

# ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume XI, Number 1

Winter 1977

## PROFILE



### ELIZABETH BRANCH MASON COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY OH LEADER

The successors of Allan Nevins have kept alive the dream that he first voiced four decades ago. Elizabeth Branch Mason is a primary reason for the continuing preeminence of the oral history research office located in the Butler Library at Columbia University. She and other Nevins proteges such as Louis Starr have long been in the front ranks of the oral history movement.

Born in Washington, D.C., Elizabeth Mason was educated in Mexico City and Chatham Hall (Virginia) prior to her undergraduate work at Mount Holyoke College (Massachusetts), where she was Phi Beta Kappa in taking the B.A. in 1940 in an interdisciplinary major in history, romance languages, and English literature. A Skinner Fellowship for graduate studies resulted in her earning an M.A. in history in 1941 at Columbia University. Advanced studies were followed by assignment (1941-47) with the British Foreign Office as a press of-

ficer in the British Embassy in Mexico City and work in the U.S. Office of Naval Intelligence from 1948 to 1954. From 1955 to 1957 Mason served as an instructor of English at the University of Maine.

Betty Mason joined the oral history staff at Columbia University in 1959 and has been a part of that work since that time. In 1970 she was named associate director of her research office's work, a position she has retained while also serving as a lecturer in the university's library school. Much credit is due Mason for work on *Oral History in the United States: A Directory* (1971), the OHA's first commissioned survey of established oral history projects, and for the second edition of the proceedings of the first OHA colloquium at Lake Arrowhead, California.

More recently, Mason has been a mainstay on almost all OHA workshop faculties. She participated in the Second

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### OH TO BE INCLUDED IN REVISION OF MAJOR NATIONAL GUIDE

Extensive revision of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission's *Guide to Archives and Manuscripts in the United States* (1961) is currently in progress. The late Philip M. Hamer was the original editor of this essential bibliographic guide, long used by researchers in humanities and related fields. Because of dramatic increases in both the number of institutions collecting documentary materials and in the volume of their holdings, many have urged the NHPRC to bring the *Guide* up-to-date. For the first time oral history will be included. Under the heading "Audible documents of research or archival value" will be "Oral history tapes and transcripts" and "Sound recordings." The aim is to make known the whereabouts of as many records as possible. The directory will employ an automated system permitting periodic revision and update as well as computer-generated printing. The system will permit the production of small directories for individual states or other areas.

In addition to summary information about the geographical, chronological, subject, and other characteristics of the records held by each repository, the directory will list the name, address, telephone, and hours and days of service of each institution. Other information will include user fees, general restrictions on use, availability of copying facilities, acquisitions policy, volume of holdings, and repository guides and other printed descriptions of holdings. The OHA considers the inclusion of oral history in this revision of great importance to researchers and to all who

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### BALLOT INSIDE

The *Newsletter* contains an official ballot governing future OHA election procedures. This ballot, to be considered, must be postmarked not later than April 1, 1977. See article on page 2.



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

William Wyatt



Although it seems like only yesterday that I assumed the presidency of the Oral History Association, I find that the midwinter meeting of the OHA Council is already upon us. As a matter of fact, by the time you read this piece the midwinter Council meeting will already be an accomplished fact.

I hope that upon completion of our midwinter deliberations I will be able to report to you that the word "accomplished" is not a misnomer. As I review the tentative agenda for the Council meeting, I am struck by both the importance and the diversity of the subject matter scheduled for discussion. Among the matters of primary concern to your officers and council are the OHA membership recruitment structure and its functionality; the status of regional workshops and the development of linkages with expanding regional oral history movements; OHA's role in the "evaluation" of nationwide oral history programing; and a preview of the Workshop and Colloquium program scheduled for you, the membership, at our annual meeting in San Diego, October 20-23, 1977.

I continue to be both surprised and delighted by the nature and scope of official OHA activities in this country, as evidenced by the correspondence that I have received since becoming OHA president. Oral history is, indeed, a many-faceted endeavor, and great as our associational progress has been over the last decade, I have a feeling that we are on the threshold of an even more exciting period in the years immediately ahead. The Bicentennial observance, only recently concluded, provided an impetus to scores of oral history efforts across the country, and I hope that, as an association, we can build upon the manifold achievements of 1976.

To those of you who have been about this business of oral history for more years than you may want to remember, I extend the OHA's appreciation for your many contributions to the development of a national oral history movement. To those of you who are recent comers to this field of endeavor, I say welcome to an enriching and deeply rewarding area

of personal and professional development. To all of you, collectively, my best wishes for a productive and rewarding 1977 as you continue your labors in the vineyards of oral history.

