, to record the autobiographies of the poets. Mrs. de Berg expanded her work to include interviews with composers, publishers, actors and sculptors, and refined a technique of editing out her questions so that the listener hears an uninterrupted monologue. In 1970 the National Library supplemented the de Berg project with its own program of unedited, tape-recorded interviews with leaders in many occupations. The total collection now includes more than seventeen hundred tapes.

## THE WILKIES COMPLETING LATIN AMERICAN PROJECT

Nearing completion is the monumental work of James W. Wilkie and his wife, Edna Monzon de Wilkie (UCLA), on "The Costa Rican Revolution of 1948 and its Twenty-five Year Aftermath," and "Bolivia's Continuing Revolution Since 1952." Aided by a grant from the Tinker Foundation of New York City, the Wilkies interviewed two former presi-

dents, Jose Figueres of Costa Rica and Paz Estenssoro of Bolivia, as well as numerous other leaders involved in revolutionary movements. Ex-President Estenssoro will be Regents' Professor of Economics and History at UCLA during the winter and spring of 1977, at which time he will edit his thousand-page memoirs. Estenssoro's interviews will be updated by a team of oral history researchers from the UCLA faculty prior to publication.

## HOLOCAUST PROJECT COMPLETE

Much has been written about the horrors of the Jewish experience under the Nazis, but little has been recorded of the survivors. In May, the American Jewish Committee completed a two-year project involving interviews with 250 survivors now living across the United States. Louis B. Cowan of Columbia University directed the project entitled "A Study in American Pluralism Through Oral Histories of Holocaust Survivors." The tapes and transcripts will be housed in the William E. Wiener Oral History Library in New York.



## POSITIONS

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**, oral history. Experience with research and documentation, transcribing and editing essential. Must have strong organizational and administrative ability to help run small but growing oral history program at George Washington University. Part-time, flexible schedule. May become full-time position. Contact: Mary Jo Deering, Oral History Program, G.W.U. Library, 2130 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20052.

**ARCHIVIST**, Schlesinger Library: oral history. Process records. Arrangement, sampling, description, preparation of finding aids, some reference work. One-year appointment available immediately, possibility of one-year renewal. MA, preferably American history and/or women's history, archival experience required. Contact: Project Director, Mass. Women and Organizations, Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe College, 3 James Street, Cambridge, Mass. 02138.

**ARCHIVIST**, Schlesinger Library: oral history. Three-year professional archival position on archival development project. Sorting, arranging, describing, and preparing finding aids for various collections. Supervision of staff assistant. Begin Oct. 1, 1976. MA, preferably American history and/or women's history, archival experience required.

**ARCHIVAL ASSISTANT**, Schlesinger Library. Three-year position. Work includes assisting two archivists with sorting, indexing, typing (inventories, labels, etc.) and preservation work, also preparing collections for microfilming, checking films, processing small MS collections. Begin Oct. 1, 1976. BA, preferably American history and/or women's history, archival experience helpful, interest in detail, neat accurate typing essential. Contact: Project Director, Career and Family Patterns of American Women, Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe College, 3 James Street, Cambridge, Mass. 02138.

**ORAL HISTORIAN** for major archival collection of American theater in Washington, D.C. area. MA in history or American Studies, knowledge of theater and the New Deal Era, administrative capacity, flexibility, imagination. Send resume before November 30 to J. S. O'Connor, Research Center, Federal Theater Project, George Mason University, Fairfax, Va. 22030. AA/EEO

**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR** of the Southern Oral History Program, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Full time for a minimum of 15 months. Masters degree in American history with some training in history of the Southern region



Professor Hugh G. Earnhart, (left front) director of the Youngstown State University Oral History Program, presents transcripts of material gathered through his program to University Librarian Richard J. Owen (r.) and YSU President Dr. John J. Coffelt (second from right) for permanent reference in YSU's new William F. Maag, Jr. Library. Interviewees participating: (l. to r.) YSU administrator Mrs. Mary B. Smith; national labor leader Carl F. Beck; pioneer radio and television technician Bernard T. Wilkens; Attorney Richard P. McLaughlin; and Bishop James W. Malone. Also pictured are Mrs. Wilkens and Mrs. Beck.

### YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIV. LIBRARY DESIGNATED PERMANENT REPOSITORY

The William F. Maag, Jr. Library at Youngstown State University, Youngstown, Ohio, has been designated permanent repository for material collected by YSU's oral history program during a brief ceremony last February.

The oral history program, established in 1974 by Professor Hugh G. Earnhart, traces the heritage and history of Northeastern Ohio. Earnhart and five of the interviewees in his program presented material to YSU President Dr. John J. Coffelt and Library Director Richard J. Owen.

Varied interests are represented by the interviews. Carl Beck, a

Youngstown resident since 1903, is an active labor leader; The Most Reverend James W. Malone, a Youngstown native, is third bishop of the Diocese of Youngstown; attorney Richard P. McLaughlin views the politics in the Youngstown-Warren area during political campaigns in the early 1970's; Mrs. Mary B. Smith, director of career planning and placement at YSU, has witnessed the transition of the institution from college to university to state school; Bernard T. Wilkens, engineer at Station WKBN for forty-three years, helped plan many of the technical advancements of Youngstown's pioneer radio and television stations.

Transcriptions of all material will be available to the public.

and experience in supervising and administering an oral history or similar archival and research program necessary. Contact: Brent D. Glass, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514.

### "WOMEN, ETHNICITY, AND MENTAL HEALTH" IN PITTSBURGH

The American Jewish Committee, a national human relations agency, is sponsoring an oral history study in Pittsburgh under a grant from the Maurice Falk Medical Fund. The project combines ethnic oral history and women's oral history in an effort to learn more about the complex relationship of

culture and mental health. Beginning with the assumption that a woman's cultural background affects her actions, values and perceptions, the study hopes to provide deeper understanding of diversity among American women.

During this year women of three generations of twenty-five Italian, Jewish and Slavic families will record their oral histories. With only twenty percent of the interviews completed, the researchers are already identifying ethnic patterns as well as underlying common interests and concerns that unite women of all three ethnic groups.

Dr. Corrine Krause is directing the study at The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, 4338 Bigelow Blvd., Pittsburgh.



## BOOK NOTICES

*Mendocino County Remembered: An Oral History.* By Bruce Levene and project assistants. (California: Mendocino County Historical Society Publications, Fort Bragg, 1976. 291 pp. Photographs, index, maps. \$7.50)

Flavor of life in Northern California at the turn of the century.

*American Folklore Films and Videotapes: An Index.* (Tennessee: Center for Southern Folklore. 350 pp. Photographs, index. \$15.00)

Locates over 1,800 films (16mm) and videotapes and gives a brief film description, date of release, format, length and distributor. Order from: P.O. Box 4081, Memphis, TN 38104.

*Roots.* By Alex Haley. (New York: Doubleday, 1976. 587 pp. \$12.50) Reconstructs seven generations of the author's family from the time an ancestor was abducted from West Africa in 1767.

A nine-part dramatization of the book will begin early in 1977 on ABC-TV.

"I Wish I Could Give My Son a Wild Racoon." Edited with an introduction by Eliot Wigginton. (New York: Doubleday, 1976. \$10.00 hardcover, \$4.50 paperback.)

Thirty-six narrative interviews with the likes of cowboys, banjo makers and teachers, conducted by grade school and high school students from Texas to Alaska.

*Contemporary American Leaders in Nursing: An Oral History.* By Gwendolyn Safier. (New York: McGraw-Hill, 1977. \$9.95)

Memories of seventeen wartime and postwar nursing leaders named by their peers as individuals who altered the course of nursing in the United States.

*From the Black Bar: Voices for Equal Justice.* By Gilbert Ware. (New York: Putnam, 1976. Paperback \$3.75)

Fifteen black judges and lawyers assess America's promise of equality before the law and present alternative solutions.

*Dawns + Dusks: Taped Conversations with Diana MacKown.* By Louise Nevelson. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1976. Photographs, drawings. 224 pp. \$10.00)

Louise Nevelson remembers growing up in a Russian immigrant family in Maine; considers art and artistry; speaks about marriage, travel and her friendships with Picasso, Duchamp, Arp, Mondrian and others; contributes all artwork in the book.

