



ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume XII, Number 1

Winter 1978

COLORADO ORAL HISTORY CLEARING HOUSE

A rapidly growing interest in oral history inspired the creation of a service center in Colorado that could become a model for a nationwide oral history information office. Several Colorado agencies worked together in 1976 to establish the Colorado Center for Oral History, the first such effort in the United States.

Evidence of mounting interest came during two workshops in the fall of 1975 conducted by David McComb (Colorado State University), Eleanor Gehres (Denver Public Library), and Maxine Benson (State Historical Society of Colorado). The workshop participants expressed a desire for an ongoing source of information about active oral history

projects and access to interview collections. To provide this service, the Colorado State Library set up the Center for Oral History, made possible by a grant from the SHSC and the Denver library's Western History Department.

Nancy Whistler, one of the first persons in the United States to receive a college degree in oral history (University of Colorado-Denver), became oral history director for the library and the center. Librarians from each of Colorado's seven library regions were named as liaisons. Work began in October 1976 to facilitate communication among existing oral history projects, encourage the development of new ones, and inform the public of the

availability of oral history throughout the state.

The center solicited information through a series of statewide mailings. In January 1977 a questionnaire asked every public library, historical society, public school, college, and university in Colorado to help locate tape-recorded interviews and active projects. Replies, further correspondence, and personal contacts revealed more than 120 projects and at least 2,500 interviews, most done by volunteers.

Later in 1977, the center turned to computerizing and disseminating information. Whistler assembled a packet for new projects and compiled *Colorado Oral History Projects, A Directory*, a comprehensive guide organized along the lines of the state library system. Augmenting the directory, the center set up a master file at the Denver library containing detailed project and interview information. Whistler visited projects needing advice and the center processed numerous requests for oral history information.

Procedures developed by the Colorado Center for Oral History for keeping track of projects and avoiding duplication of effort could be adapted for use in other states and on a national scale. Organizing a nationwide clearing house would be a formidable task; but Nancy Whistler, for one, sees that as an achievable and desirable goal.

DOCTORAL STUDIES IN ORAL HISTORY AT DUKE

Duke University recently graduated a number of black studies doctoral students who are now filling academic positions. Marsha J. Darling, executive director for the oral history program this year, reports on students who have completed their dissertations, based largely on oral history sources: George Wright (University of Kentucky) wrote about the Louisville black community between 1900 and 1940; Cynthia Fleming (Texas Southern University) studied black

Continued on page 6

MISSISSIPPI ORAL HISTORY

H. T. Holmes (Mississippi Department of Archives and History) reports progress in bringing Mississippi oral historians together. In 1975 the Department of Archives and History convened the first statewide meeting of oral historians. Communication was established between the state archives and other oral history programs in the state, and in 1976 the archives, in cooperation with the Mississippi Library Commission, sponsored an oral history workshop for public librarians. An oral history committee for the Mississippi Historical Society further broadened the oral history field in Mississippi.

Most of the current interest in oral history is centered in the library system. An outstanding example is the Washington County Library system with five full-time interviewers supported by a \$50,000 grant from the Mississippi Employment Security Administration. An active oral history program at the University of Southern Mississippi attempts to cover all aspects of Mississippi history. The Mississippi State University program focuses on U.S. Senator John C. Stennis, and is an adjunct to the Stennis collection in the Mitchell Memorial Library. Jackson State University's program, led by Alferdteen Harrison, offers

courses in the methodology of interviewing, and collects black history interviews. Delta State University focuses on the Mississippi Delta region.

The state Department of Archives and History has been concerned with oral documentation since the late 1950's when Charlotte Capers, then director of the archives, reported the collection of tape-recorded interviews, Mississippi blues and folk music, and the works of Mississippi writers, recorded by them.

Holmes joined Capers' oral history staff as a college intern and was appointed oral history assistant in 1973. In 1974 the program was transferred from the special projects division to the archives and library division and Holmes was named staff oral historian.

The state archives, supported by a grant from the Mississippi Committee for the Humanities, cosponsored a one-day symposium on "Oral History: National Waste or Public Treasure," last fall and will sponsor a workshop on the use of oral history in writing local history March 2, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Mississippi Historical Society in Starkville, March 3-4. W. Lynwood Montell (Western Kentucky University) will discuss his use of oral history in writing *The Saga of Coe Ridge*.

The president's column will reappear in the spring issue.

COOPERATION URGED IN MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

William Moss, OHA vice president/president elect and chairman of the membership campaign, urges full cooperation of the membership in bringing the experience and expertise of the association to neophytes. Moss points out that increased membership provides diversity and exchange of ideas and generates better services. Jim Hammack's (Murray State) Mid-Mississippi Valley area received high praise at the recent Colloquium for the variety of meetings covered and contacts made in seeking new members.

