

ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION NEVVSLETTER

Volume XII, Number 3

Summer 1978

SPACE AGE DOCUMENTATION: NASA ORAL HISTORY

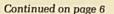
In the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center near Houston is an office whose door reads simply "History." Inside, not far from the work of American astronauts, a small staff labors to arrange and preserve much of the archives of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. With no fanfare and little notice, oral history has long played an integral role in the work of documenting the U.S. Space program.

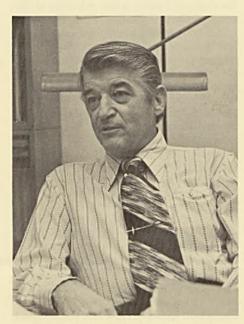
NASA early decided to preserve the histories of the Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo efforts. Personal interviews with scientists, engineers, space officials, and industry contract personnel became important aspects of the overall historical work.

Much of the responsibility for organiz-

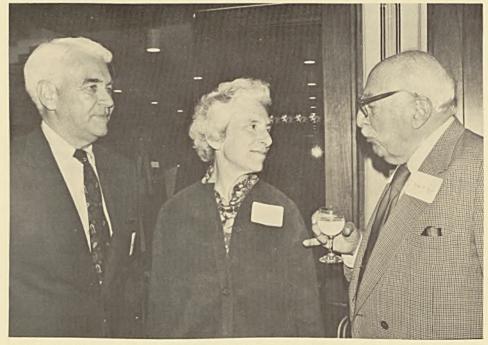
ing and administering NASA's oral documentation program has rested with James M. Grimwood, JSC historian, who will soon retire from his post.

A federal historian for more than twenty-five years, Grimwood joined NASA in 1962. Holder of the M.A. in history (University of Alabama), he worked as an Air Force historian from 1953-60, then prepared histories for the Army Missile Command, Huntsville, Alabama, where he ran an interview desk and "got to observe, see the hardware, know who was involved." He also developed historical archives for the missile command and because of his experience with ballistic missile systems history, Grimwood was





James Grimwood, NASA historian



L-R William McGill, president, Columbia University; Barbara Tuchman, author; and Alfred A. Knopf, publisher at Columbia's thirtieth anniversary party.

COLUMBIA'S THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

The Columbia University Oral History Research Office celebrated its thirtieth anniversary May 25, 1978. "An extraordinary gathering of scholars—and people who expect their lives to be of interest to scholars—" attended the festivities. The presence of scholars Henry Steele Commager, Barbara Tuchman, and W. A. Swanberg, plus the attendance of interviewees Aaron Copland, Alfred Knopf, and former New York mayor Robert F. Wagner, among others, prompted director Louis Starr to repeat his claim that "history is made in New York."

The anniversary of Allan Nevins' founding of the oral history office was highlighted by the announcement that NEH, the Rockefeller Foundation and the New York Community Trust were granting \$400,000 to Columbia to begin collecting material to be used, after the deaths of the sources, in future editions of the Dictionary of American Biography.

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Waddy Moore

One of the most important decisions the Council makes is the selection of the colloquia and workshop sites. The major criterion used to make such selections has been our desire to geographically distribute our meetings to all parts of the country to keep travel expenses as reasonable as possible and to promote interest in and provide training for the people in the area in which we meet. This means we rotate meetings between the two coasts and Middle America. The Council has created three subcommittees, each to search a specific geographic region and recommend possible meeting sites. Committee members will individually collect information and forward it to a designated officer or council member, presently: Willa Baum in the West, Bill Moss in the East, and Waddy Moore in Middle America. The 1980 Colloquium will be in the western area and that subcommittee is already at work. Other zone subcommittees will be appointed between now and the midyear Council meeting in 1979.

The final decision as to where we meet will be made by the Council. The subcommittee's work is to seek sites in their area they think would be suitable. They are not asked to make a thorough investigation or to commit the OHA to anything. OHA can NOT reimburse committee members for expenses incurred in the preliminary investigation. Some members may be asked later to visit or revisit a facility to negotiate for the OHA, in which case some or all expenses will be paid by OHA.

The Council has prepared guidelines for use in site selection covering the specific needs of the group, i.e., land and air transportation; size and type of space required for meetings and housing; meals; costs; local arrangements; local points of interest; equipment available,

If you will serve on the site selection subcommittee in your area please let me know.

NOMINEES FOR OHA OFFICES NAMED

Chairman James W. Hammack and the nominating committee offer the following nominees for consideration at the annual business meeting in Savannah, Georgia, October 21. It should be noted that the business meeting will be a breakfast session this year instead of an evening meeting.

Vice President | President Elect: Enid H. Douglass, director, Oral History Program, Claremont Graduate School. She is a charter member of OHA, was program chairman of the 1976 National Colloquium, is chairman of the evaluation and standards committee, a member of the Council and has served in several other capacities.

Council: Ronald J. Grele, director, Oral History Program, New Jersey Historical Commission. Grele was formerly assistant director of the Ford Foundation Oral History Project and is chairman of OHA's 1978 Colloquium.

Betty McKeever Key, director, Oral History Office, Maryland Historical Society. She is a founding member of Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region (OHMAR); has served the OHA on the Council and is currently chairman of the liaison committee for regional groups; cooperating editor for the oral history column in History News; and a member of the OHA evaluation committee.

Elizabeth Branch Mason, associate director of the Columbia University Oral History Research Office. She has presented many papers and workshop sessions dealing with oral history, including appearances at several OHA colloquia and has further served oral history nationally through editorial work on *Oral History in the United States: A Directory* and on the proceedings of the first Colloquium.

