



Editorial office located at Marsh Hall,
Yale University, 360 Prospect Street
New Haven, Connecticut 06511

NEWSLETTER

CARE TO JOIN US?

PLEASE ENROLL _____ AS A
 MEMBER OF THE ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION. ENCLOSED FIND A CHECK IN
 PAYMENT OF THE OHA MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR THE CURRENT YEAR, 1968--69.

CHECK ONE: INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP _____ (\$ 7.50 Minimum.)
 INSTITUTIONAL/ASSOCIATIONAL MEMBERSHIP _____ (\$25.00 Minimum.)

SEND ALL OHA PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS TO THE ADDRESS BELOW:

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____

CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO THE ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION, INC.,
 AND FORWARDED WITH THE ABOVE INFORMATION TO:
 KNOX MELLON, TREASURER, ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION, IMMACULATE HEART
 COLLEGE, 2021 NORTH WESTERN AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90027.

THESE FOLKS DID!!

REVEREND THOMAS E. BLANTZ, C.S.C. Zaham Hall Notre Dame, Indiana	46556	E.G. "TY" DAHLGREN 205 Shartel Building 5225 North Shartel Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	73118
AMELIA R. FRY 18238 Almond Road Castro Valley, California	94546	R. PALMER HOWARD University of Oklahoma Medical Center 820 N.E. 15th Street Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	73104
MRS. ELIZABETH B. MASON Oral History Research Office Butler Library Columbia University New York, New York	10027	LOUIS M. STARR Director, Oral History Research Office Butler Library Columbia University New York, New York	10027
WADDY W. MOORE 2601 Robinson Conway, Arkansas	72032	SAMUEL B. HAND Associate Professor of History Waterman Building University of Vermont Burlington, Vermont	05041
RALPH R. RICKER 160 East Whitehall Road State College, Pennsylvania	16801	JUDITH W. LEAVITT 2337 Wallace Avenue Bronx, New York	10467
NICHOLAS VARGA Loyola College 4501 North Charles Street Baltimore, Maryland	21210	PHILIP A. CROWL 2108 24th Street Lincoln, Nebraska	68502

JEAN C. JONES American Psychiatric Association Museum 1700 18th Street N.W. Washington, D.C. 20009	MARY ELLEN GLASS Center for Western North American Studies Desert Research Institute University of Nevada Reno, Nevada 89507
KNOX MELLON Chairman, Department of History Immaculate Heart College 2021 North Western Avenue Los Angeles, California 90027	FRANCES L. CAREY Assistant Director of Libraries Naval War College Newport, Rhode Island 02840
PROFESSOR HENRY E. SIMMONS Director, Oral History Research Office Chicago State College West Center 500 North Pulaski Road Chicago, Illinois 60624	DEAN ALBERTSON 164 Red Gate Lane Amherst, Massachusetts 01002
PROFESSOR K. JACK BAUER Department of History and Political Science Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Troy, New York 12181	A. STANLEY TRICKETT 509 South 58th Street Omaha, Nebraska 68106
GOULD P. COLMAN Director, Cornell Program in Oral History 502 Olin Library Cornell University Ithaca, New York 14850	CHARLES W. CRAWFORD Director, Oral History Research Office Memphis State University Memphis, Tennessee 38111
DOUGLASS G. ADAIR 489 West 6th Street Claremont, California 91711	SANDRA GUILLAUME Ontario Institute for Studies in Education 102 Bloor Street, West Toronto 5, Ontario Canada
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY LIBRARY Lehigh University Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18015	DAVID F. MUSTO, M.D. 4507 Dorset Avenue Chevy Chase, Maryland 20015
NURSING ARCHIVE---SPECIAL COLLECTIONS Mugar Memorial Library Boston University Boston, Massachusetts 02215	ARCHIVES OF AMERICAN ART 5200 Woodward Avenue Detroit, Michigan 48202
	SERIALS DEPARTMENT University of Pittsburgh Library University of Pittsburgh Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213

A FEW CHANGES HERE AND THERE.....

As of this issue, the OHA Newsletter becomes a "quarterly publication." It will appear in January, April, July, and October of each year. And, in order that the editors, printers, and postmen involved in the perpetration of the foregoing may in fact do so, we announce the following deadlines.

ALL COPY MUST BE POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE THE 15TH DAY OF THE MONTH PRECEDING THE PUBLICATION MONTH IF IT IS TO RECEIVE CONSIDERATION FOR THE ISSUE FORTHCOMING.