The executive secretary will furnish display materials upon request, and will pay local travel expenses for qualified members to advise or participate in local or regional workshops when arrangements are made in advance with the executive secretary. Information about local projects, courses, funding, articles, books, critiques, etc., concerning oral history should be reported to the executive secretary and the *Newsletter* and/or *Review*. Inquiries: William Moss, John F. Kennedy Library, Waltham, MA 02154.

CALENDAR

March 8-9, 1978

American Library Association,
California Library Association,
and UC Extension, joint meeting.
San Francisco, California

March 11, 1978

Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic
Region
George Mason University
Fairfax, Virginia

April 12-15, 1978

(note date change)
Organization of American Historians
New York, New York

April 22, 1978

New England Association of
Oral History
Salem, Massachusetts

May 27-31, 1978

American Association of
Museums
Kansas City, Missouri

June 25-July 1, 1978

American Library Association
Chicago, Illinois



Savannah Inn, Wilmington Island, Savannah, Georgia, site of the Thirteenth Annual Oral History Workshop and Colloquium, October 19-21, 1978.

EVALUATION SERVICE MOVING AHEAD

The Evaluation Committee, currently chaired by Enid Douglass (Claremont Graduate School), has enlisted experienced oral history practitioners (See Fall 1977 *Newsletter*) from all parts of the country to share their professional expertise with the growing number of individuals, institutions, foundations, and groups beginning an oral history program or those established programs desiring help in assessing their progress. No charge will be made for the service, but requesting groups will pay all expenses (travel, food, lodging, and any other legitimate expense) of the evaluation.

A confidential, written report will be made to the requesting agency and to the chairman of the Evaluation Committee.

In addition to Douglass, other members of the committee are: Larry Hackman (National Historical Publication and Records Commission); Alice Hoffman (Pennsylvania State University); James Hammack (Murray State University); and David McComb (Colorado State University). In the Fall 1977 *Newsletter* Maclyn Burg of the Eisenhower Library was omitted from the list of evaluators. He serves instead of John E. Wickman.

Inquiries: Oral History Association, Evaluation Service, Box 13734, N.T. Station, Denton, TX 76203.

SOUTH DAKOTA ORAL HISTORY MICROFILMED

The South Dakota Oral History Center, funded by the state legislature, continues to collect and process interviews at a rate of approximately 250 a year. The center houses and administers both the American Indian Research Project and the South Dakota Oral History Project. The Indian project has 1,050 interviews from reservations on the northern Great Plains and a handbook titled *The Practice of Oral History* which are being prepared for distribution by the Microfilming Corporation of America. The South Dakota Project deals with many aspects of the state's history and contains 1,681 interviews. Catalogs for both projects are available and subject indexes are in process. Inquiries: Herbert T. Hoover, Director, South Dakota Oral History Center, University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD 57069.

PROGRAM CALL

OHA members are encouraged to suggest program topics and panelists, and to volunteer to appear on the 1978 Workshop and Colloquium or to chair sessions. Contact: Workshop chairman, John Neuenschwander, Carthage College, Kenosha, WI 53140; Colloquium chairman, Ronald Grele, New Jersey Historical Commission, 113 W. State St., Trenton, NJ 08625.

ORAL HISTORY IS BEYOND THE STAGE OF TALKING

By JOHN STEWART

"What memories that man carries to oblivion, and how absolutely they are lost," the late historian Allan Nevins of Columbia University used to say to himself when he read the obituaries of famous men. And so, in 1938, he proposed the creation of a project "to obtain from the lips and papers of living Americans who have led significant lives a fuller record of their participation in the political, economic and cultural life of the last 60 years."

The project came into being 10 years later as the Oral History Research Office of Columbia. Since then, oral history has become an accepted tool for thousands of research, archival and teaching projects throughout the United States, Canada and at least 15 other countries.

Professor Nevins and the other historians who initiated the project believed that the need to gather first-person accounts of important events had increased as the custom of writing memoirs and keeping diaries had declined. The founders also recognized that the telephone and easy transcontinental travel were drying up rich sources of historical information, the letters and cables traditionally used by the movers of society in communicating with one another, and replacing them with unrecorded meetings and conversations. In addition, Mr. Nevins hoped that oral records would help historians write more inviting history and fewer pedantic and ponderous treatises.

Programs Abound

The work at Columbia flourished from the start and was soon providing the impetus for similar projects elsewhere. By the end of 1966, at least 100 programs had been firmly established, the Oral History Association was in the process of being formed, and the skepticism of many historians, trained to rely principally on the "valid" evidence of written documents, was beginning to wane.