Charles R. Schultz, university archivist, Texas A&M University. Schultz has been an active member of OHA: member of the nominating committee, Workshop faculty, Workshop chairman, project evaluator, and chairman of the ad hoc committee to evaluate OHA tapes and workshop sessions as instructional materials.

UPDATE

So far the *Newsletter* has received only one response to its request in the Spring 1978 issue for information on the listing of oral history in basic reference works. The Society of American Archivists reports that the term "oral history" appeared in a compilation called, "A Basic Glossary for Archivists, Manuscript Curators, and Records Managers," which was published in the *American Archivist* 37 (July 1974), pp. 415-433. The glossary itself is available from the office of the

Executive Director, Society of American Archivists, The Library, P.O. Box 8198, University of Illinois at Chicago Circle, Chicago, IL 60680. The *Newsletter* is still unaware of any reference work for general readers, other than the ones listed in the spring issue, which includes "oral history."

LETTERS:

14 July 1978

Editor:

Belatedly, we wish to express agreement and disagreement with David Stricklin's editorial in the Fall 1977 OHA Newsletter in which he first lauds the diversity of OHA's membership and colloquia presentations, and then questions the propriety of one presentation in the San Diego Colloquium of a commercial project that produces brief, taped personality vignettes of "achievers." We question the wisdom of the Newsletter singling out for criticism one project that is off-the-beaten-track. inasmuch as our colloquia programs have always included speakers who were taping interviews that were related, but sometimes not very closely related to mainstream oral history.

In other words, there are more variables in oral history than the two (research time and length of interview) that form the basis of the criticism. OHA should be open to learning about other species of interviews without fear of accusations of advocacy.

Sincerely yours,

Willa Baum (Signed) Amelia Fry (Signed) Regional Oral History Office UC-Berkeley

COLLOQUIUM PROGRAM CHANGES

Robert Coles will be unable to speak at the 1978 Colloquium due to a back injury. Replacing him as dinner speaker Friday, October 20, will be Vivian Gornick, author of *The Romance of American Communism* (Book Notices, Spring '78), and former writer for the *Village Voice*.

Michael Lesy, author of Wisconsin Death Trip, will speak at the Friday luncheon following the Workshop on: Photographic Analysis and Oral Testimony, based on his current Rochester, New York, study.

Leopold Adler III will replace Mills B. Lane IV at the Saturday morning session on Oral History and Historic Savannah Preservation, Inc.

KENTUCKY HOLDS OH CONFERENCE

More than one hundred and thirty persons attended the first Kentucky Governor's Conference on Oral History, sponsored by the Kentucky Oral History Commission, April 21-22 in Richmond, Kentucky. The KOHC was established upon the recommendation of Governor Julian M. Carroll and the \$50,000 annual budget comes through the Governor's Contingency Fund. Under the leadership of Governor Carroll KOHC became the first state-funded oral history commission in the United States. The conference was constructed to include basic features such as workshops discussing interview techniques, as well as regionally grouped seminars which were designed to serve as a sounding board for the participants' questions and suggestions.

NEW ZEALAND

The Oral History Society, the Waikato Art Museum, and the public library will sponsor a seminar on Oral Traditions at Waikato Technical Institute in Hamilton November 11-12. Norman Simms (University of Waikato) is organizer.

Simms reports two main areas of oral history are under study in New Zealand. The greater concentration is on the Maori culture; less developed is the oral history of European New Zealand.

AUSTRALIA

In July M. J. Teasdale of Mount Pleasant, Western Australia, organized a group of people interested in forming an Australian oral history association. The meeting site was the University of Western Australia-Perth. After attending the recent Colloquium on Oral History in Southeast Asia at Penang, Malaysia, Teasdale came away determined to develop an association to promote cooperation and strengthen Australian interest in oral history.

CANADA

Ernest J. Dick is now acting head, Sound Archives Section, Public Archives of Canada, succeeding Léo La Clare who has moved to the Treasury Board of Canada.

The Journal of the Canadian Oral History Association will be published twice yearly (spring and fall) replacing the Bulletin, heretofore published two or three times each year. Contact: COHA, P.O. Box 301, Station A, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 8V3.



L-R James W. Hammack, Murray State Univ. oral history program; Waddy W. Moore, Univ. Central Arkansas, president of OHA, main speaker; and Al Smith, chairman, Kentucky Oral History Commission.

FRANCE

Dominique Schnapper reports on new developments in the oral history project studying the French social security system at École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris. Approximately 7,000 pages of typescript representing 230 interviews with 125 memoirists are in process or on deposit at the French Archives Nationales.

Two methodological texts have issued from the project and will be published in scientific magazines during the coming year. A final report will be compiled incorporating the methodological texts and a history of the program. All interviews are restricted.

FULBRIGHT FOR OH IN LATIN AMERICA

George P. Browne (Seton Hall University) has been awarded a one-year Senior Fulbright Lectureship to begin July 1978 at Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Brazil.

Browne, who has prior oral history research experience in Brazil, will continue his work on the impact of 19th-century immigration on Brazil by studying the community of Blumenau. He will also work with the university's history department to set up a statewide network of oral history centers in six or seven universities plus local archives and historical societies. The goal is to make UFSC a major center for oral history in Brazil.

CSULB GROWTH TRACED BY GLUCK

Sherna Gluck, professor of women's studies at California State University-Long Beach, has been commissioned to do an oral history of the university. CSULB has experienced phenomenal growth since its founding in 1949, and Gluck will trace its development through interviews with students, staff, faculty, and administrators. Says Gluck, "We're going to involve everybody and get a picture of the university from the top and the bottom and the inside and the outside."

Oral history is not new to Gluck who has used the method for numerous projects on the history of women in this country. Her book, *From Parlor to Prison* (BOOK NOTICES, Summer '76), traces the lives of five suffragettes through their personal recollections.