Thus, kindly mark the 15th days of March, June, September, and December with BIG BLACK LETTERS in your 1968 calendars. Unless, of course, you are prone to procrastination. If so, kindly mark the 12th or 13th days---just to be on the safe side.

With your help, the 'publication month' will be more than the date on the cover; it will be the month during which you may expect to receive your copy. And during which you will.

How's that for a change?

ORAL HISTORY: A CLASSROOM TOOL

Some 200 students and teachers attended a conference on "Oral History As A Classroom Tool" held recently in the State House, Montpelier, Vermont, under the joint sponsorship of the Vermont Historical Society, the Vermont Council for the Social Studies, the Vermont State Department of Education, and the American Historical Association Service Center for Teachers.

In his introductory remarks Charles T. Morrissey, director of the Vermont Historical Society and former chief of the John F. Kennedy Library Oral History Project, outlined the need for "exhilaration in the teaching of history and for moving away from the textbook approach." Morrissey also cited some of the ways in which oral history is equipped to meet this need in today's classrooms.

Tapes could be used to present divergent points of view on national historical events and phenomena such as the New Deal, the New Frontier, the Great Society, the Viet Nam war, and the Korean crisis. By the same token, tape recordings could prove invaluable in documenting local histories and governments simply by bringing accounts of the personalities effecting and affected by these spheres close to the student via the immediacy of the human voice.

By way of a practical example, Morrissey conducted a demonstration oral history interview with Vermont Governor Philip H. Hoff. As the audience listened, Hoff recalled and discussed his record-breaking campaign of 1962 as a result of which he was elected the state's first Democratic governor in more than a century.

Also speaking at the conference were Lester F. Jipp, social studies consultant for the Vermont State Department of Education, Lieutenant Governor John Daley, and Dean Albertson, professor of history at the University of Massachusetts.

Albertson, co-founder and former assistant director of the oral history project at Columbia University, is the author of Roosevelt's Farmer, a study of Claude Wickard, Secretary of Agriculture from 1940 to 1945, for which Albertson

recorded many hours of oral history interviews.

Currently preparing a biography of Warren G. Harding, Albertson cited difficulties in reconciling conflicting evidence as a point in favor of taped recollections being made and preserved. He cites William Manchester's controversial Death of a President, which lists 371 oral history interviews in its making, as a remarkable example of the use of oral history.

ORAL HISTORY: UNIVERSITY BOUND?

Question: is there a role within the liberal arts college for a program in oral history, or should such efforts be confined to the large university?

According to Knox Mellon, chairman of the Department of History at Immaculate Heart College, Los Angeles, this is the crux of a pilot study "to test the validity of oral history in a small liberal arts college" recently initiated by Mellon and his colleagues.

Also from IHC comes a bibliography of six special projects which represents a total of 43 completed oral history interviews and indicates several more forthcoming.

Of these 43, eleven interviews were made for "The Simon Casady Crisis and The California Democratic Council," an in-depth study of the events preceding the 1966 convention of the council at which Casady was forced to resign as president.

Another project accounting for eleven interviews to date is "Job Harriman: Practical Socialist and Utopian Idealist." The interviewees, Californians who were active in the rise of the Socialist Party in the state, have given their accounts of the party, the radical press and the utopian cooperative ideal, as well as their impressions of Harriman.

The remaining four special projects are: "The Real Estate Industry in Southern California"; "Ernest Dawson: Pioneer Los Angeles Bookseller"; "Dr. T. Perceval Gerson: Early Los Angeles Reformer and Cultural Leader"; and "La Beneficencia Mexicana de Los Angeles, Inc.," a study of the corporation organized in 1931 to help Southern California Mexican-Americans economically, culturally, and socially.

INTER-PROGRAM EXCHANGE INITIATED

Professor Henry E. Simmons, director of the Oral History Research Office at Chicago State College, and Professor Floyd A. O'Neil, director of the University of Utah's Western History Center, recently began an interchange of non-restricted tapes of mutual value to the two organizations.

The first tape to be exchanged was a recording of the American Indian Conference which was held in Chicago in 1961 and dealt with the problems of reservation Indians. The Oral History Research Office at CSC supplied Professor O'Neil with a copy of the tape, and the Western History Center's transcribers in turn furnished CSC with copies of the typescript.

One of the leading proponents of inter-program cooperation and exchange, Professor Simmons came out strongly for reciprocal arrangements of this sort at the Second National Colloquium on Oral History at Arden House in November.