The bicentennial provided a spur to the movement as organizations, communities and groups throughout the country suddenly became aware of the richness of their past and recognized that oral history offered a relatively easy and effective means of preserving this heritage. Currently there are an estimated 600 projects in the United States, and the association has an active membership of 1,300 persons.

Most oral history projects use essentially the same methods. Tape-recorded interviews are conducted, transcribed verbatim, edited (usually by the person interviewed) and indexed.

In most instances the tapes and transcripts are put on the shelf for the use of regular library patrons, but in some cases the transcripts are duplicated and sold, or formally published, in whole or as carefully organized excerpts. In schools and colleges the entire oral history process is often used to teach students about historical research and to help convince them that learning about their families, neighborhoods and communities can be a worthwhile experience.

Oral history projects focus on practically every aspect of American social, political, economic, cultural, religious and scientific life. Their range is indicated by a small sampling from a recently published compilation of topics: the aviation and lumbering industries, the Bridgeport Socialist Party, psychoanalytic practice in California, Nixon's economic stabilization program, Indiana politics in the 20th century, dermatologists throughout the world, Auburn University, the American Medical Association, the development of New Orleans jazz, the American Jewish experience, 20th-century immigrants from Sweden, the importance of education in women's lives, the nuclear accident at Palomares, Spain, former governors of Texas, the operations of the World Bank, books and printing in the San Francisco area, the administration of Lyndon Johnson and the life and times of Senator Carl Hayden.

Despite its diversity, size and broad appeal, the oral history movement is not without its troubles. Equipment is expensive and the typing and editorial investment immense. The interviewer's preparatory research time can mount steeply as topics become complex and the incentive for producing quality interviews increases. All of this can add up to a cost of well over \$200 for each hour of recorded interview.

People in the oral history business are still quite sensitive to charges, such as those leveled a few years ago by Barbara Tuchman, that mountains of trivia are being accumulated that will never be of use to anyone.

Although such generalizations about millions of pages of interviews are hard to prove, the nagging doubt remains that many of these recorded memoirs are not worth preserving and that the implied value of some of these meticulously footnoted, bound and often microfilmed transcripts is grossly exaggerated by their creators.

On the other side of the controversy, the historian Louis M. Starr has asserted that "What is trash to one researcher is gold to another."

Undue Credit?

A third issue centers on the question of whether the growing popularity of oral history might soon lull many practitioners into a false sense of accomplishment and, in fact, encourage a belief that true historical research is as easy to do as pushing the right buttons on a tape recorder.

This issue flared briefly at the 1976 meeting of the Oral History Association as Forrest Pogue, the eminent biographer of George C. Marshall and a former president of the association, suggested that at least some of the growing number of best-selling books based on random and unverified samplings of recorded interviews (frequently with "average men") should be advertised as works of historical fiction. If they are to be regarded as accurate history or serious biography, he insisted, the data in them should be subjected to the same tests as other historical sources.

The same issue was raised some years ago by William E. Leuchtenburg of Columbia, a historian of Franklin D. Roosevelt's Presidency. It must be remembered, Mr. Leuchtenburg cautioned, that a person giving an oral history memoir is "the hero of the story," and, as such, "he is going to reconstruct history, not necessarily by lying, not by deliberate falsification, but to present his position in the best historical light."

Similarly, the military historian Cornelius Ryan, once said, "I discovered that interviewing is not reliable. I never found one man who landed on Omaha Beach who could tell me whether the water was hot or cold, or the exact time when some incident occurred. In writing *The Longest Day*, I rejected at least 90 per cent of the testimony I received in interviews. I do not say that their testimony was wrong, but there was no way to prove it."

Despite these and other difficulties, there is little doubt that oral history will be a significant part of the historical landscape for many years to come—at least until large numbers of people begin to keep daily diaries, write (and save) more letters, and develop a keener sense of the significance of their roles, however small, in the history of their families, jobs, businesses, professions, communities and nation. For this, in the final analysis, is what oral history is attempting to do.

John Stewart is assistant director of the John F. Kennedy Library in Waltham, Mass.

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Daniel Boorstin (L), Librarian of Congress, receives from Charles Morrissey the first tape and transcript conveyed to the Library of Congress by the Former Members of Congress, Inc.

CONGRESSIONAL PROJECT ACCELERATES WITH GRANT

The "Oral History of the Modern Congress" is now well established, thanks to a 1977 NEH grant of \$108,000. The project, directed by Charles T. Morrissey, will conduct interviews for the Former Members of Congress, Inc., more than 500 retired congressmen who founded FMC in 1970. FMC plans to educate the nation about the recent history of the Congress through conferences, a national speakers' bureau, and its oral history project.