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL OH ASSN. TO ORGANIZE

An open meeting to discuss establishing a Great Lakes Regional Oral History Association (Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Minnesota) will be held at the 1978 Colloquium, time and place to be announced. Contact John Neuenschwander, Carthage College, Kenosha, WI 53140.

EXTENSIVE INDEX PRODUCED IN NORTHWEST

The Washington State Archives recently published its *Oral History Index.* (see BOOK NOTICES) The index cross references the transcript collection with its companion photo collection. Interviews and photographs were collected during 1975-76 to celebrate the common heritage of the Northwest. Compiled by Ann Rune, under the auspices of the Washington State Bicentennial Oral/Aural History Collection, the project was funded by CETA and is available on microfiche.

In addition to libraries, archives, and historical societies throughout Washington, the microfiche collection is housed in Vancouver's public library and University of British Columbia; the B.C. Provincial Archives/Aural History at Victoria; Bancroft and UCLA libraries in California; at Columbia University and the public library in New York City; Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe; the University of Hawaii and others in the continental U.S. totaling twenty-nine institutions.

CHICANO TOPICS AT UTEP

Oscar J. Martínez, director of The Institute of Oral History at The University of Texas-El Paso, and his assistant Sarah E. John, are building a significant archive on Mexican-American affairs and related topics. Recent work on the middle Texas border communities of Eagle Pass/Piedras Negras, and Del Rio/Ciudad Acuña yielded important memoirs on such subjects as Americans in Mexico during the Porfirio Diaz regime, U.S. Customs work and smuggling, La Raza Unida party, local politics, and the army of Venustiano Carranza in the Mexican Revolution.

The IOH's holdings also include twenty-six interviews with female participants in the 1972-74 strike against the Farah Company of El Paso. These interviews were conducted by Stanford University graduate students Gail Hershatter and Emily Honig and San Franciscan Laurie Coyle during the summer of 1977. The Farah tapes are open for research at the IOH.

FAMILY HERITAGE CALLS FOR ARTICLES

Family Heritage, a new magazine focusing on family and local history, invites articles of 1,500-4,000 words on how oral history serves the interests of its readers. Scott McDade, Editor, 26 Third Place, Brooklyn, NY 11231. (Sub. \$8)

GRANTS

With a \$2,900 grant from the Colorado Humanities Program, the history department of the University of Colorado-Boulder and the Boulder Public Library Foundation cosponsored a regional oral history workshop at UCB in June. Entitled "Living Memories: A Northern Colorado/Front Range Regional Oral History Workshop" the all-day program was directed by the library's R. Michael Collard and UCB's Susan Armitage and attracted participants from across the state.

Three oral history related grants have been awarded this year by the Texas Committee for the Humanities (NEH). The Marshall Public Library (Harrison County) received \$5,200 to continue and deepen its study of the county's elderly blacks. A grant of \$21,983 went to People's History of Texas, Inc., a volunteer group based in Austin which has used oral history to develop educational materials, in part to complete a filmed oral history of women unionists in Texas. The Baylor University Program for Oral History, Waco, also received a film grant, \$4,485, to begin research and writing of a documentary on the achievements of oral history in Texas.

The New Jersey Historical Commission's annual competitive grant-inaid for research in N.J. history has gone to Hal Vogel (Trenton State College) for an oral history study of the state's support of the MacGregor Arctic Expedition, 1937-38, the only polar expedition to have a N.J. home port. Vogel previously conducted oral history research concerning the polar regions, and communications and postal operations.

John Neuenschwander (Carthage College) was awarded a summer fellowship by the Newberry Library in Chicago to study the geriatric applications of oral history. His work focuses on the practical applications of teaching local/oral history courses in senior citizen centers and nursing homes and grew out of a course he has been teaching for senior citizens.

Gwendolyn Safier (School of Med., U. of Cal.-S.F.) has been awarded a \$1,000 grant by the American Association of University Women for work on a second volume of her textbook, Contemporary American Leaders in Nursing: An Oral History. (BOOK NOTICES, Fall '76)

Continued on page 6

ORAL HISTORY

Rapid Growth of Oral in the Sunshine State

TAMPA AREA

Residents of the Tampa area are under intense investigation by local oral historians. One such sleuth is Louis A. Perez, Jr., of the history department at the University of South Florida. Perez is one of several USF professors using oral history to gain a detailed look into Tampa's past. They are joined by history professors from Hillsborough Community College and other nearby institutions.

Perez, whose interest lies primarily in the Cuban-Spanish community, was one of the first to begin taping conversations with older residents to record their memories of events in the U.S. and in their homelands. Some in their nineties remember the Spanish-American War from the Cuban side. "What I find most curious about these interviews," Perez says, "is how accurate the memories of most of these people are. They can remember minute details you'd expect to be lost by now. But we can be pretty sure they're correct when we hear some similar story from another person. . ."

Also at USF, Robert P. Ingalls is inquiring into Tampa's labor history; Stephen Lawson is researching the civil rights movement; and Gary Marmino's work centers on ethnicity, particularly the Italian community. At HCC, Glenn Westfall is probing Tampa history as is James W. Covington at the University of Tampa.

Of his work Ingalls says, "It is important to understand why labor was always so weak in the South, why in a city like Tampa there were such desperate and frustrated labor movements in the '20s and '30s.... We still don't know much about all that, but it will be essential to the future to know the past."

Lawson is particularly interested in Tampa's 1967 race riots and talks of the difficulty of reluctant interviewees. He mentions the great sense of well-being in Tampa prior to 1967, when riots were taking place in other cities. A biracial commission seemed to be making changes. "Now it appears the changes were only for the upper-middle-class blacks, and that was a small minority then. . . . These deceptions can play on the historian looking back as much as they did on the people who thought everything was moving along peacefully and to everybody's satisfaction."