CURRENT PROJECTS LISTED

Charles W. Crawford, director of the Oral History Research Office at Memphis State University, reports the following oral history projects, some recently approved and others already underway, as the latest to be taken on:

The Organization of Labor in West Tennessee; Interviews with Memphis World War I Veterans; Documenting Memphis Jazz and Blues; Interviews with Southern Writers; A History of the Memphis Jewish Community; A History of Memphis State University; Recent Changes in the Hardwood Lumber Industry; Interviews with Associates of E.H. Crump; and Interviews relating to the Development of Memphis Theatre.

The purpose of the Memphis State University program is the documentation of currently significant developments in the region including as many areas of activity as possible. Although the interviews at MSU are generally conducted by faculty members with a specialized knowledge of the subject, a few of the interviews for these projects are being done by graduate students.

JEWISH BIOGRAPHY A COOPERATIVE VENTURE

"Northern California Jewish Community Series," an oral history project financed by the Western Jewish History Center of the Judah L. Magnes Memorial Museum in Berkeley, California, is being produced at the Regional Oral History Office of the University of California, Berkeley, under the guidance of a special advisory committee. Members of the latter include faculty advisors Moses Rischin, Department of History, San Francisco State College, and James D. Hart, Department of English, University of California, Berkeley, as well as leading members of the Jewish community. Mrs. Harriet Nathan is the project director.

Interviewees for the project will represent five areas of inquiry: pioneer Jewish families, community leaders, religious and institutional leaders, Jews prominent in the development of California, and representatives of early rural communities.

Copies of each of the transcripts are to be deposited in the American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, as well as in the Bancroft Library.

SERINUS CANARIUS: OF PERCHINGS PRECARIOUS

From Chita Fry, ROHO (Berkeley) interviewer-turned-humorist, comes this tale which, since its telling at Arden House, has been dubbed "How To Run An Oral History Office."

As the traffic signal flashed red, a sedan and a large, enclosed van pulled up side by side at the intersection. The driver of the sedan looked on as the truckdriver, metal rod in hand, leapt from the cab and proceeded to beat violently upon the side panelling of the truck. This done, he raced back to his seat in the cab and drove off as the light changed to green.

A few blocks down the same street the sedan and the truck again stopped side by side at a red light. The truckdriver leapt from his cab to repeat his performance, while the man in the car simply stared in astonishment.

By the time they came to the third red light the open-mouthed onlooker could bear it no longer. He too leapt from his seat and raced to the side of the truck, where he demanded of the truckdriver how it came to pass that he was moved so

to beat upon his own truck.

The truckdriver lowered his rod with a sigh of patient resignation. He had obviously been asked the same question several times prior to this.

"It's like this, Buddy," he began, as one who would explain to a child. "This is a one-ton truck I got here, see? Now inside this one-ton truck I got a two-ton load of canaries. So, because I ain't in the market for trouble, I gotta make certain that half of 'em stays in the air."

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Oral Research Abstracts is the title of a journal published monthly since April, 1966, by the American Dental Association.

VOLUNTEER INTERVIEWERS SOUGHT

Faced with the sheer impossibility of recording all of the worthwhile reminiscences pertinent to the development of California, Berkeley's ROHO has come up with a program to encourage volunteer interviewers, particularly members of local historical societies.

Interested parties who contact ROHO at Room 486 in the Bancroft Library are given the following materials: a list of simple instructions for producing a tape-recorded interview; suggestions for time-indexing the tapes; an agreement form for donating the tapes; and a sample information form for use in describing the topics covered in the interview.

The Bancroft Library has initiated a "Donated Tapes Section" so that volunteers can donate their tapes to the University of California should there be no local library or historical societies to accommodate them.

ROHO RECORDING HISTORY ON FHS GRANT

A history of the Eddy Tree Breeding Station, provided for in a grant by the Forest History Society at Yale University, is currently being prepared on tape by Berkeley's ROHO.

Inspired by Luther Burbank's success in plant breeding, Washington timberman James G. Eddy established a

tree breeding station near Placerville, California, in 1926, to improve the quality of western trees. By 1936, the station had won international renown for its significant genetics studies, imaginative techniques, and its results: varieties of pine that proved faster growing, more staminal, and more resistant to disease.

Two veteran station members, F.I. Richter and W.C. Cumming, are participating as interviewees. Dr. Nicholas T. Mirov, who is acting as faculty advisor, has agreed to write an introduction to the history.