## PROFILE—MASON

Berkshire Conference on Women's History; she is on the oral history committee of the Society of American Archivists. The editorial board of the *Oral History Review* counts heavily on Betty Mason's judgment concerning new articles. All of these assignments she handles in addition to supervising the day-to-day production of Columbia's oral history office and fielding very complex research inquiries that reach her desk. In 1973, she was coeditor of the 3rd edition of *The Oral History Collection* for Columbia University. Currently she is proofreading the huge (1,700-page computer print-out) index to "Part One" of the Columbia Collection on microfiche (New York Times Oral History Program publication).

Elizabeth B. Mason, who is married to John T. Mason, Jr., director of oral history for the U.S. Naval Institute, is one of the finest exponents of oral history in the United States. She has long served both her university and the Oral History Association.

## NATIONAL GUIDE

are concerned with the preservation and use of the records of our past. The project is coordinated by Nancy Sahli and is closely affiliated with the commission's records grant program. For further information write: Guide Staff, NHPRC, National Archives, Washington, D.C. 20408, or call 202-724-1630.

## MEMBERSHIP POLLED ON ELECTION PROCEDURES

As directed by the membership at the OHA business meeting September 11, 1976, this issue of the *Newsletter* contains an official ballot governing future election procedures. In recent years the growth of the association has stimulated consideration of a more democratic procedure for the election of officers. Since not all interested members are able to attend the annual business meeting and election of officers, some feel that decisions of those who attend the annual meetings may not accurately reflect the will of the majority. Thus, the enclosed ballot is an effort to allow the total voting membership to voice its opinion in the matter. This ballot, to be considered, must be postmarked not later than April 1, 1977. The office of the executive secretary will tabulate the votes and the result will appear in the spring issue of the *Newsletter*. For additional information contact: Ronald E. Marcello, Executive Secretary, N.T. Station, Box 13734, Denton, TX 76203.

## SURVEY OF REGIONAL ORAL HISTORY GROUPS

The Committee on Regional Workshops of the OHA will serve as a clearing house for information about regional oral history groups. Members of area, state, and regional oral history associations are asked to send the following information: name and mailing address of group, focus or purpose, membership, and brief description of activities. A directory will be compiled and shared with OHA members by Regional Committee Chairperson John A. Neuenschwander. Information should be submitted to Neuenschwander at: Department of Anthropology, The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD 21218.

## ETHNIC ORAL HISTORY CLEARING HOUSE BEGUN AT UNIV. OF PITTSBURGH

The archives section of the Pennsylvania Ethnic Heritage Studies Center, Pittsburgh, now serves as a central clearing house in the state for the accumulation and dissemination of data on oral history projects concerned with ethnic groups and immigrants. A clearing house inventory will describe projects and their objectives, indicate the number of interviews conducted and transcriptions completed, locate the projects, and outline any restrictions on their use. Also included will be descriptions of the methodology and evaluations of the projects. Eventually, PEHSC hopes it will be possible to duplicate tapes now in private possession and deposit them in the archives to assure preservation and accessibility. PEHSC invites all persons and groups involved with ethnic oral history in the commonwealth to contact: Archives Section, University of Pittsburgh, G-6 Mervis Hall, Pittsburgh, PA 15260.

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no longer than 400 words.  
Send change of address to: Executive  
Secretary, Box 13734, N.T. Station,  
Denton, TX 76203.





William W. Moss

## OHA ADVERTISING AND MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

An OHA advertising and membership campaign aimed at individuals and appropriate professional organizations in the United States is taking shape under the leadership of William W. Moss of the John F. Kennedy Library, Waltham, Massachusetts.

Central Coordinator Moss and a special committee on OHA membership plan to use the services of some ten to fifteen regional membership coordinators who will recruit for the association in their respective areas. Coordinators will maintain current lists of OHA members in their assigned regions, keep schedules of professional meetings and workshops, be responsible for OHA membership recruiting tables at meetings, and do follow-up work for the association. A large volunteer force of OHA members will be needed this year in the campaign.

The OHA Council, at its January meeting in San Diego, encouraged Moss and his committee to proceed in preparing inquirer and demonstration packets for the association. New membership application forms will be published in future issues of the *Newsletter* and *Review*. Annual business meetings of the OHA will give attention to membership recruitment. Professional journals in related fields will carry advertisements for the organization.

