



# Oral History Association

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## NEWSLETTER

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### GREETINGS

A long time in coming, but here we are-- the first issue of the Oral History Association Newsletter. Our main purpose is to spread news of oral history activities to association members. And to do this effectively, we need your help. Please send news of your current triumphs and frustrations to the Newsletter editor at the above address.

### OHA OFFICIALLY INCORPORATED

The Oral History Association, Inc., has just become legally incorporated in the State of New York. Dr. Louis Starr, director of Columbia University's Oral Research Office, informs us that he has succeeded in wading through the red tape involved, and the Oral History Association is now registered as a non-profit corporation.

### MEETING ON HIGH-- THE FIRST NATIONAL COLLOQUIUM

The germ of the idea of founding a national association of oral historians took root high in the mountains above Los Angeles at the First National Colloquium on Oral History. Meetings were held September 25-28, 1966, at the California Conference Center at Lake Arrowhead. The colloquium, sponsored by UCLA Library's Oral History Program and organized by James V. Mink, director of the UCLA program, convened to define the functions and objectives of oral history and to establish a permanent and productive relationship among oral historians. The result was a total success.

More than 80 interested participants, including librarians, archivists, professors, and men of medicine from all over the country and as far away as Beirut, Lebanon, entangled themselves in complex considerations



of terminology, techniques, goals, and standards. In the keynote address, Jim Mink emphasized his expectation of active participation by those attending, and participate they did. Dr. Philip C. Brooks, Wayland Hand, and Louis Starr led a divided and unresolved discussion of appropriate oral history terminology. Is "oral history" a suitable term? Is the individual who agrees to submit to an interview a "respondent," an "interviewee," a "subject," or a "victim"? Professor Allan Nevins, "the father of modern oral history," generated a lively response with his exploration of the uses and abuses of oral history. Louis Shores, speaking on "Directions for Oral History," emphasized the possibility of making visual as well as oral records of future interviews. Mr. Charles Morrissey and Dr. Albert Kandelin addressed the group on "Techniques in Oral History," and Dr. Gould Colman and Mrs. Elizabeth Dixon led a spirited discussion on "Standards and Goals." Should the oral historian be seeking objective truth or the subjective view of the interviewee was one of the main concerns of that discussion.

At the final session the groundwork was laid for the establishment of an international organization of oral historians. Jim Mink was elected chairman of a steering committee to get things under way.

The proceedings are being printed by the UCLA Library, and copies will soon be distributed to association members.

#### THE 1967 COLLOQUIUM

Another exciting Oral History Association Colloquium is in the planning stage. The 1967 colloquium, sponsored by Columbia University and organized by Dr. Louis Starr, will be held November 18-21, 1967, at Arden House in Harriman, New York.

Arden House, perched on a ridge 48 miles north of New York City, was donated to Columbia by W. Averell Harriman. In addition to its beautiful setting, the conference center offers participants numerous recreational facilities, including bowling, fishing, swimming, tennis, badminton, and shuffleboard.

The program as planned by Dr. Starr promises to be as provocative as last year's at Lake Arrowhead. Professor Allan Nevins will be moderating a panel of prominent historians who have used oral history interviews in writing books. Dr. Victor Witten will chair a session on equipment and its capabilities. Philip Crowl and Forrest Pogue will discuss the Dulles and the Marshall projects. Other sessions are still in the process of being set up.

All in all, it promises to be a memorable four days. So set these dates aside.



ARDEN HOUSE

#### AT THE HELM-- JIM MINK'S STEERING COMMITTEE

Jim Mink has appointed the following individuals to his Oral History Association steering committee: (1) Philip C. Brooks as member-at-large representing the National Archives and Record Service and its Presidential libraries; (2) Gould P. Colman, director of the Cornell Program of Oral History, as the



association's east coast representative and chairman of the subcommittee to prepare a report on goals and guidelines for oral history programs; (3) Philip Mason, university archivist and director of the Wayne State University Labor Archives, as chairman of the subcommittee to recommend on the compilation and publication of a union bibliography of oral history materials; (4) Elwood R. Maunder, director of the Forest History Society, Inc., Yale University, as editor of the Oral History Association Newsletter; (5) Peter D. Olch, deputy-chief of the history of medicine division of the National Library of Medicine, as the liaison member for biomedical oral history programs; (6) Louis M. Starr, director of the Oral History Research Office at Columbia University, as member in charge of arrangements for the 1967 Colloquium and chairman of the subcommittee to draft a constitution for the projected oral history association; and (7) Victor H. Witten, trustee of the Dermatology Foundation of Miami, as association recorder.

#### FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

##### Union Bibliography

Not long ago I sent you a letter telling of our interest in establishing an association for oral history which would provide assistance to those who are working in this field. I think we all have a great deal to learn about oral history, and we can benefit from the experience of our colleagues. This point was made quite clear to me at the First National Colloquium on Oral History, held at Lake Arrowhead last fall. It was certainly clear to those who attended that meeting, otherwise there would not have been a mandate for further meetings looking toward the establishment of a formal association.

I told the members of the Arrowhead Colloquium that I believed one of the most important objectives an oral history association could accomplish was the compilation of a union bibliography of oral history materials. While oral history is young, this is still a reasonable task-- far less formidable than bibliographical control of manuscript resources. Think what a wonderful thing it would be if we now had at our disposal a 50 year accumulation of the National Union Catalog of Manuscripts! I have appointed Philip P. Mason, director of the Labor Archives and professor of history at Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan, chairman of a subcommittee to recommend on the compilation and publication of a union bibliography of oral history.

Service to scholarship commands recognition, and I can think of no more effective way of achieving recognition for oral history than through the publication of the results of our combined efforts. May I ask, therefore, that you send Professor Mason a copy of the bibliography of your program. If you have not prepared a bibliography, please report to him the interviews which have been completed by your program. Include the following information: full name of individual interviewed; birth date and date of death (if deceased); profession or calling; title of interview; date or dates of interview; subjects covered; number of pages or hours (if not transcribed); terms of access; full name of interviewer.

##### Association Membership

Continuing financial assistance for the association's work must come from



its members. Seven oral history programs represented at the Arrowhead Colloquium-- University of California (Berkeley and Los Angeles), Cornell, Columbia, Herbert Hoover Oral History Program, Tennessee State Library and Archives, and Yale (Forest History Society, Inc.)-- each pledged \$100 toward the initial development of the association. There were additional pledges of from \$50 to \$100. The steering committee has established annual minimum dues for membership at \$7.50 (individual) and \$25 (institution or association). The committee hopes that oral history programs will assist the association during this organizational period in a degree commensurate with their annual budgets, bearing in mind that the established dues are suggested minimums. Membership is on an equal footing, and no priority or charter membership is assigned to those individuals or programs represented at the colloquium.

We all have much to gain in terms of improving the operation of our individual programs and establishing oral history as an important and respected medium. Members will receive the Newsletter and a copy of the proceedings of the First National Colloquium on Oral History as well as other reports or publications the committee decides to distribute.

On the bottom of page 7 of this Newsletter issue is a membership application form for your convenience. We look forward to having you as a member.

James V. Mink  
Chairman, Oral History Association

#### OHA MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

To acquaint members with one another and facilitate communication between oral historians throughout the country, we have listed below the names and addresses of present members. If there are any corrections or additions which should be made to this list, please notify the editor.

Only those institutions and individuals which are members of the Oral History Association will in the future receive the Newsletter and other association publications.

The Archives of the History of American Psychology  
University of Akron  
Akron, Ohio 44304  
John A. Popplestone, Director

Augustana College Library  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57102  
Kordillia Johnson, Librarian

Social Science Division  
Chapman College  
Orange, California 92666  
Mervin A. Griffiths, Chairman

Library  
College of Southern Utah  
Cedar City, Utah  
Inez S. Cooper, Asst. Historian

Colorado State Archives  
1530 Sherman St.  
Denver, Colorado 80203  
Dolores C. Renze, State Archivist

Cornell Program in Oral History  
Cornell University  
Ithaca, New York  
Gould P. Colman, Director  
(Pledged and Paid \$100)

Forest History Society, Inc.  
Yale University  
360 Prospect St.  
New Haven, Connecticut 06511  
Elwood R. Maunder, Executive Director  
(Pledged and Paid \$100)



George C. Marshall Research Library  
Box 831  
Lexington, Virginia

Hall-Brooke Hospital Foundation,  
Inc.  
Box 391  
Westport, Connecticut 06880  
Leo H. Berman, M.D.