*Cuadernos de la Cineteca Nacional Testimonios para la Historia del Cine Mexicano.* Project coordinator, Eugenia Meyer. (Mexico, D. F., Volumes 1, 108 pp.; 2, Oct. 1975, 130 pp.; 3, Jan. 1976, 132 pp.; and 4, Mar. 1976, 123 pp. Photographs, bibliographies, indices.)

Leading Mexican film directors comment on social history of the Mexican cinema.

"Mr. MAC," William P. MacCracken, Jr., *Aviation-Law-Optometry.* By Joseph Riggs and Michael Osborn. (Tennessee: Southern College of Optometry, Memphis, Vol. 1, 1976. Photographs. \$12.00)

Experiences of over half a century as pilot, member of legal staff of American Optometric Association and U.S. Commerce Department undersecretary, recalled in first of a projected ten-volume *Pioneers of Optometry* series being produced by the Oral History Department of Southern College of Optometry.

*The Practice of Oral History, A Handbook.* By Ramon I. Harris and Joseph H. Cash. (New Jersey: Microfilming Corporation of America, Glen Rock, 1975. 98 pp. Paperback \$8.50)

A manual especially geared to field projects.

*Jap Camp: Manzanar and the Owens Valley.* Edited by Jessie A. Garrett and Ronald C. Larson. (California: California State University, Fullerton, 1976. \$4.50)

Twenty residents of Owens Valley, California tell of being victimized by war; part of the Japanese American Oral History Project at CSUF.

*Rose Hill.* By Reed Wolcott. (New York: Putnam, 1976. 381 pp. \$9.95)

Reflections on living in an isolated Duplin County, North Carolina community.

### ... also in print

*Oral History Collection of the Forest History Society,* prepared by Barbara D. Holman is available from: Forest History Society, P.O. Box 1581, Santa Cruz, California 95061. The eighty-eight-page guide contains a list of all interviews, including those available on microfiche, a bibliography and index.

A completely new *Guide to Aural History Research* (1976) has been issued by the Provincial Archives of British Columbia replacing the old *Manual* (1974). Edited by W. J. Langlois, this comprehensive guide contains all the information necessary to set up an oral history program from scratch. It is available for \$1.00 from the Provincial Archives, Victoria, British Columbia V8V 1X4.

A seventy-six-page catalog of 170 selected interviews, with glossary and index, has been published by the Office of Air Force History, Oral History Branch. Address inquiries to: Historical Research Center, Oral History Branch, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama 36122.

Volume I of the *Canadian Oral History Association Journal* (1975-1976) is available for \$3.00. The journal, edited by Léo La Clare and assistants, is published in both French and English. The semiannual newsletter, *COHA Bulletin* and the *Journal* are included with membership in the association. Contributions to these publications are invited. Address inquiries to: COHA, P.O. Box 301, Station A, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 8V3.

"The Expanding Role of the Librarian in Oral History," by Willa Baum, Louisiana State University, Library Lectures, (Numbers 29-35) Baton Rouge, Louisiana, LSU Library, 1976. The article, which will appear in late 1976, deals with the librarian's responsibilities for aiding in the interviewing process, and in administering oral history materials once they are placed in the library for use.

*The 1976 Directory of Spoken-Voice Audio-Cassettes* contains the only comprehensive listing of all adult-level non-music programs currently on cassettes. Available from: Cassette Information Service, Box 17727, Los Angeles, California 90057.

Middle school students follow in the Foxfire tradition, gathering the remembrances of longtime North Texas residents in *Cross Timbers: Folklore and Local History from the Denton Area*. Nineteen interviewees discuss food preservation, home remedies, quilting, "old time religion," the three R's, and the games of their childhood such as "William Trimble Toe." Address inquiries concerning this forty-two page, \$2.50 paperback to: Adelene Martin and Wilma Tinney, Congress Junior High School, Denton, Texas 76201.