Members who will serve the association as regional recruiters should contact Moss or Ronald Marcello, executive secretary. The following areas need recruitment representation: Southeast (North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama); Eastern Great Lakes (Western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan); Western Great Lakes (Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota); Lower Mississippi Valley (Louisiana, Mississippi);

Texas and Oklahoma; Plains (North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas); Mountain (Montana, Wyoming, Idaho); Mid-Mountain (Colorado, Utah, Nevada); Southwest (West Texas, Arizona, New Mexico); Northern California; Northwest (Oregon, Washington); Hawaii, Alaska, foreign countries.

The following persons have agreed to work as regional coordinators. Members who will assist in their respective regions should contact their coordinators.

**New England:** (Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut)

**Regional Coordinator:** John J. Fox  
Salem State College  
Salem, MA 01970

**Backup:** William W. Moss  
JFK Library  
380 Trapelo Road  
Waltham, MA 02154

**New York, New Jersey, Southwestern Connecticut:**

**Regional Coordinator:** Elizabeth B. Mason  
Box 20, Butler Library  
Columbia University  
New York, NY 10027

**Backup:** Louis M. Starr  
Columbia University  
Oral History Research Office  
Box 20, Butler Library  
New York, NY 10027

**Middle Atlantic:** (Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Washington, D.C.)

**Regional Coordinator:** Martha J. Ross  
Department of History  
University of Maryland  
College Park, MD 20742

**Backup:** Alice M. Hoffman  
Pennsylvania State University  
Gulph and Henderson Roads  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

**Eastern Great Lakes:** (Western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan)

**Regional Coordinator:** Maurice A. Crane  
Michigan State Univ.  
East Lansing, MI 48824

**Backup:** [Vacant]

**Mid-Mississippi Valley:** (Kentucky, Missouri, Tennessee, Arkansas)

**Regional Coordinator:** James W. Hammack, Jr.  
Forrest C. Pogue Oral History Institute  
Murray State Univ.  
Murray, KY 42071

**Backup:** Waddy W. Moore  
Univ. of Central Arkansas  
Conway, AR 72032

**Southern California:**

**Regional Coordinator:** Terry Kirker  
11715 Beverly Blvd.  
Whittier, CA 90601

**Backup:** Bernard Galm  
UCLA Oral History Program  
136 Powell Library  
405 Hilgard Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90024

## SUBJECT ACCESS TO INTERVIEWS DISCUSSED

Martha Matthews and Ruth Brock, recent graduates of North Texas State University's School of Library and Information Science, attempted to answer the question: ORAL HISTORY: "What Do I Do With This Interview Now That I've Got It On Tape?" at the district meetings of the Texas Library Association held at NTSU and Southern Methodist University last fall. Matthews and Brock emphasized the need to provide subject access to interview contents and demonstrated the adaptability of a multipurpose form they designed to help serve that function. The presentation ended with a question and answer session featuring Ronald Marcello, coordinator, Oral History Collection, NTSU, and executive secretary of OHA.

## OH ADVANCES IN MARITIME PROVINCES

The work of J. R. Bourke of Frederick, and Livian Corner of Caraquet, on Acadian social history is setting the pace for research in New Brunswick. Their efforts were prompted by the unusually high rate of illiteracy among the Acadians and by the desire of Acadian scholars and local historians to augment non-Acadian interpretations of their history with one of their own. In Nova Scotia, Burnley Jones of Halifax has organized a team of interviewers to gather an oral history of the black community of that province; Ray MacLean of Saint Francis Xavier University has done extensive interviews among the Scots, many in Gaelic; J. J. Alphonse Deveau of College Saint Anne in Cape Breton has preserved the music as well as the memoirs of the French.

## OH REVIEW SEEKS REVIEWERS

The *Oral History Review* seeks persons willing to review books and articles. If you will perform this service for the *Review* please notify: Richard Sweterlitsch, Editor, *Oral History Review*, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05401.





California Historical Landmark constructed in 1887 and 1888, Hotel del Coronado is the site of the 1977 OHA Workshop and Colloquium to be held October 20-23. See "OHA Official Business," page 8.

### WELSH SLATE QUARRIERS SUBJECT OF PA-MD WORK

The Delta Project, an oral history study funded by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission through the Historical Society of York County, presents a composite of the cultural, industrial, and ethnic history of the Delta, Pennsylvania-Cardiff, Maryland area. Under the direction of Carl Oblinger of the PHMC and Harry Rinker of the York County society, field workers Douglas Dolan and Ellen Cannon, University of Delaware students, lived for five weeks in the community and conducted interviews with a number of elderly Welshmen and their neighbors who had worked in the heyday of Delta's slate quarries.