Hoover Institution  
Stanford University  
Stanford, California 94305  
Rita R. Campbell, Archivist

Immaculate Heart College  
2021 N. Western St.  
Los Angeles, California 90027  
Knox Mellon, Director, Oral History  
Project

Labor History Archives  
Wayne State University  
Detroit, Michigan  
Philip C. Mason, Director  
(Pledged and Paid \$100)

Labor Relations and Research Center  
125 Draper Hall  
University of Massachusetts  
Amherst, Massachusetts 01002

Michigan Historical Collections  
160 Rackham Building  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104

National Aeronautic and Space  
Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20546  
NASA (E.H.) Historian

Library  
Ohio Historical Society  
1813 N. High St.  
Columbus, Ohio 43210

Oral History Collection  
Box 5121, N.T. Station  
Denton, Texas  
E. Dale Odom, Coordinator

Oral History Program  
Claremont Graduate School and University  
McManus 233  
Claremont, California

Oral History Project  
John F. Kennedy Library  
Room #302  
National Archives and Records Service  
Washington, D.C. 20408  
John F. Stewart, Chief

Oral History Program  
Mt. Sinai Hospital  
7 E. 80th St.  
New York, New York 10021  
Albert S. Lyons, Archivist  
(Pledged and Paid \$100)

Oral History Program  
National Library of Medicine  
8600 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, Maryland 20014

Oral History Program  
Southwest Collection  
Box 4090 Tech. Station  
Lubbock, Texas  
Roy S. Dunn, Director

Oral History Project  
10 A Stamford Hall  
University of Bridgeport  
Bridgeport, Connecticut 06602  
Bruce M. Stave, Director

Oral History Research Office  
Butler Library  
Columbia University  
New York, New York 10027  
Louis M. Starr, Director  
(Pledged and Paid \$100)

The Rockefeller Foundation  
Rockefeller Foundation Library  
111 W. 50th St.  
New York, New York 10020

Taped Autobiographical Interviews  
Dermatology Foundation of Miami  
480 Casurian Concourse  
Coral Gables, Florida  
(Pledged and Paid \$50)



Tennessee Historical Commission  
State Library and Archives Building  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219  
Sam B. Smith, Director  
(Pledged and Paid \$100)

University of California  
Library  
Irvine, California  
Jane Kimball, Reference Librarian

Oral History Program  
Library  
University of California  
Los Angeles, California 90024  
(Pledged and Paid \$100)

Regional History Project  
Library  
University of California  
Santa Cruz, California  
Elizabeth S. Calciano, Editor  
(Pledged and Paid \$50)

Margie Helm Library  
Western Kentucky University  
Bowling Green, Kentucky  
Sara Tyler, Director

Area Research Center  
Wisconsin State University  
River Falls, Wisconsin  
Deryl Gease, Archivist

YIVO Institute for Jewish Research  
1048 5th St.  
New York, New York 10028

The above-listed members are institutions. Those listed below are individual memberships.