EXTENSIVE INDEX PRODUCED IN NORTHWEST

The Washington State Archives recently published its *Oral History Index.* (see BOOK NOTICES) The index cross references the transcript collection with its companion photo collection. Interviews and photographs were collected during 1975-76 to celebrate the common heritage of the Northwest. Compiled by Ann Rune, under the auspices of the Washington State Bicentennial Oral/Aural History Collection, the project was funded by CETA and is available on microfiche.

In addition to libraries, archives, and historical societies throughout Washington, the microfiche collection is housed in Vancouver's public library and University of British Columbia; the B.C. Provincial Archives/Aural History at Victoria; Bancroft and UCLA libraries in California; at Columbia University and the public library in New York City; Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe; the University of Hawaii and others in the continental U.S. totaling twenty-nine institutions.

CHICANO TOPICS AT UTEP

Oscar J. Martínez, director of The Institute of Oral History at The University of Texas-El Paso, and his assistant Sarah E. John, are building a significant archive on Mexican-American affairs and related topics. Recent work on the middle Texas border communities of Eagle Pass/Piedras Negras, and Del Rio/Ciudad Acuña yielded important memoirs on such subjects as Americans in Mexico during the Porfirio Diaz regime, U.S. Customs work and smuggling, La Raza Unida party, local politics, and the army of Venustiano Carranza in the Mexican Revolution.

The IOH's holdings also include twenty-six interviews with female participants in the 1972-74 strike against the Farah Company of El Paso. These interviews were conducted by Stanford University graduate students Gail Hershatter and Emily Honig and San Franciscan Laurie Coyle during the summer of 1977. The Farah tapes are open for research at the IOH.

FAMILY HERITAGE CALLS FOR ARTICLES

Family Heritage, a new magazine focusing on family and local history, invites articles of 1,500-4,000 words on how oral history serves the interests of its readers. Scott McDade, Editor, 26 Third Place, Brooklyn, NY 11231. (Sub. \$8)

GRANTS

With a \$2,900 grant from the Colorado Humanities Program, the history department of the University of Colorado-Boulder and the Boulder Public Library Foundation cosponsored a regional oral history workshop at UCB in June. Entitled "Living Memories: A Northern Colorado/Front Range Regional Oral History Workshop" the all-day program was directed by the library's R. Michael Collard and UCB's Susan Armitage and attracted participants from across the state.

Three oral history related grants have been awarded this year by the Texas Committee for the Humanities (NEH). The Marshall Public Library (Harrison County) received \$5,200 to continue and deepen its study of the county's elderly blacks. A grant of \$21,983 went to People's History of Texas, Inc., a volunteer group based in Austin which has used oral history to develop educational materials, in part to complete a filmed oral history of women unionists in Texas. The Baylor University Program for Oral History, Waco, also received a film grant, \$4,485, to begin research and writing of a documentary on the achievements of oral history in Texas.

The New Jersey Historical Commission's annual competitive grant-inaid for research in N.J. history has gone to Hal Vogel (Trenton State College) for an oral history study of the state's support of the MacGregor Arctic Expedition, 1937-38, the only polar expedition to have a N.J. home port. Vogel previously conducted oral history research concerning the polar regions, and communications and postal operations.

John Neuenschwander (Carthage College) was awarded a summer fellowship by the Newberry Library in Chicago to study the geriatric applications of oral history. His work focuses on the practical applications of teaching local/oral history courses in senior citizen centers and nursing homes and grew out of a course he has been teaching for senior citizens.

Gwendolyn Safier (School of Med., U. of Cal.-S.F.) has been awarded a \$1,000 grant by the American Association of University Women for work on a second volume of her textbook, Contemporary American Leaders in Nursing: An Oral History. (BOOK NOTICES, Fall '76)

Continued on page 6

ORAL HISTORY IN FLORIDA

Rapid Growth of Oral History in the Sunshine State

TAMPA AREA

Residents of the Tampa area are under intense investigation by local oral historians. One such sleuth is Louis A. Perez, Jr., of the history department at the University of South Florida. Perez is one of several USF professors using oral history to gain a detailed look into Tampa's past. They are joined by history professors from Hillsborough Community College and other nearby institutions.

Perez, whose interest lies primarily in the Cuban-Spanish community, was one of the first to begin taping conversations with older residents to record their memories of events in the U.S. and in their homelands. Some in their nineties remember the Spanish-American War from the Cuban side. "What I find most curious about these interviews," Perez says, "is how accurate the memories of most of these people are. They can remember minute details you'd expect to be lost by now. But we can be pretty sure they're correct when we hear some similar story from another person. . . "

Also at USF, Robert P. Ingalls is inquiring into Tampa's labor history; Stephen Lawson is researching the civil rights movement; and Gary Marmino's work centers on ethnicity, particularly the Italian community. At HCC, Glenn Westfall is probing Tampa history as is James W. Covington at the University of Tampa.

Of his work Ingalls says, "It is important to understand why labor was always so weak in the South, why in a city like Tampa there were such desperate and frustrated labor movements in the '20s and '30s.... We still don't know much about all that, but it will be essential to the future to know the past."

Lawson is particularly interested in Tampa's 1967 race riots and talks of the difficulty of reluctant interviewees. He mentions the great sense of well-being in Tampa prior to 1967, when riots were taking place in other cities. A biracial commission seemed to be making changes. "Now it appears the changes were only for the upper-middle-class blacks, and that was a small minority then. . . . These deceptions can play on the historian looking back as much as they did on the people who thought everything was moving along peacefully and to everybody's satisfaction."

