



THE VISITING SCHOLAR PROGRAM: A QUARTER-CENTURY OVERVIEW

by Hallett D. Smith, Chairman

The Visiting Scholar Program of Phi Beta Kappa is now entering its twenty-fourth year. It has supplied to interested chapters 1,790 visits of two days each by 191 Visiting Scholars. These are distinguished authorities in various fields: literature and history, philosophy and religion, anthropology and economics and psychology, African cultures and computer languages, space science and submarine agriculture. It is hardly an exaggeration to say that the area covered "stretcheth as far as doth the mind of man."

We have had poets (Howard Nemerov and Reed Whittemore, for example), composers (Ross Lee Finney and Charles Rosen, to name only two), industrial designers (Henry Dreyfuss), chemists (Harry Gray, Cyril Ponnampuruma), public servants (Francis T. P. Plimpton, Newton Minow), business leaders (William C. Greenough, Abram T. Collier), foreign area experts (Phillips Talbot, James S. Coleman), physicians (Dana Farnsworth, Lewis Thomas), and a filmmaker (Jeremy Paul Kagan). And many, many professors.

Though the committee does not invite persons currently in public office, two former Visiting Scholars are now in the President's Cabinet: Juanita M. Kreps and Patricia Roberts Harris. Most recently, Herbert York had to

cancel his four visits scheduled for the spring of 1979 because of "an even higher obligation": he has been named the chief U.S. negotiator for the Comprehensive Test Ban Talks in Geneva.

These eminences are chosen by a committee appointed by the Senate of the United Chapters which meets twice a year to think of all the great names possible. The work of notifying the chapters of the available Scholars, of coordinating the requests with the availability, and of arranging the schedules is done in Washington.

The response of the institutions visited by our Scholars varies from warm to wildly enthusiastic. A letter from Oberlin College about Mark Kac's visit in October reads in part: "His general lecture on 'Chance and Regularity' was delivered to an unexpectedly large audience and drew rave notices. His broad interests and charm captivated all who met him, mathematicians and non-mathematicians alike. I do not know who suggested Mark Kac for the Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar program, but it was a superb suggestion and we are grateful to have been its beneficiary. Smaller colleges like Oberlin benefit greatly from visits by distinguished men and women from all fields." It is true that the brochure indicates that preference will be given to colleges and universities that do not

have easy access to programs of this type, but one report from Ohio State University indicates that a special case can be made for the large university. The secretary of Epsilon of Ohio writes, concerning Ross Lee Finney's visit in 1978, "We advertised his public lecture rather widely, but the audience consisted almost entirely of music students and faculty, and it might seem that no good liberal arts purposes would be served with musicians talking to musicians. Quite the opposite was true, however. Within that musician/musician conversation there were many points at which Mr. Finney's breadth of experience and perspective liberalized the outlook of musicians who listened to him."

The garland of praise from the participating chapters could be woven into a gigantic wreath, but *The Key Reporter* does not have room for that. What is also gratifying is the unexpectedly fervent responses from the Visiting Scholars themselves when their tours are over. To be exposed to questioning and discussion with the brightest undergraduates in the country turns out to be a rewarding experience for even the most eminent.

A great geologist, Kirtley F. Mather (1888-1978), was the originator of the

(continued on back cover)

THIRTY-SECOND COUNCIL

Chapters and Associations are now selecting their representatives to the thirty-second Council of the United Chapters which will convene at New Orleans, Louisiana, October 18-21, 1979. The Alpha of Louisiana at Tulane University will be the host of the Council meeting. Most of the sessions will take place at the New Orleans Hilton Hotel. Dr. Kenneth M. Greene, Secretary of the United Chapters, urges that the names of delegates be reported to the Washington office as soon as possible so that detailed information about the program and accommodations may be sent to them.



Photo: Mark Shankland

Visiting Scholar Susanne Hoeber Rudolph lectures at Colby College on life in India.



Howard Brown, whose field is Renaissance music, will be a member of the 1979-1980 panel.

