

THE ACUTE NEWSLETTER



SEPTEMBER, 1979

PLEASE send 1980 fees NOW with the membership form provided herewith

N.B. Also enclosed are forms for the submission of PAPERS for the
1980 Conference in MONTREAL

Inside:

1. Announcements
2. News of Colleagues
3. Report of the Editor, E.S.C.
4. Times Past

Information sheets to submit material for the next Newsletter are
also provided with this issue.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We paid tribute at the Annual General Meeting of ACUTE on May 24 to our much loved and highly esteemed colleague, Roy Daniells, who died April 13, 1979.

The Roy Daniells Memorial Fund has recently been established at the University of British Columbia, in his honor; proceeds of this fund will be used to provide a number of annual awards to students who are doing outstanding work in English Studies at U.B.C.

Donations should be sent to Mr. Byron Hender, Director, University Awards Office, Administration Building, University of B.C., Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1W5. All donations are tax deductible.

AT THE A.G.M. on May 24 we unanimously passed a resolution deploring the intention of S.S.&H.R.C.C. to abolish the present Leave Fellowship Programme.

Your President wrote to M. André Fortier in part as follows after quoting the resolution:

I do hope that you will recognize the impact of that indication of solidarity in our organization on this contentious issue (we represent over 800 academics), and take it into consideration before making any change in the Leave Fellowship Programme

The membership will be pleased to know that our efforts were successful. On July 9, your President received a reply from M. Fortier which says in part:

The Council reviewed the situation at its June meeting, and I am pleased to inform you that the Leave Fellowship Program will not be phased out in the foreseeable future.

ADRIENNE E. KERTZER, University of Calgary, announces the Eighth Annual Conference of the Victorian Studies Association of Western Canada will be held at the University of Calgary, October 5-6, 1979.

Papers are to be given by Morse Peckham, Martha Vicinus, Robert D. Callahan, Christopher Kent, Norman MacKenzie, Ira B. Nadel and Charles Steele.

She invites requests for more information from those interested; the postal code is T2N 1N4

An international literary society dedicated to EDNA ST. VINCENT MILLAY has recently been organized. It will provide an annual newsletter and a journal of "informational and scholarly writings" and an annual meeting in Austerlitz, N.Y.

Those seeking membership (\$10.00) or further information should write to:

Donis A. Dondis, Director
The America 218
Goat Island, Newport
Rhode Island, 02840 USA

A CONFERENCE to examine the ethnic dimension of Canadian literature will convene in Edmonton at the University of Alberta from Thursday 13 September to Sunday 16 September 1979. Scholars from universities across the country will be presenting papers on Hungarian, Icelandic, Ukrainian and Yiddish writing in Canada. Noted Canadian writers and Poets who will also be participating in this landmark event include Rudy Wiebe, George Ryga, Maria Campbell, Myrna Kostash, Pier Giorgio Di Cicco, Maara Haas, Joy Kogawa and Andrew Suknaski. Readings, a film festival and topical displays will be part of the three-day programme.

The title of the conference is "Identifications: Ethnicity and the Writer in Canada," and it is being jointly sponsored by the Departments of English and Comparative Literatures and the University of Alberta, and by the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies.

For more information write:

Identifications
c/o 335 Athabasca Hall
University of Alberta
Edmonton, ALBERTA T6G 2E8

ACUTE HAS BEEN ASKED by SS&HRCC to suggest the names of scholars among its membership who would be willing to serve on various committees and to adjudicate its various competitions, for example:

Leave and Doctoral Fellowships
Negotiated Grants Committee
Learned Journals Selection Committee
Advisory Academic Panel,

and the special task outlined in the following paragraph:

You will also notice that we are introducing a national program of Travel Grants for International Scholarly Conferences. In administering this program, we will of course wish to seek the advice of knowledgeable Canadian scholars. We therefore invite your society to suggest the names of individuals whom our staff might consult at various times (informally or otherwise) for information about the significance of conferences related to your society's field of interest or about the priority various individual applications should have.

If you are interested and willing to undertake one or other of these chores, please send a note to that effect to the President, ACUTE, along with a C.V. If you are bi-lingual, please make a point of saying so. Please also indicate what specific task you would like to undertake.