Tampa is a veritable laboratory for an historian of ethnic groups such as Marmino. With the influx of people from Cuba, Italy, and Spain, he says Tampa acquired an Old World flavor second only to New Orleans. For Marmino, the importance of the ethnic population in Tampa goes beyond the city and the state: "We can investigate from knowing the people here why they left their homes in Europe, or wherever. . . . We can learn a lot about the Old Country from learning about the people we have right here."

CENTRAL FLORIDA

Oral history thrives in Central Florida through the efforts of Adele L. Oldenburg, reference librarian at Polk Community College, Winter Haven. Oldenburg's first contact with the then infant oral history movement was as a graduate student in library science at Florida State University in 1964. In that same year PCC opened but not until its tenth anniversary did Oldenburg have an opportunity to put oral history to use. She planned and carried out a project on the school's early leaders to mark its first decade.

In addition, Oldenburg guides the Polk County Historical Association in its oral documentation of the community and assists the Historical Association of Lake Alfred in recording their local history.

Former PCC history student Betsy Holden was instructed in oral history techniques by Oldenburg and prompted to begin research in the traditions and customs of the Minorcans of Saint Johns County, descendants of indentured Spanish settlers of Saint Augustine, the nation's oldest city.

These fifth-generation families are one of Florida's oldest and most interesting ethnic groups. Says Holden, "Oral history seemed to be the most enlightening approach to reveal the story of a nearly forgotten people who contributed so much in previous eras to this region. Many of their deeds have gone unrecorded and their sketchy history consists solely of church records, family genealogies, and gleanings from journals and diaries." Tapes and transcripts of the Minorcan project are housed in the PCC Archives.

PROFILE

Leadership at the University of Florida



Samuel Proctor, past OHA president and director of oral history at University of Florida.

Samuel Proctor is a past president of the OHA (1974-75), an eclectic practitioner of oral history, and one of its leading exponents in the state of Florida.

Proctor holds the B.A. (1941), the M.A. (1942), and Ph.D. (1958) from the University of Florida where he has taught since 1946 and is Distinguished Service Professor of History and Social Sciences and Julien C. Yonge Professor of Florida History. He also serves as director of UF's Oral History Program, history curator of the Florida State Museum, editor of the Florida Historical Quarterly, and as director and codirector, respectively, of the centers for the study of Florida history and humanities and of Southeastern Indians.

A scholar of diverse interests and activities, Proctor's public involvement includes a Peace Corps lectureship and an appearance as an expert witness in an Indian land claim suit. He has received grants for work in state and local history and takes an active part in the American Jewish Historical Society. Proctor edited Florida's bicentennial facsimile and monograph series and *Proceedings*. In all he has

edited thirty-two books, written four books of his own and more than eighty articles.

Having held nearly every elected and appointed position in the OHA, Proctor's judgment came to bear on many of the decisions and advancements made during the association's first decade. His presidential year concluded at Asheville, North Carolina, when the colloquium program announced that oral history had "come of age." Proctor continues to play an active role in the OHA and pursues a variety of oral history. Today he leads UF's participation in the Southeastern Indian study funded since 1970 by the Doris Duke Foundation, directs the National Geographic Society's work in eastern Mexico, and is helping develop a cooperative program between UF and Jerusalem's Hebrew University to study Jewish communities in the Caribbean and Latin America.

Sam Proctor has made many contributions to the preservation and study of history. He is a colorful and valued member of the Oral History Association.

IN FLORIDA

History

Tampa is a veritable laboratory for an historian of ethnic groups such as Marmino. With the influx of people from Cuba, Italy, and Spain, he says Tampa acquired an Old World flavor second only to New Orleans. For Marmino, the importance of the ethnic population in Tampa goes beyond the city and the state: "We can investigate from knowing the people here why they left their homes in Europe, or wherever. . . . We can learn a lot about the Old Country from learning about the people we have right here."

CENTRAL FLORIDA

Oral history thrives in Central Florida through the efforts of Adele L. Oldenburg, reference librarian at Polk Community College, Winter Haven. Oldenburg's first contact with the then infant oral history movement was as a graduate student in library science at Florida State University in 1964. In that same year PCC opened but not until its tenth anniversary did Oldenburg have an opportunity to put oral history to use. She planned and carried out a project on the school's early leaders to mark its first decade.

In addition, Oldenburg guides the Polk County Historical Association in its oral documentation of the community and assists the Historical Association of Lake Alfred in recording their local history.

Former PCC history student Betsy Holden was instructed in oral history techniques by Oldenburg and prompted to begin research in the traditions and customs of the Minorcans of Saint Johns County, descendants of indentured Spanish settlers of Saint Augustine, the nation's oldest city.

These fifth-generation families are one of Florida's oldest and most interesting ethnic groups. Says Holden, "Oral history seemed to be the most enlightening approach to reveal the story of a nearly forgotten people who contributed so much in previous eras to this region. Many of their deeds have gone unrecorded and their sketchy history consists solely of church records, family genealogies, and gleanings from journals and diaries." Tapes and transcripts of the Minorcan project are housed in the PCC Archives.

PROFILE

Leadership at the University of Florida



Samuel Proctor, past OHA president and director of oral history at University of Florida.

Samuel Proctor is a past president of the OHA (1974-75), an eclectic practitioner of oral history, and one of its leading exponents in the state of Florida.

Proctor holds the B.A. (1941), the M.A. (1942), and Ph.D. (1958) from the University of Florida where he has taught since 1946 and is Distinguished Service Professor of History and Social Sciences and Julien C. Yonge Professor of Florida History. He also serves as director of UF's Oral History Program, history curator of the Florida State Museum, editor of the Florida Historical Quarterly, and as director and codirector, respectively, of the centers for the study of Florida history and humanities and of Southeastern Indians.