The interviews depict a hardy breed of clannish workers with strong ties to their Welsh backgrounds, their church, its music and teachings. The study has helped preserve a heritage all but lost after the Welsh migration from the Delta-Cardiff area, marriage with Scotch-Irish neighbors, and assimilation into American culture. The failure of Delta's one industry to compete in price with manufacturers of slate of lower quality, the opening of better paying and less dangerous jobs at armaments plants in World War I, and the mobility provided by the automobile, combined to scatter the Welsh and submerge their cultural identity.

**REGIONAL ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATIONS** will be featured in the spring issue of the Newsletter. Please submit articles or news items about your association, organization, group, or consortium.

### SOVIET JOURNAL PUBLISHES BURG ARTICLE

The journal of the Institute of General History of the Academy of Sciences of the Soviet Union, *Novaya i Noveishaya Istoriia* (Modern and Current History), #6, 1976, contains an article, "Oral History in the United States," by Maclyn P. Burg of Dwight D. Eisenhower Library, Abilene, Kansas.

Says Burg, "Would you believe that I submitted this in 1972, talked with the editors of the journal about it in Moscow in 1973, added new material to it in 1975, and here it is, in print already!"

Two Soviet historians, Dr. Robert Ivanov (Institute of General History), and Dr. Nicolai Sivachev (Moscow University) actively sought publication of the article for Burg. Soviet historian, Dr. N. N. Bolkhovitinov, wrote the scholar's critique which must accompany articles submitted for publication in a Soviet journal. Sivachev presented Burg with the galley proofs last fall when doing research at the Eisenhower Library commenting that approval to publish had been granted, supported by the comment of a senior editor that the article was "of compelling interest."

### BROAD LEGAL OH URGED

Alfred Konefsky (Harvard Law School) and Jerold S. Auerbach (Wellesley College history department), panelists at Harvard Law School's Institute on American Legal History in 1976, urged an oral history project to record interviews with such members of the legal profession as storefront lawyers, legal aid attorneys, rural lawyers, individual urban lawyers, and even the so-called ambulance chaser to round out the documentation of all phases of legal life.

### EARN CLASS CREDIT AND CRUISE THE CARIBBEAN

"Oral History in the Caribbean," a two-semester-unit course taught aboard the new Cunard Countess departing San Juan, Puerto Rico, July 9, 1977, is the most recent oral history teaching innovation. The eight days and seven nights will be spent cruising, exploring, and studying oral history in and around Caracas, Saint Lucia, Saint Thomas, and San Juan. Fare allows one U.S. city stopover within a thirty-day period either going to or coming from San Juan. Course fee, \$75; flight plus cruise approximately \$850 per person, double occupancy, depending upon accommodations. To register: Dr. Gwendolyn Safier, Oral History Cruise, c/o Creative World Travel, One Market Place, Steuart Tower, Suite 2201, San Francisco, CA 94105, or call Gwen Safier, St. Mary's College, 415-376-7512.

### NEH FUNDS OH PROJECT ON TEXTILE WORKERS UNION

The history of the Textile Workers Union of America (TWUA) recounted by the people involved will be recorded by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin in an oral history project funded by a \$49,112 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). In a two-year project starting January 1, 1977, the society will tape interviews with former and present leaders of the union which was once the third largest in the CIO.

The written records of the TWUA comprise an important collection in the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, one of the country's foremost resources for the study of American labor history. Oral histories will enrich the written documentation with materials not covered in the records which span the four-decade history of the union.

Through the NEH grant, the society is perfecting its technique of making tapes easily useable in research. Instead of transcribing verbatim an interview at great expense, processors transfer the interview to a master tape with a second track for an audible time-marking at five-second intervals. Researchers then use a cassette copy of the timed master along with an abstract and index of the material in the interview keyed to the time markings and a brief introduction by the interviewer. This method permits rapid retrieval of information, by-passing the need to read through a long transcription or listen to an entire tape. The procedure is being refined by Dale Trelevan, oral historian at the society, who will be involved in the TWUA project. Interviewing will be done by James A. Cavanaugh, society field representative. Barbara Kaiser, head of the Field Services Division, is project director.





Damage in wake of Big Thompson flood July 31, 1976. Photo, David G. McComb.