THE FIFTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE of the Canadian Association of American Studies, "Westward Movements", will be held under the sponsorship of Simon Fraser University, November 1-3, 1979, at Holiday Inn in Vancouver city centre. For information write
Continuing Studies
Simon Fraser University
Burnaby, B.C. V5A 1S6

NEWS OF COLLEAGUES

STANLEY S. ATHERTON, St. Thomas University, Fredericton, has recently published Alan Sillitoe: A Critical Assessment (London: W.H. Allen, 1979). He will be presenting a paper entitled "Shifting Moods: Native Peoples in Canadian Fiction" at the fifth triennial ACLALS Conference to be held in January, 1980 at the University of the South Pacific, Suva, Fiji.

D.M.R. BENTLEY, University of Western Ontario, announces that the Spring/Summer, 1979 issue of Canadian Poetry: Studies, Documents, Reviews is dedicated to F.F. Scott on the occasion of his eightieth birthday and contains, in addition to articles and reviews by Sandra Djwa, Eli Mandel, J.M. Kertzer and others, three hitherto unpublished documents from Scott's personal papers: a c.1928 address on Modern Poetry, a reminiscence about Scott's Oxford days, and a discussion with four of the editors of Preview magazine. The issue also contains "The Year's Work in Canadian Poetry Studies: 1978." To submit material or items for inclusion in "The Year's Work in Canadian Poetry Studies" or to subscribe write to:

The Editors
Canadian Poetry
Department of English
University of Western Ontario
London, Ontario N6A 3K7

JAMES GELLERT, Lakehead University, will have an article, "Sir William Davenant's The Law Against Lovers: Shakespeare's Problem Comedy and the Restoration Heroic Tradition," in the October 1979 issue of cahiers élisabéthains (Montpellier, France).

MICHAEL GRODEN, University of Western Ontario, a Guggenheim Fellow for 1979-1980 is spending the year in New York assisting Hans Walter Cabler of Munich on a critical edition of James Joyce's Ulysses and working on a study of narrative obfuscation in the works of several novelists. Forthcoming publications include James Joyce's Manuscripts: An Index to the "James Joyce Archive" (Garland Publishing) and reviews of Books on Joyce for the James Joyce Quarterly and Review. In July he attended the Seventh International James Joyce Symposium in Zurich.

DAVID KETTERER, Concordia University, recently published two books, The Rationale of Deception in Poe (Louisiana State University Press, 1979) and Frankenstein's Creation: The Book, the Monster, and Human Reality (University of Victoria English Literary Studies monograph series, 1979) and two articles, "'Glimpses' in Wordsworth's 'The World

is Too Much With Us,;: The Wordsworth Circle, X (Winter, 1979) and "Frankenstein in Wolf's Clothing," Science-Fiction Studies (July, 1979). He presented a paper entitled "Fathoming 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea" at the annual Science Fiction Research Association meeting, Lake Tahoe, June, 1979. He is currently editing a collection entitled The "Science Fiction" of Mark Twain for Kennikat Press.

G.D. KILLAM has assumed the Co-Editorship of the Canadian Journal of African Studies and the Editorship of World Literature Written in English. Both journals will be published at the University of Guelph. He will also co-ordinate the activities of a committee which will plan the 10th annual Canadian Association of African Studies Conference at Guelph, to be held 6-9 May, 1980.

PATRICIA MORLEY, Concordia University, participated in the April 1979 meeting, in Hamilton, of Jim Foley's Academy of Canadian Writers. With Peter Newman, she headed a panel discussion on the relation of fiction and history. At the University of California at Los Angeles, on 20 June, she spoke on "Canadian Fiction: The Double Axis." Her article on Jean Herbiet's dramatic art, "'In God's Name': Religious Themes, Ironic Forms," appears in Canadian Drama, 4,2 (Fall, 1978), 185-39. Her 1978/79 sabbatical project, a full-length study of Margaret Laurence's work, is now in press with Twayne World Authors Series.

COLMAN O'HARE, University of Prince Edward Island, published "The Hero in C.S. Lewis's Space Novels," in Renascence, XXXI, 3 (Spring, 1979); a review of Humphrey Carpenter's The Inklings ("Debunking Middle-earth") in The Canadian Forum, LIX, 690 (June-July, 1979); and has forthcoming an article on Dunstanus Saga (The Old Norse Life of St. Dunstan) in the American Benedictine Review. He is working on an article on the Vinland Sagas, after having travelled to the Viking Site near L'Anse-aux-Meadows, Nfld. last fall. During the academic year 1979-80 he will be working at Harvard on Dickens and Waugh.