A scholar of diverse interests and activities, Proctor's public involvement includes a Peace Corps lectureship and an appearance as an expert witness in an Indian land claim suit. He has received grants for work in state and local history and takes an active part in the American Jewish Historical Society. Proctor edited Florida's bicentennial facsimile and monograph series and *Proceedings*. In all he has

edited thirty-two books, written four books of his own and more than eighty articles.

Having held nearly every elected and appointed position in the OHA, Proctor's judgment came to bear on many of the decisions and advancements made during the association's first decade. His presidential year concluded at Asheville, North Carolina, when the colloquium program announced that oral history had "come of age." Proctor continues to play an active role in the OHA and pursues a variety of oral history. Today he leads UF's participation in the Southeastern Indian study funded since 1970 by the Doris Duke Foundation, directs the National Geographic Society's work in eastern Mexico, and is helping develop a cooperative program between UF and Jerusalem's Hebrew University to study Jewish communities in the Caribbean and Latin America.

Sam Proctor has made many contributions to the preservation and study of history. He is a colorful and valued member of the Oral History Association.

NASA

Continued from page 1

chosen to initiate the manned spacecraft center's historical efforts.

Grimwood brought to his new assignment a disdain for the official viewpoints of most "court history" and for the kind of record produced "when engineers try to do history." He analyzed documentsfrom position papers and memoranda to transcripts of communications with capsules in space-and found an "unevenness" in the source material produced by the space agency. In a classic example of using oral history to fill gaps in the written record, Grimwood began to do specific topical interviews during work on the Mercury project history. To his surprise, locating willing interviewees among project participants was no problem; rather, he said, "People came out of the walls to talk to us.'

The JSC contracted with historians from the University of Houston, Sangamon State University, and other institutions. In all, twelve researchers have conducted over 1,000 interviews. Grimwood himself has used the NASA interview material in publications such as On the Shoulders of Titans: A History of Project Gemini (see BOOK NOTICES), coauthored with Barton C. Hacker. Grimwood and his assistant, editorarchivist Sally D. Gates, are currently at work declassifying much of the oral history material for use by other scholars and ultimate transfer to the National Archives.

NASA historian Eugene M. Emme, in describing the difficulty of doing historical research on the agency, once observed that the history of science and technology in the twentieth century "is not a well-attended vineyard." Jim Grimwood and others will soon be retired and the oral documentation of Skylab, Spaceshuttle, and other U.S. space projects will remain for others to do. Who will organize NASA's next oral history work remains to be seen.

INTERVIEWEES SOUGHT FOR IWW DOCUMENTARY

The Center for Educational Productions in New York City makes an urgent plea for persons with knowledge of the Industrial Workers of the World in the period 1905-25, to participate in a documentary film. Of particular interest are people from the mining regions of the Midwest, West, Southwest, and the South; anyone with knowledge of the Brotherhood of Timberworkers, the Marine Transport Workers, or the Oil Workers Industrial. Contact: Producers, IWW Film Project, 320 W. 90th St., #5F, New York, NY 10024.

OH OF NATIONAL LABORATORIES BEGUN

The American Institute of Physics is involved in several oral history projects. At the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory reminiscences of some of the individuals who have been important in accelerator development are being preserved along with informal discussions with noted visitors.

At the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory a pilot project, begun last January, explores and assesses the need for a full-scale project and will implement a sample study to clarify some of the important things historians of science will need.

Financed largely by the National Science Foundation, and including memoirs contributed by outside interviewers, the AIP's program to preserve sources documenting the history of modern astronomy, astrophysics, and cosmology, has, in its third year, well over 200 hours of interviews with eighty-four individuals constituting more than 6,000 pages of transcripts.

The National Research Council of Canada has enhanced its archival holdings with W. E. Knowles Middleton's project on the history of NRC physics research, 1929-52.

GRANTS

Continued from page 4

NEH recently awarded a joint planning grant to Wayne State University and the United Automobile Workers for a project, "Workers Look at Their Jobs and Their Union: An Educational Approach through Oral History." Aim of the project is to produce a series of educational packages using oral history, film and/or video, slide-tape shows and other multimedia presentations portraying both historical perspective and current concerns of various age groups in the industry. Emphasis is placed on women and minorities. Pat Pilling is project coordinator with codirectors Philip P. Mason (Walter P. Reuther Library), and Carroll Hutton, education director, UAW.

A \$5,800 grant from the Board of Education of the United Methodist Church to the Department of History at Paine College, Augusta, Georgia, made possible the recently completed history of the institution from 1904-56. Sharon Endelman directed a student seminar on basic oral history techniques and presented a paper on the completed project at the spring conference of the Georgia Association of Historians.

NEWS

The University of California-Santa Barbara's Public Historical Studies Program sponsored an oral history colloquium in January as the first of three conferences on history in the community. The program is designed to train historians to perform historical research outside of the academic environment.

Ninety-three-year-old Will Durant was the honored guest at the fifth annual oral history demonstration panel of the William E. Wiener Oral History Library last spring. The panel, now a regular feature of the American Jewish Committee's annual meeting, also included such notable memoirists as octogenarian historian Ariel Durant; novelist Chaim Potok; and essayist, humorist and lecturer Leo Rosten.

Just off the press is the library's Catalogue of Memoirs (See Book Notices), a major finding aid for memoirs on civil rights, East European Jewish communities, Holocaust survivors, and other Jewish topics.

Milton E. Krents, former director of the library is now chairman of the library's national advisory board. Irma Kopp Krents is the new director.