Professor James P. Baughman  
214 Baker  
Harvard Business School  
Boston, Massachusetts 02163

Mrs. Willa Baum  
Regional Oral History Office  
486 General Library  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

Philip P. Bower  
(MacArthur Memorial)  
6130 Monroe Place  
Norfolk, Virginia 23508

Mildred Bulpitt  
(Phoenix College)  
3006 W. Marlette  
Phoenix, Arizona 85017

Michael Cohn  
Brooklyn Children's Museum  
185 Brooklyn Ave.  
New York, New York

C. Gregory Crampton  
Department of History  
Annex 2167  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84112

Henry Field, M.D.  
Coconut Grove  
Miami, Florida 33133

Professor Floyd B. Flickenger  
(Institute of Allegheny Life and Culture)  
1501 Pentridge Rd.  
Baltimore, Maryland 21212

Forest C. Pogue  
(Director, George C. Marshall Research Library)  
1111 Army-Navy Drive  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Wayland D. Hand, Director  
Folklore and Mythology Center  
University of California  
Los Angeles, California 90024  
(Pledged and Paid \$50)

Joseph A. Herzenberger II  
Tougaloo College  
Tougaloo, Mississippi 39174

Miss Kordillia Johnson  
(Augustana College)  
1011 W. 13th St.  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57105



Trois E. Johnson  
(Department of Health, Education,  
and Welfare, Region II)  
200 E. 57th St.  
New York, New York 10022

Ann Judd  
(Jazz Historian)  
8815 Appian Way  
Los Angeles, California 90046

Albert S. Lyons, M.D.  
Mt. Sinai Hospital  
7 E. 80th St.  
New York, New York 10021

Elwood R. Maunder, Executive  
Director  
Forest History Society, Inc.  
360 Prospect St.  
New Haven, Connecticut 06511

Professor Doyce B. Nunis  
Department of History  
University of Southern California  
University Park  
Los Angeles, California

Professor Francis W. Schruben  
(Pierce College, Los Angeles)  
19204 Archwood St.  
Reseda, California 91335

Edward B. Stanford (Director of  
Libraries, University of Minnesota)  
2188 Hendon Ave.  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55108

Rev. August R. Suelflow  
Concordia Historical Institute  
801 De Mun Ave.  
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Col. C. W. Tazewell, Director  
Norfolk Historical Society  
P.O. Box 1244  
Norfolk, Virginia 23501

Mrs. Charlotte T. Tufts, Librarian  
Southwest Museum  
Highland Park  
Los Angeles, California 90042

Arrell M. Gibson  
Faculty Exchange  
University of Oklahoma  
Norman, Oklahoma

Professor Raymund Wood  
School of Library Service  
Powell Library  
University of California  
Los Angeles, California 90024  
(Pledged and Paid \$50)

David C. Woolley, Secretary  
Historical Commission  
Southern Baptist Convention  
127 Ninth Ave., North  
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

William R. Wyatt, Director  
Center for Western Studies  
Augustana College  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57102

Please enroll \_\_\_\_\_ as a member of the  
Oral History Association. Enclosed is my check for the 1967 membership dues.  
( ) Individual membership-- \$7.50 minimum  
( ) Institutional or associational membership-- \$25 minimum

I hope to attend the 1967 Colloquium at Arden House. ( )Yes ( )No

I wish all Association publications and communications sent to the following  
address: \_\_\_\_\_

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to the Oral History Association and mail to James  
V. Mink, Chairman, Oral History Association, 32 Powell Library, Uni-  
versity of California, Los Angeles, California 90024



#### DIRECTOR WANTED

North Texas State University is looking for a director for its Oral History Collection. Wanted is someone with historical training; will consider historian-librarians. The director, as a member of the history department, will be awarded full faculty status and will be required to teach occasionally. At the moment the program is limited to Texas political history. The salary is negotiable depending upon qualifications and experience. Applicants available either in the fall of '67 or the fall of '68 will be considered. If interested, contact Dr. E. Dale Odom, Department of History, North Texas State University, Denton, Texas.

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#### FILM INTERVIEW AVAILABLE

Need something graphic to demonstrate the oral history method? A film entitled The Third House: An Oral History Interview with a Veteran California Lobbyist is available for rent from the Forest History Society. The interview is with William E. Schofield and was conducted by Amelia R. Fry of the Regional Oral History Office of the University of California at Berkeley under a grant from the Forest History Society. The interview, originally produced for television, is a sound motion picture film of approximately a half hour in length and suitable for classroom use. A copy can be rented for \$25 by writing to Elwood R. Maunder, Executive Director, Forest History Society, Yale University, 360 Prospect Street, New Haven, Connecticut 06511.