Working as research associate with Morrissey is Fern Ingersoll, formerly an interviewer for ROHO (Berkeley) in Washington and researcher on the congressional career of Helen Gahagan Douglas.

FMC tapes and transcripts are housed in a special section of the Library of Congress. The project's offices are in the Library of Congress Annex. An academic advisory board of Forrest C. Pogue (Smithsonian Institution), chairman; Dan H. Fenn, Jr. (JFK Library); and Alton Frye (Institute for Congress) oversees the project. Contact: 121 Second St., NE, Washington, DC 20002.

Nominees for the annual HARVEY A. KANTOR MEMORIAL AWARD FOR SIGNIFICANT WORK IN ORAL HISTORY (in any endeavor using or fostering oral history) should be submitted by April 1, 1978, to Dr. Louis D. Silveri, Department of History, Assumption College, Worcester, MA 01609.

AIP SUPPORTS OH OF SCIENCE

The American Institute of Physics Center for History of Physics, New York City, offers honoraria to scholars for authorized taped interviews with individuals active in the world of physics, astronomy, or related fields in industrial science, computer science, and education. Compensation will follow receipt of an interview tape. The AIP will send a transcript to the interviewer and offer additional compensation upon return of the transcript, verified against the tape, with a running table of contents. Reasonable travel costs, transcribing, equipment, and advice are also available to interviewers.

The AIP's oral history program has been active since the 1960's. Its office requests notification of the existence of other tape-recorded interviews, processed or untranscribed, in the fields of physical science and astronomy for the National Catalog of Sources for History of Physics and Astronomy. Write: AIP, CHP, 335 East 45th St., New York, NY 10017.

A session on oral history was conducted at the NEH-supported National Conference on College Teaching of State and Local History, held January 12-15 at the Newberry Library, Chicago.

SOUTHERN FOLKLORE CENTER

Founded in 1972, the Center for Southern Folklore, a nonprofit corporation in Memphis, Tennessee, documents the rapidly disappearing folk traditions and folkways in the South using film, audiotape cassettes, slides, film and record transcripts, and artifacts.

Main thrust of the center's work is production of oral history in multimedia packages featuring specific topics: music, crafts, religion, occupations, and folk tales. Recently completed is a record album, *Ray Lum: Mule Trader*, accompanied by a transcript and essay about Lum. Also available on Lum are an 18-minute film and audiotape cassettes.

Broad-based support for CSF comes from: National Endowment for the Humanities, National Endowment for the Arts, Smithsonian Institution, US Office of Education, Rockefeller Foundation, Tennessee Arts Commission, Mississippi Arts Commission, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and numerous other state and private sources. Inquiries: Judy Peiser and Bill Ferris, Directors, Center for Southern Folklore, P. O. Box 4081, Memphis, TN 38104.

ORAL HISTORY IN THE MID-ATLANTIC AREA

Ernest C. Bolt (University of Richmond), president of the RICHMOND ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION, recently announced that the fall 1978 *Journal* will contain interviews with selected Richmond women. Write: Department of History, Richmond, VA 23173.

Joan Radner, Department of Literature, American University, Washington, DC 20016, is the person to contact about the MIDDLE ATLANTIC FOLKLIFE ASSOCIATION's first annual meeting May 13-14, at Annapolis, Maryland. This new professional organization represents folklorists and other scholars interested in the folk culture of the Middle Atlantic States.

Barbara Vandegrift, librarian, George C. Marshall Research Foundation, was instrumental in the formation last November of the VIRGINIA ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION to represent the oral historians of the state. Vandegrift will participate on an oral history panel April 28 at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference. Write: Drawer 920, Lexington, VA 24450.

The ORAL HISTORY FORUM of the Virginia Library Association was formed by petition to the VLA following its annual meeting in November 1976. The organization seeks to disseminate ideas,

techniques, and information about oral history through meetings and a semi-annual newsletter. A directory of Virginia oral history projects is planned. Steve Matthews, librarian for Foxcroft School, Middleburg, was elected chairman at the first annual meeting last November. Sara Collins, Arlington County Public Library, was the first chairman.

Betty Key of OHMAR (Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region) requests practical advice on preparing a constitution, bylaws, and articles of incorporation. Write: 7302 Pomander Lane, Chevy Chase, MD 20015.

OHMAR and the Federal Theatre Project (George Mason University) are making plans for their all-day workshop in March. (See calendar) Charles Morrissey will address the workshop on the topic, "Oral History: How Can You Believe What You Hear?" Pam Henson (Smithsonian Institution Archives), program chairman, has more than thirty distinguished faculty for the concurrent panels and sessions covering everything from the new copyright law to videotaped interviews. Information: Sara Collins, President, OHMAR, Arlington County Public Library, 1015 N. Quincy St., Arlington, VA 22201.