THE ACHIEVEMENT OF JANE AUSTEN

by A. Walton Litz

Virginia Woolf said that Jane Austen, of all great writers, was "the most difficult to catch in the act of greatness," and the history of Jane Austen criticism would certainly seem to bear her out. Anyone who sets out to talk or write on Jane Austen is immediately faced with the problem of an art which is at once *austere* and *intimate*, reflecting the mysterious personality of its creator. And as for that creator, we even have difficulty in giving her a proper name. "Miss Austen" sounds too prim, too genteel, a relic of Janeite appreciation. "Austen" is even worse, too harsh and impersonal; its use has by-and-large been confined to those operating in the press-gang manner of *Scrutiny* magazine. "Jane" and "Dear Jane" obviously won't do, at least in the kind of criticism published by university presses; although I must confess that as I grow older I find sentimentality less objectionable than self-righteousness. After all, the greatest critical failures stem from lack of feeling, not excess of love. So I suppose we must do with "Jane Austen" (you'll notice that I am avoiding the whole issue of "Ms. Austen"). Of course, these ambiguous difficulties in naming "our author" are not confined to Jane Austen: a recent biography of T. S. Eliot, which revealed its badness in countless ways, did so first by referring to him as Tom. But in the case of Jane Austen our ambiguity over names reflects, I think, our genuine difficulty in reconciling her life with her art, her limited subjects with her great imaginative power.

The nineteenth century compared her to Shakespeare; in our own time, she has been likened most often to Henry James. Both comparisons show the basic difficulty in reconciling subject-matter with treatment, in squaring Jane Austen's restricted world — "3 or 4 Families in a Country Village" — with her profound impact upon our imaginations. Over the years her admirers have tried to resolve this paradox in various ways, none quite successful, but throughout all the changes in critical method one thing has remained constant: the high level of admiration. As Edmund Wilson once remarked, in the various revolutions of taste which have occurred during the last century and a half "perhaps only two reputations have never been affected by the shifts of

fashion: Shakespeare's and Jane Austen's. We still agree with Scott about Jane Austen, just as we agree with Ben Jonson about Shakespeare."

One explanation for Jane Austen's enduring reputation lies in the special "reality" of her created world. Of course, the worlds of Dickens and Henry James are "real" but we also know they are powerful fictions. Even when James arranged for actual photographs to document the reality of his art (I'm thinking of the Coburn photographs that illustrate the New York Edition), those photographs were deliberately blurred or contrived to enhance the fabulous quality of the scenes. But in Jane Austen we feel that there can be no other world for her than the one she writes about: it is the *only* world, until we close the pages of the novels: it has a solidity and a presence unequalled in English fiction, and all this achieved with the minimum of landscape or description.



I suppose what this means is that Jane Austen managed, on her "little bit (two inches wide) of Ivory," to trace a small part of that universal arc of human experience which we find in Shakespeare's plays. But many other writers, with far less stable reputations, have done the same thing, so we have to look elsewhere for the special qualities that have made Jane Austen's detractors seem eccentric and ungenerous. Among these special qualities I would single out Jane Austen's talent for dramatizing both the *probable* and the *possible*, both the limitations of human life and the illusion that these limitations can be occasionally overcome by those who are lucky enough and skillful enough. In other words, Jane Austen — like Mozart — shows that from time to time life itself can take on the order and harmony of a work of art. She satisfies our secret longing to believe that those who are good and generous are also stylish and beautiful; that the quality of one's life and the style of one's life can, from time to time, be the same thing. And she does this without violating in any way our sense of probability. We have to remember that she inherited both

the tradition of the Novel and the Romance: the novel, with its emphasis on domestic reality and scrupulous detail — the romance, with its emphasis on ideal patterns and perfect forms. In his early review of *Emma* Sir Walter Scott praised Jane Austen for her realism. He contrasted her recognizable, middle-class world with the "land of fiction" found in the improbable novels of Gothicism and sensibility. Unlike the typical novelist of sensibility, a young lady living securely in Twickenham who wrote of caverns and dungeons, of Black Forest robbers and Sicilian smugglers, Jane Austen stuck to the realities of England's Home Counties. As Scott said, she "neither alarms our credulity nor amuses our imagination by wild flights of fancy, or by pictures of romantic affection and sensibility; instead, she copies from Nature and presents us with a *correct* and *striking* representation of that which is daily taking place among those who actually live and die."