#### OH COURSE AT COOPERSTOWN

Included in the 20th Annual Seminars on American Culture offered this summer by the New York State Historical Association at Cooperstown, New York, is a course on oral history techniques. Participants will meet from 1:30 to 3:30 P.M. during the week of July 11-15 and will be instructed by Dr. Gould P. Colman, director of the Cornell Program in Oral History. Through lecture, discussion, and demonstration, Dr. Colman will examine oral history uses, devoting particular attention to the study of local history, an explanation of procedures, and an exploration of criteria to be used in evaluating tapes and transcripts. Interested persons should contact Mr. Frederick L. Rath, Jr., Vice-Director, New York State Historical Association, Cooperstown, New York 13326.

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#### FROM THE SAN FRANCISCO MARITIME MUSEUM-- A FISH STORY

The San Francisco Maritime Museum reports: "We have just completed five miles of tape by Bert Werder, a gentleman in his 80's who has been coming in every Wednesday to tell us about life in a small town on the shore of San Francisco bay." If this interview were recorded at <sup>15</sup>/16 inches per second, it would probably be the longest oral history memoir in existence. Even at 15 ips., this five-mile tape would produce the equivalent of 7500 pages of transcript. If the report is correct, there can be little doubt that the history of one section of San Francisco Bay has had definitive treatment.



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ORAL HISTORY PUBLICITY

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Orchids for the oral history method from the December 12, 1966 issue of THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR. In his article, "Researchers Mine Oral-History Treasure," Neal Stanford enthusiastically proclaimed, "Oral history is one of the fastest-growing phenomena in the United States. It ranks with photocopyers, computers, and radioisotopes as hallmarks of this era...Oral history has added a whole new vehicle for historical investigation. Its possibilities are incalculable." The author of the article is the brother of Dr. Edward B. Stanford, director of libraries at the University of Minnesota and a member of the Oral History Association.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, in a January 6, 1967 article written by James E. Bylin and entitled "Schools, Firms Launch Oral History Projects for Later Research," reviewed a few of the topics being researched by various oral history projects. The article briefly touched on some much-debated areas (to what extent should the tapes be preserved; how much access should there be to the interviews), but the author didn't presume to offer any solutions.

Professor Donald R. McCoy, at the 1966 AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION MEETING, recommended that oral historians get together and pool information and ideas as to how to improve the method. He also suggested that finished materials be made available to reputable researchers beyond collecting institutions' reading rooms.

Addressing the 1966 meeting of the AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION, Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. tackled the question of conditions of access to oral history interviews. As Professor Schlesinger views it, "the basic premise of the oral history idea is that the person interviewed retains absolute and total control over the interview; it is self-evident that without such protection serious oral history would be impossible."

In an article entitled "On the Writing of Contemporary History," published in the March '67 issue of the ATLANTIC MONTHLY, Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. elaborated on his address to the American Historical Association. He explored the reasons behind the "recent emergence of contemporary history into academic respectability" and emphasized the important role oral history can play in solving the contemporary historians' technical need to supplement documents.

In the March 5th issue of the LOS ANGELES TIMES WEST magazine, Pierre Salinger described the decision to have William Manchester interview Jacqueline Kennedy for the purpose of writing a book on the death of the President and at the same time as part of the oral history project which was attempting to record the thoughts and reactions of all those who had known President Kennedy. He gives a blow-by-blow account of the Kennedy family's dealings and problems with Manchester and indicates that perhaps the decision to have the interview made was a mistake.

At the ARCHIVAL SYMPOSIUM held December 17, 1966, in San Marino, California, Jim Mink addressed the group on "Oral History at Arrowhead-- A Resume."