BLACK MUSICIANS IN WORLD WAR II

According to Samuel A. Floyd of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, "The Great Lakes Experience is the most important single musical and educational experience, for blacks, ever to occur in America." Starting with this assumption, he began working in 1972 to document this largely overlooked event. With the help of the National Endowment for the Humanities and the support of the Black American Studies program at SIU, Floyd put together an oral history project based on the Great Lakes Experience, 1942-1945.

During the Second World War thousands of black musicians entered the three camps of the Great Lakes Naval Training Center. They were formed into some of the best concert, military, and swing bands of the war, turning a circumstance of War Department segregation into an opportunity to develop their craft and earn the respect of government officials, music schools, and the general public.

Many former Great Lakes bandmen, including bandmaster Leonard Bowden and renowned trumpeter Clark Terry, gathered for their third reunion at Carbondale on September 7, 1976. On this occasion, Floyd directed a group oral history session with twelve of the musicians. In what he hopes will be the beginning of a series of such interviews, Floyd says significant material was retrieved and areas of further research suggested: the impact on American music of Southern black public school bands, the importance of Saint Louis in the evolution and spread of jazz, and a black studies approach to the question of government support of the arts. Last year, SIU produced a transcript of the interview, edited by the participants and footnoted with research references by Floyd and his assistants. (See . . . **also in print**)

Speaking of the Great Lakes experience Clark Terry said, "Many times, we get education not just from books, but from . . . being among people. . ." The Carbondale interview as a document providing the foundation for research into this aspect of black American history may prove that Terry's statement applies as well to the educational value of the oral history experience.

Marianne Feldman of the Jewish Historical Society of Portland, Oregon, is editing a book to be published soon on the Jewish Oral History Project interviews. Parts of thirty transcripts will be used and rearranged either chronologically or by episodes while retaining the original language of the interviewees.



Maj. Robert S. Bartanowicz (center), Director of the Air Force Academy Oral History Program, interviews 1st Lts. Irene Graf (left) and Terry Walter who served as role models for the first class of women cadets. The project concerns the integration of women into the Cadet Wing.

SIERRA CLUB MEMOIRS NOW AVAILABLE

The Sierra Club recently made available bound, indexed copies of its twenty-five completed oral memoirs. The Bancroft Library of the University of California-Berkeley is the official depository for the club's papers and memoirs. Willa Baum, director of Berkeley's Regional Oral History Office, trained Sierra Club volunteer interviewers. Through the cooperative efforts of volunteers and professionals, memoirs were completed for academic credit by graduate and senior history students at California State University-Fullerton under the direction of Gary L. Shumway; the staff and associates at Fullerton, under the direction of graduate student Paul Clark, completed a volume of four memoirs; Susan Schrepfer of ROHO produced a two-volume memoir; and three interviews were completed by the club's volunteer members. Ann Lage coordinates the oral history project for the club.

US-MEXICO BORDER EVENTS DOCUMENTED AT EL PASO

The Institute of Oral History at The University of Texas-El Paso, made possible through the estate of the late Josephine Clardy Fox, has been in existence since 1972. The purpose of the IOH is to collect material on historical events along the US-Mexico border. Projects underway include examination of the 1916 Villa raid on Columbus, New Mexico; a history of the US Customs Service in El Paso and its "tension management" along the border. Approximately 350 interview hours have been accumulated. In addition to its collection of tapes and documents, the IOH has published a new catalog and established a card catalog system to facilitate locating interviews containing specific information.

The Soundsheet, an occasional bulletin, disseminates information about IOH. Inquiries: Oscar J. Martínez, Director, The University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, TX 79968.

NOTICE

The Nominating Committee solicits names of candidates for OHA offices. Write: James W. Hammack, Chairman, Nominating Committee, Oral History Institute, Murray State University, Murray, KY 42071.

The Imperial War Museum, London, has nearly 2,000 hours of tape available for purchase or for use in the museum's listening facilities. Catalogs are available for World War I projects: Military and Naval Aviation, The Western Front, The Anti-War Movement, War Work, and The Lower Deck of the Royal Navy. Recently completed is the British Army in India 1919-1939. Projects on the Royal Air Force and the development of air power 1918-1939, and another on the war in Spain 1936-1939 are in progress.

POSITIONS

Oral Historian to research availability of data, accumulate information, compile history of nuclear testing dosimetry in formalized historical report, including reviewing nuclear testing operations reports, researching past operating procedures, locating and interviewing personnel present during past testing operations and compiling formalized historical report. Must be U.S. citizen and able to meet company physical and security standards. Write to: L. W. Bennett, Reynolds Electrical & Engineering Co., Inc., P. O. Box 14400, Las Vegas, NV 89114.