Papers concerning the station's early days will be deposited in the Bancroft Library to complement the recorded history.

FHS RECEIVES SIMPSON GRANT

Yale University's Forest History Society was the recent recipient of a special \$2,000 grant by the Simpson Timber Company of Seattle, Washington, for the production of an oral history interview with C.H. "Chris" Kreienbaum, former Simpson executive.

Kreienbaum, now living in Rancho Bernardo, California, was one of the principal architects of the Shelton Sustained Yield Unit, a 100-year cooperative management contract between the Simpson Timber Company and the U.S. Forest Service.

EMPHASIS ON FINE PRINTING

"Books and Printing in the San Francisco Bay Area" is the title of a series of interviews being conducted by Berkeley's ROHO. While the emphasis is to be placed on fine printing, related factors which have made San Francisco an industrial printing center are also being investigated.

ORAL HISTORY PROGRAMS INITIATED

Professor O.O. Winther of the Department of History at Indiana University reports that he and his colleagues have initiated an oral history program within their department. Other institutions with oral history programs in the formative stages are: San Fernando Valley State College; the Regional Enrichment Center in Kalamazoo, Michigan; and Riverhead Library in Riverhead, Long Island, New York.

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH REPORTS:.....

Reels will roll for a second year for the American Indian Oral History Project at the University of Utah, thanks to the personal support and contributions of Miss Doris Duke, noted philanthropist.

The project, directed by Dr. C. Gregory Crampton, author of Standing Up Country, is given to the accumulation of primary source material documenting American history from the Indian point of view. During the first year of the project, tape-recorded interviews were conducted with members of the Ute, Shoshoni, Bannock, Zuni, Paiute, Hualapai, Havasupai, Crow, and Navajo tribes. To date, 2,700 pages (70 per cent of the recorded material) have been transcribed, and the Utah team is justifiably proud of its recent cataloguing of this information in bound-copy form.

In addition to recording the oral histories of living Indians, the project calls for the researching of existing documentary and manuscript material reflecting the Indian viewpoint on historical matters. The oral history tapes and the researched data will be used to create an "Archive of Indian History" at the University of Utah and, owing to their exceptional significance, they may eventually lend themselves, in whole or in part, to publication.

The authenticity of the Indians'

historical recollections is attested to by one member of the Crow tribe:

"The white man has his Bible, but the Indian has his stories, stories that are passed down as part of his ways, so he never adds on to them nor deletes anything from them when they are told. They are for us a sacred part of life."

Overriding the project is a sense of urgency. As older members of the tribes die, valuable historical recollection and reminiscence die with them. But a sense of patience and diplomacy is just as essential, and as many as 25 hours per every one hour of recorded interview time are spent courting the subject and gaining his cooperation.

As Dr. Crampton observes, "In any program involving the oral exploration of a person's past, the approach is of the utmost importance. This is particularly true with the American Indian, who thinks of the white man as being far too concerned with the factor of time."

The existence of a body of prime source material preserving Indian history should prove invaluable to linguists, historians, sociologists, and other scholars. Certainly such a collection will provide new insights and guidelines for the future.

Grants for the collection of Indian history have also been made by Miss Duke to the Universities of Arizona, Illinois, South Dakota, New Mexico and Oklahoma.

FORUM: FORUM: FORUM: FORUM: FORUM: FORUM: FORUM: FORUM: FORUM: FORUM: FORUM: FORUM: FORUM

Once a year we get together at a national colloquium and spend four full days exchanging ideas and opinions, discussing problems and suggesting solutions. We pack a lot of associating into four days. We have to. We have a good 361½ more days to cover.

Think we could use more than four days? We do too. So we're announcing FORUM.

Come April, in addition to the national summaries, executive reports, membership rosters and news notes, the Newsletter will feature FORUM---a section reserved for letters to the editor. Letters of suggestion and comment. Letters of debate and resolution. Your letters.

Not sure what we're looking for? You've run into problems; we all have. There are topical limitations, procedural inefficiencies, production hold-ups, ethical considerations, legal intricacies, and archival dilemmas. What's your biggest headache? How are you handling it? If you've found a solution, why not share it? If you haven't found one, are you in the market for suggestions?

Now you know. We're looking for trouble. Your trouble.

Why FORUM? Because a "forum" is a medium for open discussion.

How will it work? We'll provide the medium. You'll provide the open discussion. And it will work like a charm.