E.W.R. PITCHER, University of Alberta, has published two new bibliographical notes in recent issues of Notes and Queries: "A Note on the 'Modern Authors' in The New Entertaining Novelist (1785)," n.s. XXVI (Feb. 1979) and "A Note on Some Periodical Contributions of George M. Woodward" n.s. XXVI (June 1979). Forthcoming in Notes and Queries are seven other studies on "The Questionable Form of A Complete Picture of Human Life [1804?];" "Further Emendations to Melvin R. Watson's Checklist of Eighteenth-Century Magazine Serials;" "A Note on the Periodical and Miscellaneous Publications of John Moir;" "The Periodical and Miscellaneous Publications of George Wright;" "John Seally: Educator, Translator, and Author;" "Thomas Holcroft's The Family Picture (1783): New Facts;" "Vicesimus Knox and The Town and Country Magazine;" and "The Poet and Pamphleteer Thomas Herbert (fl. 1642)."

Early American Literature, which published "Signatures and Sources for Fiction in Webster's American Magazine" XIII No. 1 (Spring 1978) and "A Note on the Source of 'The Child of Snow' and 'The Son of Snow'," XIII No.2 (Fall 1978), will shortly publish "The Unamerican Fiction of The American Moral and Sentimental Magazine, with a Comment on the Captivity Narrative."

The Library recently published "The Editorship of The British Magazine and Review (1782-3) and The Wit's Magazine (1784-5)," 5th series XXXIII No. 4 (Dec. 1978), and will publish "Robert Mayo's English Novel in the Magazines 1740-1815: More Emendations and New Facts" in Dec. 1979, and, in subsequent issues, three other articles: "Anthologized Fiction for the Juvenile Reader 1750-1800," "Henry Mackenzie and the Essays signed 'Z' in The Westminster Magazine," and "The Miscellaneous Publications of George Brewer (1766-1816)."

Studies in Short Fiction published "The Physiognomical Meaning of Poe's 'Tell-tale Heart'" in the Summer 1979 issue, and ATQ published "From Hoffmann's Das Majorat to Poe's 'Usher' via 'The Robber's Tower': Poe's Borrowings Reconsidered" in the Summer 1978 issue. He read a paper on "Another Approach and Entry to Poe's House of Usher" March 13, 1979 at the University of Calgary.

Forthcoming in Resources for American Literary Study is "Fiction in The Philadelphia Minerva: A contribution Toward Establishing the American Canon" and in The William and Mary Quarterly, "Fiction in The Boston Magazine: A Checklist, with Notes on the Sources." He has completed studies of the fiction in The Columbian Magazine and The American Museum, and is undertaking other studies of early American magazine fiction as part of a major critical and bibliographical study of pre-1800 magazines.

Professor Pitcher has also begun work on an annotated index of literary prose in select British magazines and invites correspondence from interested scholars working in this field.

OREST H.T. RUDZIK, University of Toronto, published an article on Soviet criminal and psychiatric procedures in controlling dissidence "Close Encounters with The State," Canadian Lawyer (November, 1978). His paper, given at the Crawford Symposium at the University of Ottawa in May of 1977, "Myth in Malcolm's Katie," has been published in The Crawford Symposium (University of Ottawa Press, Ottawa, 1979). He is an invited participant and discussant at the Conference, "Identifications: Ethnicity and the Writer in Canada" to be held September 13 to 15, 1979 at the University of Alberta under the sponsorship of The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, the Department of English, and the Department of Comparative Literature at the University of Alberta.

PETER SABOR, Queen's University, has recently published "The Cooke-Everyman Edition of Pamela," The Library, 32(December 1977); "Joseph Andrews and Pamela," The British Journal for Eighteenth-Century Studies, 1, 3 (1978); "Did Richardson Bribe Dr. Slocock?" Notes and Queries, 224, 1 (1979); and "Richardson's Continuation of Pamela: A Chronology of the Early Editions," Notes and Queries, 224, 1 (1979).