GRANTS

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission invites grant applications for preservation of oral history tapes and transcripts, for description, and promotion of their wider use. Indexing of interviews may be supported in the case of materials widely distributed. Inquiries: NHPRC, National Archives and Records Service, Washington, DC 20408, (202) 724-1630.

A planning grant from the Latin American Studies Association to Susan Benson of the Organization of American States and George P. Browne (Seton Hall University) will enable them to implement a workshop designed to assist scholars in incorporating oral history techniques into their research in Latin America. Persons interested in the Workshop on Oral History for Latin Americanists, tentatively scheduled for June 1978, should contact: George P. Browne, Department of History, Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ 07079, or Susan Benson, Division of Cultural Affairs, Organization of American States, Washington, DC 20006.

Claremont (California) Graduate School's oral history program has been awarded a grant by Atlantic Richfield Company to be used for developing extensive oral background on the company's history. Interviews with approximately fifty members of top management and others closely associated with major events in ARCO history will be taped and transcribed. Enid Douglass, director of the CGS oral history program, and John B. Rae, senior professor emeritus of Harvey Mudd College, will conduct most of the interviews. Concentration will be on the period since 1960. All material becomes the property of the Atlantic Richfield Company.

The Oral History Project at the International Museum of Photography, Rochester, New York, has received an additional \$30,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. James McQuaid directs the project with the assistance of consulting interviewers David Tait and Steven Lewis.

The first research fellowship granted by the Permian Basin Petroleum Museum and the Permian Historical Society has been awarded jointly to Diana D. Olien and Roger M. Olien of Midland, Texas, to support their research on "The Social Effects of Oil Booms." They are examining the impact of oil discoveries on five West Texas communities, the first systematic study of its kind. The Oliens and their students have already recorded 116 interviews and will have about 200 by the completion of the project.

The Oral History Project at the University of Nevada-Reno received a Title I (Higher Education Act of 1965) grant to start a program in oral history internship. The interns will work a full academic year on Nevada and Western history topics for credit in their various departments. The first five interns selected for the program represent the College of Arts and Science, College of Business Administration, and the College of Education. All are advanced graduate students. The oral history advisory committee of the university has targeted the Nevada tourist industry, the state's most important business sector, as the area of study for the initial project. Mary Ellen Glass directs the project, the first in the state.

The Association for Recorded Sound Collections received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to plan a project creating an international, standardized, computer-produced union catalog of recordings from world-wide sources. The project is seen as the model for an eventual union list of all sound recordings. In addition, a union list of periodical literature related to recordings; a union list of record manufacturers' catalogs; and a standard for the archival cataloging of sound recordings, regardless of content, will be created during the grant period. For information: Garrett H. Bowles, Music Library, The Knoll, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305.

An extension course, "The Lure of Oral History," was offered in Sacramento January 9 - February 6, 1978, by Avrom I. Dickman (University of California-Davis).

DUKE DOCTORAL STUDIES

Continued from page 1

higher education in Tennessee; Marcellus Barksdale (Morehouse College) researched the indigenous civil rights movement in three North Carolina communities; Albert Broussard (North Colorado State) examined social mobility among San Francisco blacks between 1910 and 1940.

Several other students are expected to graduate this year. Among the topics investigated are housing discrimination in Chicago, migration of Nevian West Indians, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, African nationalism and the civil rights movement, and Darling's study of black land-loss in North Carolina and Mississippi.

Research assistantships in oral history are available. Contact: Oral History Program, Duke University, Durham, NC 27706.

BOOK NOTICES

Transcribing and Editing Oral History. By Willa K. Baum. (Nashville: The American Association for State and Local History, 1977. 90 pp. \$6.75 paperback)

Experiments in History Teaching. Ed. by Stephen Botein, Warren Leon, Michael Novak, Roy Rosenzweig, and G. B. Warden. n.d., n.p. 120 pp. \$3.50. Write: Experiments in History Teaching, Robinson Hall, Harvard Univ., Cambridge, MA 02138.

See fourth chapter, "History from the Bottom Up."

This Land, These Voices: A Different View of Arizona History in the Words of Those Who Lived It. By Abe Chanin with Mildred Chanin. (Flagstaff, Ariz.: Northland Press, 1977. \$12.50)

Oral histories set forth by thirty-three Arizonans.

Foxfire 4: Watersystems, Fiddle Making, Logging, Gardening, Sassafras Tea, Wood Carving, and Further Affairs of Plain Living. Ed. by Eliot Wigginton. (New York: Anchor Books/Doubleday, 1977. \$10.95 hardcover, \$5.95 paperback)

Reflects more involvement with the interviewers' experiences.