This is true in so far as it goes, but it is only half of the truth. At her deepest reaches Jane Austen never gave up her allegiance to the romance, that form for wish-fulfillment, and all of her novels are variants upon the basic romantic archetype of the 18th-century female reading public: the Cinderella story. Whether that story is presented straight, as in *Pride and Prejudice*, or subtly inverted, as in *Mansfield Park*, it is always present. What this means is that Jane Austen satisfies our penchant for realism without excluding the solace of the daydream. The number of readers who have secretly identified with Elizabeth or Darcy, Captain Wentworth or Anne Elliott, must be uncountable. Yet unlike the feverish daydreams of the Gothic and sentimental novels, which Dr. Johnson found so morbid, Jane Austen uses fantasy in the service of that which is normal and healthy. By never *losing* sight of what is probable and realistic, she domesticates the daydreams and avoids what Dr. Johnson called that "hunger of imagination that feeds upon life."

And nowhere is that achievement more evident than in *Pride and Prejudice*. *Pride and Prejudice* has, I think, always been the most popular of Jane Austen's novels exactly because it strikes a perfect balance between realism and romance. The social world of Elizabeth and Darcy is rendered with scrupulous detail, its limitations and protocols are honestly confronted; yet the hero and the heroine are allowed to achieve freedom and self-expression within these limitations. The reader whose mind has been

Professor Litz, of the Department of English at Princeton University, presented this lecture as a member of the 1978 Visiting Scholar panel.



conditioned by the modern novel may find more complex moral problems in *Mansfield Park*, greater narrative skill in *Emma*, more mature characterization in *Persuasion*; but he will return to *Pride and Prejudice* — just as Jane Austen and her family returned to the novel again and again — for a tone and style that are uniquely satisfying. Like all great comedies of manners, it affirms the value of that which “is light and bright and sparkling” without lapsing into sentimentality. *Pride and Prejudice* bears that hallmark of “classic” art, the discovery of new possibilities within a traditional form.

This last observation brings us squarely up against the problem I have already mentioned: how can such a limited world yield great art. Early critics such as Scott praised her for emulating the precise finish of “the Flemish school of painting.” In our own day we have tried to justify Jane Austen’s greatness by analyzing the “modernity” of her narrative methods, or the liberating effects of her irony, perhaps at the price of ignoring those virtues of “precision” and “finish” which Scott recognized. The important thing to understand in this regard is that the world of Jane Austen’s fiction is *deliberately* more limited than that of her observation. Any reader of the *Letters* or the family papers soon realizes that Jane Austen was familiar with many areas of experience not treated in her novels. She deliberately allowed her materials to be dictated by the manners of the age, which severely limited the subjects of polite conversation between men and women. Like all truly “classical” artists, she welcomed the opportunity to demonstrate her freedom within restrictions, to prove her “exquisite mastery of what can be mastered.” There is a revealing passage in *Persuasion* where Anne Elliott, the most autobiographical of all the heroines, discovers what she already knew, “that a removal from one set of people to another, though at a distance of only three miles, will often include a total change of conversation, opinion, and idea.” Her visit to Uppercross, the home of the Musgroves, is a visit to another world:

The Mr. Musgroves had their own game to guard, and to destroy; their own horses, dogs, and newspapers to engage them, and the females were fully occupied in all the common subjects of house-keeping, neighbours, dress, dancing, and music. She acknowledged it to be very fitting, that every little social commonwealth should dictate its own matters of discourse; and hoped, ere long, to become a not unworthy member of the one she

was now transplanted into. — With the prospect of spending at least two months at Uppercross, it was highly incumbent on her to clothe her imagination, her memory, and all her ideas in as much of Uppercross as possible.



Like Anne Elliott, Jane Austen “acknowledged it to be very fitting, that every little social commonwealth should dictate its own matters of discourse.” She could be a devastating and ironical critic of these limitations, in the manner of Elizabeth Bennet or Emma Woodhouse, but she never yielded to the sentimental desire for escape. Like the poet faced with a difficult and confining verse form, with a sonnet or a sestina, she found delight in demonstrating her mastery of the social forms. Contemporary manners determine the shape of her fictional world, and when her characters are allowed to achieve freedom and satisfy our romantic desires — as with Elizabeth and Darcy — they must work out their salvations within the framework of existing manners.

In 1814, when she was at the height of her creative powers, Jane Austen wrote to her young niece Anna, who was at work on a novel:

You are now collecting your People delightfully, getting them exactly into such a spot as is the delight of my life, — 3 or 4 Families in a Country Village is the very thing to work on — & I hope you will write a great deal more, & make full use of them while they are so very favourably arranged. You are but now coming to the heart & beauty of your book; till the heroine grows up, the fun must be imperfect.