The SOUTH DAKOTA LIBRARY BULLETIN has printed an address by Dr. William Wyatt of the Center for Western Studies, Augustana College, to the 1966 South Dakota Library Association Conference, in which he described his work in tracing the changing way of life in South Dakota. With the support of a \$15,000 Rockefeller Foundation grant, he has traveled through South Dakota interviewing the state's residents and accumulating hundreds of tapes of valuable material. His main regret is that the project was not undertaken a generation ago; much more of the history could have been preserved. "But," he adds, "it seems to me that this is the very reason we ought to be out right now doing the sort of thing that I hope we are doing in a reasonably effective manner. We can't wait."

A note by Dr. Leo H. Berman in the January 1967 issue of the JOURNAL OF THE HISTORY OF THE BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES, entitled "Oral History as Source Material for the History of Behavioral Sciences," urges the use of oral history interviews with those who have played prominent parts in the history of a science and with those individuals who have been associated with such men. He suggests that such oral history materials would be of great value to the newly established Archives of the History of American Psychology.

Willa Baum, a staff member of the Regional Oral History Office at the University of California's Bancroft Library in Berkeley, has been busy spreading the word of oral history. In October

she gave a paper entitled "Oral History: A Revived Tradition at the Bancroft Library" at the annual CONFERENCE OF THE WESTERN HISTORY ASSOCIATION at El Paso. Recently she was invited to speak at the SAN MATEO COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION; it is likely that a volunteer oral history project will result from that endeavor. On June 17th she will lead a round table discussion of oral history at the CONFERENCE OF CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL SOCIETIES at Oroville.

In the first issue of TARTAN, the new publication of the Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company, appears an article entitled "Today's Voices" written by Ruth Teiser, interviewer for the University of California's Regional Oral History Office, in which Miss Teiser presents a brief description of some of the projects involved in recording "today's voices" for posterity.

Last December Dr. Stratton F. Caldwell of San Fernando Valley State College's department of physical education presented a paper entitled "New Horizons for Physical Education and Sport Historians: Oral History Projects" to the 69th annual meeting of the NATIONAL COLLEGE PHYSICAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION FOR MEN. In this paper Dr. Caldwell persuasively recommended and presented practical suggestions for the collection and utilization of oral history interviews by sports and physical education historians.

In "Postulates of the Oral History Center for Latin America," an article in the January '67 issue of the JOURNAL OF LIBRARY HISTORY, James W. Wilkie, supervisor of Ohio State University's Oral History Center for Latin America, expressed his belief that oral history is an ideal means of getting at questions which have



long gone unanswered. In his extensive interviewing of Latin American historical figures, he found leaders of all ideologies readily agreed to interviews; each felt if he could be heard, he would be believed. Men out of power or in political disfavor were especially anxious to be given a chance to be heard. Oral history, Dr. Wilkie feels, presents an exceptionally good means of analyzing the personal intent and ideals of men who have shaped history.

Also in the January issue of the JOURNAL OF LIBRARY HISTORY, in an article entitled "Something New Has Been Added," Elizabeth I. Dixon announced the Journal has decided to devote a regular department to oral history, which she will edit. Contributions are encouraged. For her first article, she presented excerpts from an interview in an attempt to demonstrate one aspect of the kind of material that can be preserved through oral history.

In that same January issue of the JOURNAL OF LIBRARY HISTORY, its editor, Louis Shores, presented a brief run-down of the Lake Arrowhead activities.

Elizabeth I. Dixon took a look at "Arrowhead in Retrospect" in the April 1967 issue of the JOURNAL OF LIBRARY HISTORY and saw a conference that "seems to have provided the spark for real recognition of the medium." She referred to some of the publicity oral history received as a result of the conference and briefly described the program which generated such great interest.

In "The Dimensions of Oral History," an article based on a paper he presented to the Lake Arrowhead Colloquium and published in the March 1, 1967 issue of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, Louis Shores suggests that since it is likely the medium used to record history influences the content, it is important not only to use the oral history method but also to preserve the tape recordings. Furthermore, he stresses the added insight which can be gained by using other audio-visual media such as TV and sound filmstrips. He also stresses in the article the great need that exists for a more thorough indexing of oral history records.