## BIG THOMPSON DISASTER DOCUMENTED

The value of the oral history method in preserving "contemporary history" was demonstrated dramatically last summer by David McComb, professor of history at Colorado State University. On the eve of the Colorado centennial celebration, July 31, 1976, a flood roared unexpectedly through the twenty-five-mile-long canyon of the Big Thompson River, killing 139 area residents and Estes Park visitors and bringing enormous property and environmental damage and destruction. Three weeks after the disaster McComb left his classes and hiked into the remote areas of the canyon to record the impressions of eyewitnesses. Fifty survivors, rescue workers, and public officials, including the governor, were interviewed. Each signed a legal release on the spot and received a cassette copy of his interview a week later. Most of the interviews have been transcribed; all materials are housed in the university

archives in Fort Collins and at the Colorado State Historical Society in Denver.

The Big Thompson project is one of the first to receive evaluation by independent consultants. One historian and two sociologists reviewed the tapes and transcripts and McComb's methodology; they recommended further interviewing and transcription and proposed a conference on the anniversary of the flood for interviewees and researchers to reexamine the event with the tapes as focusing documents.

Illustrating the sociological as well as historical-documentary importance of oral history, researchers have incorporated the Big Thompson material into discussion of human behavior in extreme conditions, confirming earlier conclusions that a general lack of panic and a spirit of cooperation exist among victims of disasters.

## "ROOTS" REACHES LARGE TELEVISION AUDIENCE

"Roots," the long-awaited television film adaptation of Alex Haley's book based on oral sources, was televised to large audiences by the American Broadcasting Company January 23-30. On eight consecutive nights, four of which included two-hour programs, viewers saw a wide array of television and motion picture stars dramatize a modified version of Haley's best selling historical novel. ABC-TV executives report that the "Roots" series broke all-time records for American viewing audiences.

## ORAL HISTORY CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN BALTIMORE

The Maryland Bicentennial Commission, The Maryland Historical Society, and The Community College of Baltimore will cosponsor a one-day workshop on oral history Saturday, March 26, 1977, at Community College. The agenda will focus on beginning new oral history programs as well as reinforcement of existing skills. For further information: Betty Key, Maryland Historical Society, 201 West Monument Street, Baltimore, MD 21201.

## GRANTS

The Medical College of Pennsylvania has received a grant from Roche Laboratories to conduct a two-year oral history project on women in medicine in the United States. The aim of the project is to do in-depth interviews with some fifty women physicians covering both their professional and personal lives and dealing with the special difficulties and rewards encountered in a traditionally male field.

Samuel I. Myers (Saint Louis Community College, Florissant Valley, Missouri) has been awarded a \$20,000 grant by the National Endowment for the Humanities to process taped interviews made on location with American Indians.

The University of Arkansas at Little Rock has received a grant from the Ford Foundation to begin transcription of interviews in the Vietnamese Refugee Oral History Project. Johnye E. Mathews, director of the project, had previously been awarded a Ford grant to complete 218 interviews in the project.

The International Museum of Photography at George Eastman House, Rochester, New York, has received a \$20,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to fund a pilot program in oral history. Initially, interviews and transcriptions with four major figures in photography are planned. The goal is to establish an archive for existing private and public collections of interviews and other tape materials. For information: James McQuaid, IMP/GEH Oral History Project, 900 East Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607

## CALL FOR PAPERS ON WOMEN'S ORAL HISTORY

*Frontiers: A Journal of Women Studies* will devote the fall 1977 issue to women's oral history and invites manuscripts which use such material in interpretative ways or which develop the interview as source material. The request is for information on women's projects in process or proposed for funding, and bibliographical or research material which would be helpful to groups or individuals undertaking research in this field. The Feminist History Research Project of Topanga, California will guest edit this edition and assist the editors of *Frontiers* in manuscript selection. Send three copies by early March to: Sherna Gluck, Feminist History Research Project, P.O. Box 1156, Topanga, CA 90290; or Joan M. Jensen, History Department, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM 88003.



## BOOK NOTICES

*The Transformation of Southern Politics.* By Jack Bass and Walter DeVries. (Scranton, Pa.: Basic Div. of Harper & Row, 1976. \$15.95)

Resources were two hundred oral histories in the Southern Oral History Project, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

*Cuadernos de la Cineteca Nacional: Testimonios para la Historia del Cine Mexicano.* Project coordinator, Eugenia Meyer. (Mexico, D.F.: National Institute of Anthropology and History, Vols. 5, 6, and 7, 1976, 149, 158, 160 pp. Photographs, bibliography, indexes.)

Completes series under President Echeverria in which leading Mexican film directors comment on social history of the Mexican cinema. Volumes 1-4 were noted in the Fall 1976 Newsletter.