MIRIAM WADDINGTON, York University, gave a paper "The Creative Process in Poetry" at the annual meeting of the Alumni of The School of Social Work, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia in May, 1978. She has published "The Function of Folklore in the poetry of A.M. Klein," Ariel, July 1979. Her translation (from Yiddish), "Two Antisemites" a story by Sholem Aleichem appeared in The Best of Sholem Aleichem, New Republic Books, 1979. She took part in International

Poetry Readings in Struga Yugoslavia, August 1978. Her poem, "What is a Canadian" was recently used to prepare an illustrated poster in the series, Canadian Poets on Posters, Dept. of Education, Calgary, 1979. She was honored, along with Gabrielle Roy as "distinguished writer" at the annual meeting and banquet of the Association for Quebec and Canadian Literatures, Saskatoon, May 26-29, 1979. She is currently preparing a volume of her collected criticism. A bibliography of her poetry prepared by Laurence Ricou appeared in Essays on Canadian Writing, no. 12, Fall, 1978.

WILLIAM C. WEES, McGill University, published "Visual Renewal in Stan Brakhage's 'Dog Star Man'" in Atropos (I, ii, Spring 1979), and developed some of the same lines of interest in a talk entitled "'Things in Motion, Motion in Things': Film and the Ideogrammic Method" presented at the May 1979 meeting of the Film Studies Association of Canada. Professor Wees organized a conference on Poetry and Film held at McGill in March 1979

REPORT

It is proposed that the Annual ESC Report should in future appear in our Directory along with the President's and Secretary-Treasurer's Reports. For this year, we present it here.

ANNUAL REPORT: ESC (May 1979)

It is my annual pleasure to make a number of acknowledgements, none the less strong for being, by now, familiar: to the University of Toronto Press, our publisher through 1978, and to the Morriss Printing Co., our new publisher, whose work gives every sign of meeting the high standards set by their predecessor; to the Editorial Staff, especially the Managing Editor; to the Advisory Board and the other Readers of manuscripts; to the contributors, successful and unsuccessful, of manuscripts for possible publication and to the authors and reviewers of those books sent to us for review; finally to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council for continued financial and other support.

The facts of contributions and circulation continue at roughly the same level: of the four hundred and twenty manuscripts submitted since the journal began, we continue to accept roughly a third for publication with or without revision. We are now accepting essays for publication in the Fall of 1980. Our library subscriptions are now over one hundred and thirty, and growing.

A word about our prospects for the immediate future. The change of printers should allow us to remain financially in the black for some time to come, in spite of ever rising costs. We shall be expanding our drive for library subscriptions by more focused and direct solicitations. If we were to receive all the books for review that fall within our area of interest, we might consider becoming more selective in our choice of books for review and of adding a list of Books Received to each issue. We shall consider introducing certain improvements in our procedures that have emerged from the recent review of ESC by the ACUTE Executive. In addition to the types of

submission: we now tend to receive, we should like to receive essays that adopt other critical approaches and essays on more general or theoretical topics.

Lauriat Lane, Jr.
Editor, ESC

TIMES PAST

In 1960 ACUTE became involved in the preparation of a report "on the present state of the movement to reform the spelling of English." The resultant pamphlet published in 1962 is the product of collaboration between the Canadian Linguistic Association and ACUTE and provides as objective a view of the state of affairs as could be achieved, both sides of the argument about spelling reform being elaborately stated.

Among other things, there is an account of the reform advocated by the Simplified Spelling Society in England. Here is a sample of their orthography:

A SPECIMEN OF NEW SPELLING Objekshonz to a Chaenj in dhe prezent Speling

We instinktively shrink from eny chaenj in whot iz familyar; and whot kan be mor familyar dhan dhe form ov wurdz dhat we hav seen and riten mor tiemz dhan we kan posibly estimaet. We taek up a book printed in Amerika, and honor and center jar upon us every tiem we kum akros dhem; nae, even to see forever in plaes ov for ever atrakts our atenshon in an unplezant wae. But dheez are iesolaeted kaesez; think ov dhe meny wurdz dhat wood hav to be chaenjd if eny real impruuvment wer to rezult. At dhe furst glaans a pasej in eny reformd speling looks "kweer" or "ugly," Dhis objekshon iz aulwaez dhe furst to be maed; it iz purfektly natueral; it iz dhe hardest to remuuv. Indeed, its efekt iz not weekend until dhe nue speling iz noe longger nue, until it haz been seen ofen enuf to be familyar.