The Zunis of Cibola. By C. Gregory Crampton. (Salt Lake City: The University of Utah Press, 1977. 201 pp. Map. Illus. Bibliog. Index. \$15)

Zuni history based, in part, on oral documents.

Union Catalog. n.a. (Pippa Passes, Ky.: Appalachian Oral History Project, Alice Lloyd College, 1977. 600 annotations. Index. \$10)

Five Mexican-American Women in Transition: A Case Study of Migrants in the Midwest. By Kristina Lindborg and Carlos J. Ovando. (Palo Alto, Calif.: R & E Research, 1977. 111 pp. Bibliog. Paperback, \$8)

Oral history and sociological analysis.

Fishermen: A Community Living from the Sea. By Sally Festing. (North Pomfret, Vt.: David & Charles, 1977. Index. \$9.95)

Fishing community on Norfolk coast of England.

Where Beards Wag All: The Relevance of the Oral Tradition. By George Ewart Evans. (Salem, NH: Faber & Faber, 1977. Illus. Index. 296 pp. \$5.95 paperback)

East Anglia, old and new culture, in oral history.

Roger Baldwin: Founder of the American Civil Liberties Union. By Peggy Lamson. (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1976. Illus. Notes. Index. 304 pp. \$12.50)

Extensive interviews with Baldwin.

... also in print

"Listen! Your Grandfather Is Talking," by Avrom I. Dickman. *The Rotarian*, Dec. 1977, 17-19. Article presents oral history to more than 800,000 Rotarians, internationally.

The Great Lakes Experience, 1942-1945. Samuel A. Floyd, Jr., director and moderator. (Carbondale, Ill.: Southern Illinois Univ. at Carbondale, 1977. 59 pp. Index. Loan only)

"The Oral History of Colorado Project," by David G. McComb. *Colorado Magazine*, 53 (Spring 1976).

Frontiers, A Journal of Women Studies, 2 (Summer 1977), Special Issue: Women's Oral History. Write: *Frontiers*, Women Studies Program, Hillside Court 104, Univ. of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309.

"The University of Iowa Oral History Project," by James Beilman. *Books at Iowa*, 27 (Nov. 1977), 21-29.

The Oral History Project of the University of Nevada, Reno, Library. Mary Ellen Glass, comp. Nov. 1977. Catalogs 92 memoirs. No price. 10-year master index, \$8.

Oral History, 5, Aut. '77. Journal of the Oral History Society. Women's History Issue. Ed. by Paul R. Thompson. Write: Mary Girling, Dept. of Sociology, Univ. of Essex, Colchester, CO43SQ Eng.

NEWS

Ronald J. Grele, former assistant director of the Ford Foundation Oral History Project, now serves as director of New Jersey's recently established oral history program. The program will conduct oral history interviews in recent New Jersey history, offer consultation, guidance, and direction to oral history projects in the state, and survey and index all oral history activities in the state. Inquiries: Oral History Program, New Jersey Historical Commission, 113 West State St., Trenton, NJ 08625.

The Radical Elders Oral History Project is a volunteer, nonprofit organization seeking to document the lives of radicals sixty and older. A member of the Oral History of the American Left program, the REOHP will contribute to the archives at the Tamiment Library of New York University. Radicals who would like to document their lives and causes, and anyone wishing to participate in the collecting of such radical histories is invited to contact: REOHP c/o The Ark Bookshop, 1703 University Ave., Berkeley, CA 94703.

Bruce M. Stave, professor of history at the University of Connecticut, lectured on oral history in New Zealand, Australia, and the Philippines during his tenure as Regional Asian Fulbright Professor of American Studies. In New Zealand he served as consultant on oral history for that nation's National Library and wrote a report urging establishment of a project at the Alexander Turnbull Library in Wellington.

Ronald C. Larson, former codirector of the Japanese-American Oral History Project at California State University-Fullerton, is the new oral history coordinator for the Forest History Society, Santa Cruz. Larson will produce the series *Conversations with Conservationists*, the first volume of which, *Voices from the South*, is just off the press.

The National Archives of Malaysia in cooperation with the University Sains Malaysia, Penang, sponsored an international colloquium on oral history October 31-November 3. The colloquium, conducted in English, sought to bring together all institutions in Southeast Asia involved or interested in oral history.

The University of Vermont's fourth Oral History Institute will be held on the Burlington campus July 3-20. Amelia Fry (ROHO, University of California-Berkeley) and Charles T. Morrissey (Former Members of Congress project) will instruct. Amy Davis, an eighth grade teacher, will demonstrate the *Foxfire* method of teaching oral history. The 1978 theme is "Oral History as a Research and Learning Tool: Problems and Procedures." Write: Office of Continuing Education, Grasse Mount, UVM, Burlington, VT 05401.