*Diefenbaker: Leadership Lost, 1962-67.* By Peter Stursberg. (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1976. 228 pp. Photographs, \$15.00)

The second volume of a study of John Diefenbaker's prime ministry, chronicling the waning years.

Available from the Canadian Oral History Association at the reduced price of \$12 per volume are Peter Stursberg's two books, *Diefenbaker: Leadership Gained 1956-62*, and *Diefenbaker: Leadership Lost 1962-67*. Order from: COHA, P.O. Box 301, Station "A", Case Post, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 8V3.

### ... also in print

*Japanese-American Relocation Reviewed*, subtitled *Decision and Exodus*, Vol. I, 1976, 196 pp., and *The Internment*, Vol. II, 1974, 267 pp., both volumes bound, indexed, illustrated. Two volumes \$65. A series of interviews recently released by The Bancroft Library's Regional Oral History Office, University of California-Berkeley. Discusses the pressures in California in 1942 for the mass evacuation of all Japanese-Americans from California, Oregon, and Washington. Order from: Regional Oral History Office, 486 Library, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720.

*From Tape to Type, an Oral History Manual and Workbook.* By Cullom Davis, Kathryn Back, and Kay MacLean. (Springfield, Ill.: Illinois State Library, 1975. 244 pp. Bibliography, \$4.95)

A practical workbook produced by the Oral History Office at Sangamon State University, Springfield, Illinois. Order from: 61 Bellerive, Springfield, IL 62704.

The annual report (1975-76) of The Pennsylvania State University Oral History Project is now available. The collection includes transcribed interviews in the area of labor unions and some general topics. Price \$2.50. Order from: Jeann Grimes, The Pennsylvania State University, Gulph and Henderson Roads, King of Prussia, PA 19406.

*Sound Heritage*, V, 2, 1976, Provincial Archives of British Columbia's quarterly, published in Victoria, B.C., contains an article about oral history in Australia by Joan Campbell, professor of history at La Trobe University, Bundoora, Victoria. Campbell considers the state of the art in her country to be in a relatively immature and transitory phase but sees a favorable pattern of growth. Readers are also referred to her article in *The Oral History Review* 1976 for further news about activity and publications in Australia.

A thirty-page *Guide to Indiana University Oral History Research Project and Related Studies* catalogs state and local oral history materials and documents of the Indiana University East collection, Institute of Sex Research, Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis, African Studies, Archives of Traditional Music, Folklore Archives, and School of Business. Cost \$1.00, Indiana University Bookstore, 228 W. Dodds, Bloomington, IN 47401.

## NEWS

Mary Jo Deering, George Washington University, acting as consultant to the Supreme Court Historical Society (Washington, D.C.), recently submitted a preliminary report to that body concerning the development of an oral history pilot project. A special committee to review the proposals and make recommendations to the board of trustees was appointed early last fall.

The Union County Oral Traditions Project (Pennsylvania) has involved local people in interviews documenting their traditions and skills. Over 130 tapes and transcripts and thousands of slides are available on a loan basis to the community. Seven multimedia shows and a color film have been produced from material gathered. Director Jeannette Lasansky led the OHA Ottawa Colloquium session on "Bicentennial Projects in the U.S."

Lillian Sanders of Kansas City received a B.A. in Oral Interpretive History last December from Park College, Parkville, Missouri. Her degree was earned through the college's Portfolio Degree Plan and covered historical

studies of Polish and Polish-Jewish history.

A special seminar on oral history is now offered by Jeannette Cheek at the Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe College. Alice Hoffman, immediate past president of the OHA and oral history director at Pennsylvania State University, was guest lecturer at the seminar. The course content borrows freely from a similar one taught by Louis Starr and Elizabeth B. Mason at Columbia University.

The Public Archives of Canada will copy free of charge, on your tape, their twenty-minute sound documentary, "Recording Techniques for Oral History Interviews," which was presented at the OHA Workshop in Ottawa last fall. Send blank cassette or open reel tape to: Sound Archives Section, Public Archives of Canada, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N3.

An oral history program documenting the careers of public works engineers and administrators has been initiated by the Public Works Historical Society of Washington, D.C. The society publishes interview excerpts in its newsletter and is compiling an index of public works-related interviews in other collections. For further information contact: Anne Spray, Public Works Historical Society, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036.

Susann Craig is directing compilation of a catalog of ethnic folk art crafts and a directory of practicing artisans in the Chicago area for Columbia College—Chicago. As a basis for potential oral history interviewees and craft instructors, the directory will be useful in the near future to Craig's class in interviewing techniques. For information: Susann Craig, Columbia College, 540 N. Lake Shore Dr., Chicago, IL 60611.