### LEWIS ANTHONY DEXTER ARCHIVE OF ELITE INTERVIEWS CREATED

The Department of Political Science at the Johns Hopkins University announces the establishment of the Lewis Anthony Dexter Archive of Elite Interviews at the Milton S. Eisenhower Library of the university. More than twelve hundred interviews of persons holding leadership positions in government and business since 1950 have been deposited. Address inquiries to: Archive of Elite Interviews, Department of Political Science, The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland 21218.



## OHA OFFICIAL BUSINESS

**Ronald E.  
Marcello  
Executive  
Secretary**



Below are some statistics that should be of interest to all OHA members:

In compliance with a resolution passed by Council, 367 members have been dropped from the OHA rolls for nonpayment of dues. These figures include thirty-four institutional memberships, 240 individual memberships, fifty-two student memberships, and forty-one library memberships.

The above deletions bring the OHA membership totals to 1,047. These break down into the following categories:

Institutional .....	134
Individual .....	626
Student .....	224
Library .....	58
Life .....	5
Total .....	1,047

The removal of these members represents a substantial loss of revenue for the OHA, and I strongly urge that the remaining members support the efforts of the newly formed Membership Committee, chaired by Bill Moss, to at least bring the organization's rolls up to the level existing prior to the 1976 Colloquium. If any member wishes to assist the Membership Committee, get in touch with Bill Moss, Senior Archivist, John F. Kennedy Library, 280 Trapelo Road, Waltham, Massachusetts 02154.

## NEWS

Gwendolyn Safier of the University of California School of Nursing, San Francisco, nationally recognized in the field of gerontology, is teaching an oral history class this fall at Saint Mary's College of California. Safier, a very active OHAer, participated in the annual meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine in Galveston, Texas last May. Her forthcoming book, *Contemporary American Leaders in Nursing: An Oral History*, is noted in this issue of the Newsletter.

The University of Alabama-Birmingham announces a new oral history program, established in 1975 as an outgrowth of a graduate seminar. Twenty-nine persons have been interviewed on local and state topics including civil rights, folk history, politics, labor, and women's history. The Birmingham Metropolitan Study Project supplies partial funding. Project chairperson is Virginia V. Hamilton of the department of history.

The first meeting of Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region (OHMAR) was held May 1, 1976. Ongoing oral history projects in the larger mid-Atlantic Region are welcome as members. For more information, write Ben Frank, History and Museums Division, Headquarters U.S. Marine Corps (Code HD), Washington, D.C. 20380. The Newsletter plans a feature article on OHMAR and other regional associations in 1977.

A Scandinavian Heritage Oral History Archives has been established at the Northwest Minnesota Historical Center at Morehead State University under the direction of Dr. Gerald Anderson. Dr. Kenneth Smemo, director of the center, conducted a workshop geared to the new archives program.

"Bicentennial Voices," sponsored by the Sussex County Historical Society (New Jersey) has been cited twice this year by ARBA's official publication, *Bicentennial Times*. The purpose of the project, "an oral history survey," has been to interview 200 local citizens of all ages and varied social, economic, and ethnic backgrounds regarding their involvement in and their personal feelings about the nation's 200th anniversary. For additional information: Carrie Pappa, Oral History Committee, Sussex County Historical Society, R.D. 1, Box 599, Hamburg, New Jersey 07419.

Boston 200, that city's American Revolution Bicentennial organization, has published a "neighborhood history series," pamphlets on the histories of Boston's ethnic enclaves and distinctive neighborhoods. Based on interviews, photographs and other graphics, the publications illuminate peoples and customs transformed by the American urban experience. For more information: Katie Kenneally, Project Coordinator, Boston 200, 1 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02108.

The Kellogg Foundation is funding a third year of local history workshops and activities under the joint administration of the history department, Utah State University and the Utah State Historical Society. The workshops emphasize the basic research and writing skills needed in producing local, family, and personal histories. Oral history as a research tool and historic preservation methods are included.

The Smithsonian Institution Archives announces the availability of an oral history collection supplementing its manuscript collections. Interviewees are current or retired Smithsonian scholars and administrators. The oral history project is an ongoing section of the archives.

Oral History Association Newsletter  
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