The Boulder (Colorado) Public Library's Boulder County History Project now includes oral history. For information: Michael Collard, Coordinator, Boulder County History Project, Boulder Public Library, P. O. Drawer H, Boulder, CO 80306.

The Harry S. Truman Library Oral History Project, established in 1961 as the first presidential library oral history project, contains over 350 memoirs. Long-time archivist for the Truman Papers, James R. Fuchs, joined the project in its planning stages in 1959, and continues as its chief. Fuchs estimates about four more years will be needed to interview the thirty to forty potential interviewees and complete all processing. Write: Benedict K. Zobrist, Director, Harry S. Truman Library, Independence, MO 64050.

The Greensboro (N.C.) Public Library oral history program, under the direction of Eugene E. Pfaff, Jr., has twelve video- and four audiotaped interviews on the history of Greensboro and Guilford County.

Begun in 1959, the Oral History Program of the Smithsonian Institution's Archives of American Art continues to expand its activities and now contains more than 1,200 interviews. Program director Paul Cummings reports most interviews are available for reading during office hours but require permission of the interviewee. Listening to tapes is not permitted. The forthcoming edition of the program's *Checklist of the Collections* will catalog each interview. Inquiries: Archives of American Art, 41 East 65th Street, New York, NY 10021.

Volunteer interviewers willing to contribute \$800 will gather in New York City March 19-April 8, to launch the Project for the Oral History of Music in America. Contact: Barry Brook, City University of New York, 535 E. 80th St., NY 10021.

Continued on page 8

**OHA OFFICIAL
BUSINESS**

**Ronald E.
Marcello
Executive
Secretary**



This office will provide several services during the coming year that should be of interest to the membership:

WORKSHOP MATERIAL: Packets of display materials are available to anyone conducting oral history workshops. Included are sample OHA publications, copies of the revised Goals and Guidelines, membership applications, and publications order forms.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY: Steps are under way to compile a directory containing the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the members in good standing for 1978. The completion date will obviously depend on the promptness of members in paying their 1978 dues. As usual, there will be three billings: January 15, February 15, and March 15. **Please** pay your dues quickly in order to make the directory a reality as soon as possible; and do not forget to insert your telephone number in the space provided on the invoice.

ORAL HISTORY IN THE UNITED STATES: A Directory (compiled by Gary Shumway): Shumway's excellent description of ongoing oral history projects has been reduced in price to \$1 per copy. Although somewhat outdated (1971), it is still a useful reference tool, especially considering the cost of the

R. R. Bowker Company's *Oral History Collections*.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: The cumulative financial statement for 1977 is now available. Any member desiring a copy may receive one from this office upon request.

NEWS

Continued from page 7

The Oral History Program at California State University-Fullerton recently began publication of a quarterly newsletter entitled *OH Profile*. Volume 1, number 1 (Summer 1977) was released in time to honor the tenth year of the Oral History Program at CSUF. Editor Gail Matsunaga and photographer Rick Patton paid tribute to OHP's tenth anniversary and presented detailed reports on oral history projects concerning the wartime relocation of Japanese-Americans, a local history of Southeastern Utah, and efforts to gather interviews concerning the pre-political years of former President Richard M. Nixon. *OH Profile* focuses its attention on the people behind the programs and the progress they have made.

The Regional Oral History Office at the University of California-Berkeley has released a 242-page illustrated memoir and a 30-minute videotape documentary on Dr. Yuen Ren Chao, the man who set the standard for today's Chinese language. The manuscript, *Chinese Linguist, Phonologist, Composer, and Author*, is open for research at The Bancroft Library and the East Asiatic Library at UC-Berkeley and at the library of UCLA.

The University of Iowa Oral History Project, active from May 1976 to May 1977, created forty-six oral history memoirs with emeriti faculty and administrators. A comprehensive index was compiled from the volume indexes.

The first issue of *Teaching Women's Literature from a Regional Perspective*, voice of the MLA Commission on the Status of Women in the Profession, indicates a heavy reliance on oral history sources for recovering and teaching women's literature. The project is supported by the Fund for the Improvement of Post-secondary Education and is under the direction of Leonore Hoffman. Courses are taught in fifteen different regions of the country and while they have the same focus and goals, each course is developed regionally. For information: Modern Language Association, 62 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10011.

Enid H. Douglass (Claremont Graduate School) has been appointed by Governor Jerry Brown to be oral history's representative on the California Historical Records Advisory Board, affiliated with the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. The board will evaluate NHPRC grant proposals.

Oral History Association Newsletter
Published quarterly

Editorial Office
Program for Oral History
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Waco, Texas 76703

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Newsletter deadlines: Spring 1978, April 14; Summer 1978, July 21; 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.

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