Cullom Davis, author of oral history manual *From Tape to Type* and director of oral history at Sangamon State University (Springfield, Illinois), conducted an oral history workshop at Washtenaw Community College in Ann Arbor, Michigan, on January 22, 1977. WCC instructor Flavia Reps used the workshop as a springboard for a 10-week, noncredit seminar involving field research experience on the Willow Run Bomber Plant Project.

Ruth Hersh of Fordham University's Lincoln Center Campus, New York City, heads a new oral history project interviewing people returning to school after lifetimes away from the academic world in Fordham's College at Sixty Program.

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## ORAL HISTORY PUBLICATIONS IN PRINT

### Oral History in the United States:

#### A Directory

compiled by G. L. Shumway, 1971, \$1.00

### Bibliography on Oral History, rev. ed.

compiled by M. J. Wasserman, 1975, \$3.00

### 1st Colloquium Proceedings

1966—Lake Arrowhead, California, \$3.00

### 5th and 6th Colloquia Proceedings

1970—Asilomar, California

1971—Bloomington, Indiana, \$3.00

Oral History Review (1973), \$3.00

Oral History Review (1974), \$3.00

Oral History Review (1975), \$3.50

Oral History Review (1976), \$4.00

NB: Orders of 10 or more copies of the same title are entitled to a 50% discount on the basis of a no-return policy.

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Vol. IX, No. 3 (Fall 1975)

Vol. X, No. 1 (Winter 1976)\*

Vol. X, No. 2 (Spring 1976)\*

Vol. X, No. 3 (Summer 1976)

Vol. X, No. 4 (Fall 1976)

Except for those marked by an asterisk (\*), Volumes I, No. 1, through Volume X, No. 4 are available in a single package at \$10.00. Single issues are available at \$1.00 each. Newsletters are currently published quarterly. Make checks payable to executive secretary.

## MICROFICHE

### First Colloquium Proceedings

(Lake Arrowhead, California)

edited by E. Dixon & J. V. Mink, 1967

### Second Colloquium Proceedings

(Arden House, New York)

edited by L. M. Starr, 1968

### Third Colloquium Proceedings

(Lincoln, Nebraska)

edited by G. Colman, 1969

### Fourth Colloquium Proceedings

(Arlie House, Virginia)

edited by G. Colman, 1970

### Fifth & Sixth Colloquia Proceedings

(Asilomar, California & Bloomington, Indiana)

edited by P. Olch & F. Pogue, 1971, 1972

The above Proceedings are available on 9 microfiche for \$25.00. Individual colloquia are available in microfiche at \$5.00 each with a minimum order of \$10.00.

### Newsletters

Volume I, No. 1 through Volume VIII, Nos. 3 & 4 (June 1967-Fall/Winter 1974) on 3 microfiche for \$10.00.

Proceedings and Newsletters are available on a single reel of 35mm microfilm at \$25.00.

The microfiche publications can be ordered from:

Microfilm Corporation of America

21 Harritown Road

Glen Rock, NJ 07452

According to the 1976 Canadian Oral History Association annual report, there are approximately 250 oral history collections in Canada.



"SOMEBODY ERASED  
ALL OF THUCYDIDES' TAPES."

## KENYA PLANS ORAL HISTORY

Maina K. Kagombe, director and chief archivist of Kenya's National Archives, visited U.S. and Canadian oral history facilities in October 1976. Plans drawn for Kenya's National Archives include an oral history staff of fifty-two.

## POSTAGE COSTS CUT DRASTICALLY

The OHA executive secretary and the Newsletter staff appreciate those members who have sent changes of address. Each time your Newsletter is forwarded and a change of address or return is made by the post office it costs from twenty-five to thirty-nine cents, depending upon the number of steps involved. Your consideration in keeping us advised of your current address helps hold down costs.

## COPYRIGHT LAW REVISION

### INFORMATION COMING

Major changes in U.S. copyright law will take effect January 1, 1978. Watch the Newsletter for an outline of changes affecting common law copyright and oral history and of plans for discussion of these changes at the next Colloquium.

## ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION

NORTH TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY  
P.O. BOX 13734 N.T. STATION • DENTON, TEXAS 76203  
RONALD E. MARCELLO, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



I request membership in the Oral History Association which includes subscription to the annual *Oral History Review* and the quarterly *Oral History Newsletter*. I enclose my check for:

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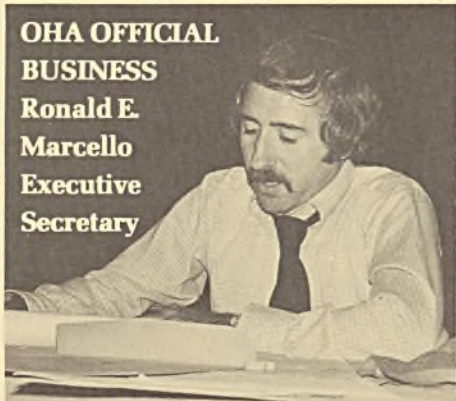
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**OHA OFFICIAL  
BUSINESS**

**Ronald E.  
Marcello  
Executive  
Secretary**



The Council recently held its midwinter meeting on January 21-2 at the Hotel del Coronado, the site of the 1977 Workshop and Colloquium. Every member came away impressed by its charm and elegance.

Constructed in 1887 and 1888, the "Del" is one of the last of the extravagantly conceived seaside hotels of the past, with its turrets, tall cupolas, hand-carved wooden pillars, and Victorian gingerbread. There have been some minor structural changes over the years, but many of the original facilities are still available. In recognition of its beauty and importance, the hotel has been designated a San Diego County Historical Landmark and a California Historical Landmark. In October 1971, the "Del" was officially listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Since its opening in 1888, the "Del" has hosted eight U.S. presidents, several foreign heads of state, the Prince of Wales, and innumerable show business personalities. During the hotel's early years, the Armours, Astors, Tiffanys, and Vanderbilts were regular guests.

For this history and splendor, the Hotel del Coronado's rates are quite comparable to those of previous OHA colloquium sites. The cost per day per person on the modified American plan (lunch

and dinner) is \$39.98 for a double room and \$49.58 for a single room. This price includes tax and tip on food but not the six percent city occupancy tax per room per day. The hotel does provide transportation to and from the San Diego airport for \$3.50 each way.

The "Del's" convention staff has been most cooperative in accommodating the needs of OHA; and local arrangements are in the competent hands of James Moss of the San Diego Historical Society. Thus, every indication is that the 1977 Colloquium will be a successful one.

**NEWS continued**

Leaders elected in Ottawa last September to guide the Canadian Oral History Association in 1977 are: President, Robert Cosbey, University of Regina; Vice President, Jane McCracken, Alberta Historic Sites; Treasurer, Neil Rosenberg, Memorial University; English Language Secretary, Charles Surtees, Bytown Museum; and French Language Secretary, Jean-Paul Moreau, Public Archives of Canada.

The University of Vermont announces its 1977 Oral History Institute will be held June 20-July 1. Amelia Roberts Fry, director of the Earl Warren Oral History Project, University of California-Berkeley; and Charles Morrissey, past president of OHA and director of the George D. Aiken History Project, University of Vermont, will serve as instructors. Catalog available in early March from: Summer Session, Grasse Mount, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05401.

A two-day colloquium/workshop on oral history and interviewing techniques featuring interdisciplinary discussions, case presentations, and lectures, collectively entitled "By Word of Mouth," was held at Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts last fall.

Six interviews on the subject of interaction between Canada and the United States have been completed for the Canadian Contemporary Issues on Tape project of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. The interview-an-expert format of the tapes is designed to explore issues and provide not only detail but an outline of the general background of such subjects as defense, energy, branch plants, the Auto Pact, water resources, balance of payments, trade, and similar areas. For information: OISE, 252 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1V6.

Miriam Stein, an editor-interviewer at the University of California's Regional Oral History Office-Berkeley, taught an eight-week course last fall at Canada College (Redwood City) on the techniques of oral history. Among the eighteen students were librarians, archivists, writers, university administrators, and historians. Class projects included such topics of Bay Area history as Jews of eastern European descent in San Francisco, the history of a Russian River ghost town, Playland at the Beach, industrial development in Santa Clara County, and the genesis of the local non-violent movement. Completed tapes and transcripts will be donated to appropriate archives or other depositories.

The Billy Graham Evangelistic Association Oral History Program, begun approximately six years ago, now comprises 275 interviews with persons involved in the Billy Graham Crusades. All but approximately twenty interviews have been transcribed. An index has been established to locate interviewees by name, crusade, and country. Not now available for research, the interviews eventually will be deposited at the new Graham Center for Evangelism, Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois. For information: Lois Ferm, Box 937, Montreat, NC 28757.

Oral History Association Newsletter  
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