A kit offered by Columbia for \$10 includes the most recent manual, survey of oral history with bibliography, listing of oral history memoirs in microform, National Public Radio discussion of recent developments in the field, reprint discussing representative projects. Oral History, Box 20, Butler Library, Columbia University, New York, NY 10027.

The names of people whose contributions to the history of the factual film should be recorded in the AAFFs oral history program will be welcome at the American Archives of the Factual Film, Iowa State University Library, Ames, IA 50011.

Continued on page 8

NEA/OH KANTOR AWARD

The 1978 recipient of the Harvey A. Kantor Memorial Award for Significant Work in Oral History is William Moss (J.F.K. Library), vice president/president elect of OHA. The award is the only national recognition of work in oral history and was initiated by the New England Association of Oral History in 1977 to honor the late Harvey A. Kantor, a founding member of NEA/OH. Bruce M. Stave (University of Connecticut-Storrs) was the first honoree.

BOOK NOTICES

Catalogue of Memoirs of the William E. Wiener Library. n. a. (New York: American Jewish Committee, 1978, 145 pp. +iii \$2.50 paper)

Annotated listing of 600 memoirs.

A Guide to Research in NASA History. By Alex Roland. 2d ed. (Washington, D.C.: History Office, NASA headquarters, 1977. 49 pp.)

Includes data on oral history holdings.

On the Shoulders of Titans: A History of Project Gemini. By Barton C. Hacker and James M. Grimwood. (Washington, D.C.: Scientific and Technical Office, NASA, 1977. Index. Bibliog. Photos. Charts. Notes. Roster of memoirists. 630 pp.)

Oral sources. Ch. XII quotes oral his-

Oral History Index and Oral History Microfiche Set. Compiled by Ann Rune. (Olympia: Washington State Archives, 1978. Index: \$4. Microfiche set of 5 collections:

Write Sidney F. McAlpin, Wash. St. Archives, 218 Gen. Adm. Bldg., Olympia, WA 98504.

Oral History for the Religious Archives: The Sinsinawa Collection. By Elizabeth O'Hanlon. (Sinsinawa, Wis.: author, 1978. Photos. Excerpts. Bibliog. Charts. 63 pp. Catalog)

Administrative how-to-do-it.

Record and Remember: Tracing Your Roots through Oral History. By Ellen Robinson Epstein and Rona Mendelsohn. (New York: Sovereign/Simon & Schuster, 1978. \$7.95, paper \$2.95)

Methodology.

The Voice of the Past: Oral History. By Paul Thompson. (London: Oxford University Press, 1978. 257 pp. Bibliog. Notes. Index. Model Questions, appendix 4.50)

Stanley F. Horn, Editor and Publisher. By Stanley F. Horn and Charles W. Crawford. (Santa Cruz, Calif.: Forest History Society, 1978. 184 pp. Illus. Index.

Memoirs of editor and co-owner of Southern Lumberman.

Voices from the South: Recollections of Four Foresters: Interviews with Inman F. Eldredge, Walter J. Damtoft, Elwood L. Demmon, and Clinton H. Coulter. By Elwood R. Maunder. (Santa Cruz, Calif.: Forest History Society, Inc., 1977. 252 pp. paperback. Index. \$5.45. Photos)

The Author Speaks: Selected PW Interviews 1967-1976.

(New York: Bowker, 1977. 545 pp. \$19.95)

PUBLISHER'S WEEKLY interviews with authors: history, political commentary, social commentary, memoirs, biography, fiction.

Women of Crisis: Lives of Struggle and Hope. By Robert Coles and Jane Hallowell Coles. (New York: Delacorte/Seymour Lawrence, 1978. \$10.95)

First Generation: Oral Histories of Twentieth-Century American Immigrants. By June Namias. Intr. by Robert Coles. (Boston: Beacon Press, 1978. \$10.95)

Generations: Your Family in Modern American History. 2d ed. By Jim Watts and Allen F. Davis. (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1978. Appendix. 288 pp.) Textbook.

Families. By Jane Howard. (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1978. \$9.95)

Shuckin' and Jivin': Folklore from Contemporary Black Americans. Ed. by Daryl Cumber Dance. (Bloomington: Indiana Univ. Press, 1978. 416 pp. Notes. \$15) Doctoral dissertation.

The Black Composer Speaks. Edited by David M. Baker et al. Foreword by Robert H. Klotman. (Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1978. 475 pp. Index. Discog. Bibliog. Appendixes. \$20)

Mothers of the South; Portraiture of the White Tenant Farm Woman. By Margaret Jarman Hagood. (New York: Norton, 1977)

Our Like Will Not Be There Again: Notes from West of Ireland. By Lawrence Millman. (Boston: Little, Brown, 1977)

The Prophet's Army: Trotskyists in America, 1928-1941. By Constance Ashton Myers. (Westport: Greenwood, 1977. xii + 281 pp. Notes. Bibliog. Index. \$16.95)

Willow, Oak & Rye: Basket Traditions in Pennsylvania. By Jeannette Lasansky. (Lewisburg, Pa.: Jeannette Lasansky and Union County Oral Traditions Projects, 1978. 61 pp. Photos. Bibliog. Index. Facsimiles. \$7.00)

Contains quotations from memoirs.

Made of Mud: Stoneware Potteries in Central Pennsylvania, 1834-1929. By Jeannette Lasansky. (Lewisburg, Pa.: Jeannette Lasansky and Union County Bicentennial Commission, 1977. 60 pp. Photos. Map. Index. Charts. Bibliog. \$6.50)

Oral traditions project.

Interviews with Master Photographers: Minor White, Imogen Cunningham, Cornell Capa, Elliott Erwitt, Yousuf Karsh, Arnold Newman, Lord Snowdon, Brett Weston. By James Danziger and Barnaby Conrad III. (New York: Paddington Press/Grosset & Dunlap, Sept. 1978. \$5.95 paper)

How Did You Get Where You Are? Self-Portraits of Happy Women. By Barbara Bliss. (San Francisco: Georgetown Press, 1978. \$7.95, paper \$3.95.