Philip A. Crowl reported on "The Dulles Oral History Project: Mission Accomplished" in the February 1967 issue of the AHA NEWSLETTER. The research includes almost 280 interviews. Mr. Crowl pointed out that the project is unique among existing biographical-type programs in that as a study conceived of as a self-terminating undertaking, it is on the eve of its completion. But this was accomplished only after three years of operation and an expense of almost \$67,000. Mr. Crowl questioned whether oral history was worth such a great expense and concluded that "my own answer is a confident 'Yes.' ... Oral history... is not meant to serve as a substitute for the documentary record. It does in fact supplement the record by producing some information not hitherto documented. But more important, it can provide guidelines to assist the historian through the jungle of data that confronts him."



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PROJECT NEWS

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ROY DUNN reports that the Southwest Collection, a department of Texas Technological College, has been collecting interviews on the early developers of the Texas Panhandle, the south plains of Texas, and eastern New Mexico. The collection has been widely used by scholars.

DR. LOUIS STARR reports the oral history offices of the University of California at Berkeley and Columbia University have proposed a joint study of the international houses on their respective campuses to the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. This is a pioneering effort at collaboration on a project, although they have collaborated previously on individual exchanges of interviews.

The Labor Relations and Research Center at the University of Massachusetts, under the direction of PROFESSOR BEN SELIGMAN, is planning a series of OHIs with those who were active in union organization, strike action, labor papers, and community problems involving labor during the first decades of this century. The Center is especially interested in locating less prominent individuals who are not likely to have personal documents for future study. Several members of the history department will carry out the project, beginning in September.

The University of California's Regional Oral History Office at Berkeley is presently involved in three substantial interview series. A forestry

and conservation series is being conducted in conjunction with the Forest History Society. The series includes more than two dozen selected interviews with prominent leaders of forestry (both public and private) and with leaders of the forest products industries and conservationist groups. Transcripts are being deposited at Yale and the University of California at Berkeley. These interviews are being made under grants from Resources for the Future, Inc., and the Hill Family Foundation. Another series of Berkeley ROHO interviews is concerned with the development of the University of California, a subject of continuing attention at ROHO. Contributions to this project are being made by the Alumni Association of the University of California at Berkeley. The third series of interviews is exploring the development of San Francisco as a center of fine printing. Thus far interviews have been conducted with Jane and Bob Grabhorn, Lawton Kennedy, Adrian Wilson, Edward DeWitt Taylor, Brother Antoninus, Albert Sperisen, Warren Howell, and Haywood Hunt. ROHO is also involved in making single interviews with Ethel Duffy Turner, a woman active in the Mexican Revolution, and Dr. Walter Clay Lowdermilk, well-known soil conservationist.

BRUCE STAVE of the University of Bridgeport history department has been conducting interviews in connection with research for a book he is writing on Jasper McLevy, Socialist mayor of Bridgeport from 1933 to 1957 and an active participant in the conservative Socialist movement. Included in his research is an interview with Norman Thomas.



Memphis State University is mapping a series of interviews with individuals in the region who have made notable contributions to politics, business, music, art, literature, and other areas of Mid-South history. Already under way is a series on the history of Memphis jazz, which includes samples of music and interviews with some of the earlier musicians. Members of the economics department are conducting a study of recent changes in the cotton industry. English department faculty members are making plans to conduct interviews with writers of the Mid-South. The project is being overseen by CHARLES CRAWFORD, assistant professor of history.

DR. LEO H. BERMAN, medical director of the Hall-Brooke Hospital in Westport, Connecticut, is recording interviews with prominent leaders of psychiatry in the state of Connecticut. Among those he has interviewed are Fritz Redlich, Roy Leek, the oldest living psychiatrist in Connecticut, and Max Pepper, the first planner for mental health in the state.

O. O. WINTHER reports that Indiana University, though not engaged in a centralized oral history program, does have a number of projects under way. Oral history work is currently being undertaken by the Folklore Institute, the Music Archives, the Lilly Library, and the linguistics department.