Nine women from underdeveloped

countries.

Make the Kaiser Dance. By Henry Berry. (New York: Doubleday, 1978. Photos. Index. \$10.95)

World War I from a wide spectrum.

. . . also in print

"Oral History: An Appreciation." By William W. Moss. The American Archivist, 40 (Oct. 1977), 429-39. Evidentiary value of oral history, a perspective.

"Oral History in the Library," by Betty McKeever Key. Catholic Library World, 49 (April 1978), 380-84.

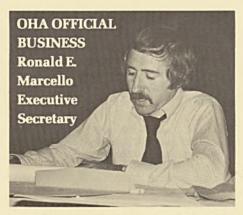
"Community and Family History at the Newberry Library: Some Solutions to a National Need." By D'Ann Campbell and Richard Jensen. The History Teacher, 11 (Nov. 1977), 47-54.

"Oral History: One Way Out of the Slough of Despondency." By L. S. Ede. College Composition and Communication, 28 (Dec. 1977), 380-82.

Planning an oral history workshop? OHA will provide free of charge:

- * current Review
- * sample Newsletters
- * Oral History in the United States: A Directory (1971)
- * Bibliography on Oral History. rev. (1975)
- * OHA Goals and Guidelines
- * OHA publications order forms
- * OHA membership applications

Order from: Executive Secretary, Oral History Association, Box 13734, N.T. Station, Denton, TX 76203.



There are a few registration, boarding, and transportation arrangements pursuant to the 13th Workshop and Colloquium, Oct. 19-22, that should be brought to the attention of the membership.

The Savannah Inn requires that all meal costs for the Workshop and Colloquium be charged to the OHA's master account; individuals consequently will not be billed separately for any meals. It is necessary, therefore, that the cost of meals and the registration fees be built into one structure. The Workshop fee will be \$35 (\$20 for registration plus \$15 for Thursday dinner, gratuity and tax); the Colloquium fee will be \$74 (\$30 for registration plus \$44 for the Friday banquet dinner, Saturday buffet luncheon, Saturday banquet dinner, and gratuities and tax); the combined Workshop and Colloquium fees will be \$99 (\$40 for registration plus all the Workshop and Colloquium meals). Meal tickets will be distributed at the registration desk in the Savannah Inn, and no person will be served without presentation of these tickets. Conferees are on their own for breakfast.

Limousine service will be available between the airport and the hotel. For small groups arriving the fare is \$4 per person. If 30 to 38 arrive at approximately the same time, a bus can be provided at a slightly smaller fee (\$3.67 per person for 30 people; \$2.90 per person for 38 people). The airport limousine company will have a representative at the registration desk to take reservations for the return trip to the airport.

To ensure that your name appears on the printed list of conferees, please preregister by **October 5**, **1978**.

NEWS

Continued from page 6

Larry J. Wygant, associate director, History of Medicine and Archives of The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, has conducted a series of interviews with women graduates ranging from the Class of 1918 to the Class of 1972. Tapes and transcripts are deposited in the Moody Medical Library.

A personal name index to interviews in the Richard B. Russell Memorial Library, Athens, Georgia, has been compiled and twelve additional interviews have been released. The total number of interviews now available is seventy-eight.

W. J. Langlois has resigned as director of the Aural History Programme, Provincial Archives of British Columbia, and as editor of *Sound Heritage* to undertake research and writing relating to aural history.

The Graduate Library School at The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., is offering a fall course in oral history taught by Betty McKeever Key (Maryland Historical Society). It is also open to students from George Washington University.

The Eleanor Roosevelt Oral History Project, sponsored by the Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, has begun operation under Thomas F. Soapes who is on loan from the Eisenhower Library. Soapes anticipates interviewing 100 people over the three-year span of the project.

A representative group of California women who became active in politics during the years between the passage of the woman-suffrage amendment and the current feminist movement is the subject of a project under way at ROHO.

The Midwest China Oral History and Archives Collection recently established by the Board of Trustees of The American Lutheran Church and the Executive Committee of the Midwest China Oral History and Archives Project has eighty-three interviews completed or in progress. This permanent collection will be housed in the Archives of The American Lutheran Church in Gullixson Hall on the Luther-Northwestern Theological Seminaries campus, Saint Paul, Minnesota.

CALENDAR

September 19-23, 1978 American Association for State and Local History Springfield, Illinois

October 3-6, 1978 Society of American Archivists Nashville, Tennessee

October 11-14, 1978 Western History Association Hot Springs, Arkansas

October 11-15, 1978 National Trust for Historic Preservation Chicago, Illinois

October 13-14, 1978 Canadian Oral History Association Toronto, Canada

October 19-22, 1978 Oral History Association Savannah, Georgia

November 4, 1978 OHMAR Baltimore, Maryland

November 8-11, 1978 Southern Historical Association St. Louis, Missouri

December 28-30, 1978 American Historical Association San Francisco, Calif.

Published quarterly: Program for Oral History Baylor University Thomas L. Charlton, Editor Associates: Adelaide S. Darling, Margaret L. S. Miller, David B. Stricklin, Phillip A. Thompson Deadlines: Fall 1978, November 1. Articles should be no more than 400 words. Send change of address to: Executive Secretary, Box 13734, N.T. Station, Denton, TX 76203

Oral History Association Newsletter Baylor University, Box 228 Waco, Texas 76703

Address Correction Requested

Nonprofit Organization U. S. POSTAGE PAID Waco, Texas Permit No. 1823