At UCLA, MRS. ELIZABETH I. DIXON, head of the university's oral history program, is interviewing Victor M. Shapiro, Hollywood motion picture agent for many of the greats, including Rudolph Valentino, Charles Chaplin, Harold Lloyd, and Louis

Wohlheim. The memoirs will be used as the basis for an autobiography Mr. Shapiro intends to publish. The UCLA program will receive 20 per cent of the book's royalties. In keeping with its policy of collecting papers connected with its interviews, UCLA has been willed Mr. Shapiro's personal papers.

JAMES MINK, director of the UCLA program and university archivist, is interviewing UCLA Physics Professor and Chancellor Emeritus Vern O. Knudsen in an attempt to preserve university history. The interview is expected to yield significant material on the history of physics since 1916. Dr. Knudsen can provide particularly valuable information on the developmental history of acoustics, in which field he is recognized as this country's foremost authority. Professor Emeritus Leo P. Delssaso, who has worked closely with Dr. Knudsen over the past 45 years, is assisting as interviewer. Dr. Knudsen's files have been presented to the library.

MRS. ADELAIDE TUSLER, interviewer-editor for the UCLA program, is interviewing Dr. Stafford L. Warren, founding dean of the UCLA Medical School. Dr. Warren is a leader in the field of biophysics and has received high recognition as chief of the medical section and advisor to the commanding general of the Manhattan Project during World War II. Dr. Warren has also been interviewed by the John F. Kennedy Oral History Program in connection with the work he performed for President Kennedy's mental retardation program. His personal papers are being deposited in the library as he finishes using them as references in the interview.

DR. VICTOR H. WITTEN, inspired, no doubt, by Chita Fry's Arrowhead program, conducted videotape inter-



views with leading American dermatologists at the 25th annual meeting of the American Academy of Dermatology. Equipment and technical assistance were supplied by Ampex Corporation. Similar interviews will be made by Dr. Witten at the International Congress of Dermatology to be held in Munich this summer as well as at the next annual meeting of the American Academy of Dermatology in Chicago in December.

DR. RITA CAMPBELL, archivist at Stanford University, informs us that the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution, and Peace is taping recollections of retired military leaders living in the area of San Francisco and the Bay Peninsula. The interviewing has been done by retired Colonel Clarence Clendemen. This group is involved jointly with the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library in an oral history program on the life of Herbert Hoover made possible through a foundation grant. Future plans provide for the taping of informal speeches of visiting lecturers at Hoover Institution seminars and conferences.

MAX WEINREICH reports that the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research is using oral history interviews in preparing a history of Jewish labor in the United States. The oral history project originated approximately three years ago and will be expanded considerably within the coming academic year.

Columbia University's Oral History Office, under the direction of DR. LOUIS STARR, issued an annual report listing approximately 30,000 pages of material added to its collection of oral history since the publication of its catalogue (this

report may be had for the asking). Columbia's collection now exceeds 250,000 pages, and its endowment has just passed \$250,000-- a dollar of permanent acquisitions money for every page in the collection. The program recently received \$40,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities for a year-long project on the Eisenhower administration. The acquired testimony is being shared with the Eisenhower Library in Abilene, Kansas. In a letter to Dr. Starr, Dwight D. Eisenhower writes, "I am more than pleased that you have the resources to undertake the Oral History project on the 1952-1961 administration. There are many misconceptions about that particular period in our history and your work penetrating, as I assume it will, into the minds and memories of dozens of persons who were active participants in that administration, should do much to keep the record accurate."

ELWOOD R. MAUNDER reports that the Forest History Society at Yale University has received a grant of \$42,412 from the Hill Family Foundation in support of a project of oral history interviewing in the Pacific Northwest. The grant provides for a series of interviews with leading foresters of the region to be made by Mr. Maunder and other interviewers during a two-year period beginning in May 1967. Certain of these interviews have already been assigned to the Regional Oral History Office of the University of California at Berkeley. The grant will permit Mr. Maunder to expand upon work he is doing on a biography of David T. Mason, nationally known forester and for years a private consultant in Portland, Oregon. The Society's program in oral history has grown steadily since its first beginning in 1952. The Society now has a library of more than 100 selected interviews.