Here we have Jane Austen’s great subjects — the social drama of a country village, and a young woman’s initiation into that society — brought into vital relationship. The enthusiasm of the letter to Anna reflects Jane Austen’s confidence in her ability to explore this world, and we would do well to pause for a moment and reflect on the social realities which govern *Pride and Prejudice*.

The rural life of Jane Austen’s England possessed a social complexity and inclusiveness seldom found elsewhere. The young Washington Irving, surveying the English social scene with sympathetic detachment, saw a way of life very different from that of Europe or America.

In some countries the large cities absorb the wealth and fashion of the nation; they are the only fixed abodes of elegant and intelligent society, and the country is inhabited almost entirely by boorish peasantry. In England, on the contrary, the metropolis is a mere gathering-place, or general rendezvous, of the polite classes, where they devote a small portion of the year to a hurry of gayety and dissipation, and, having indulged this kind of carnival, return again to the apparently more congenial habits of rural life. The various orders of society are therefore diffused over the whole surface of the kingdom, and the most retired neighborhoods afford specimens of the different ranks.

In other words, the country villages which Jane Austen knew and described were microcosms of English society. They might be cut off from the elegant life of the nobility — part of Darcy’s awesome presence derives from his position as the son of an earl’s daughter, and Lady Catherine de Bourgh descends on Longbourn-house like a creature from another world — but these villages were representative of the Tory gentry who gave England its unique character. Within these microcosmic societies could be found enough variety in personality, rank, and economic situation to satisfy the most complicated imagination.

To the casual observer of Jane Austen’s lifetime these rural societies must have seemed static and eternal, yet a more discerning eye would have noted disturbing changes. Washington Irving acknowledged this, in his essay on “Rural Life in England,” when he deplored the economic forces which were causing the larger estates to absorb the smaller, thus threatening “the sturdy race of small farmers.” The demands of the new industrialism and the new spirit of social reform were working profound changes upon the ordered world of Jane Austen’s youth, and in *Pride and Prejudice* we witness this confrontation between a traditional social order and the new forces of individual enterprise.

It was during Jane Austen’s lifetime that the narrow term *bourgeois*, borrowed from the language of European society, was supplemented by the



broader conception of an English "middle class." *Bourgeois* suggests a fixed social quantity, a class of urban tradesmen and entrepreneurs, but the term "middle class" suggests a more fluid and dynamic group. In *Pride and Prejudice* the old social order represented by Darcy and Pemberley is directly challenged by Jane Austen's social awareness that she can treat both attitudes with candor and sympathy.

The union of Pemberley and Gracechurch-street could not have been established without a marriage, since in Jane Austen's world marriage is the key to personal happiness, social advancement, and economic security. Jane Austen knew the hard realities of a young girl's social position: "Single Women have a dreadful propensity for being poor," she remarked in a letter, "which is one very strong argument in favour of Matrimony." Her treatment of Charlotte Lucas's marriage to the grotesque Mr. Collins is frighteningly honest. When Elizabeth exclaims in disbelief, "Engaged to Mr. Collins! my dear Charlotte, — impossible!" Charlotte replies with a clear statement of social and economic necessity.

"I am not romantic you know. I never was. I ask only a comfortable home; and considering Mr. Collins' character, connections, and situation in life, I am convinced that my chance of happiness with him is as fair as most people can boast on entering the marriage state."

Yet Jane Austen also clung to the romantic belief that "Anything is to be preferred or endured rather than marrying without Affection." It is this paradox of marriage as an economic necessity and marriage as an adventure of the spirit that *Pride and Prejudice* so brilliantly resolves. But the resolution would not compel our admiration if Jane Austen had not clearly presented the darker — and more common — alternative.

All along I have been talking about *Pride and Prejudice* as a balance or accommodation of opposites: opposites in Jane Austen's life, in the history of the novel, perhaps in life itself. And of course, this balance is the form and meaning of the novel. One of the dominant metaphors in *Pride and Prejudice* is that of the dance, in which figures approach and retreat from each other in elaborate patterns, only to be united at last. Presumably it is this pattern of intricate maneuvers and strategems leading to a final resolution which makes so many think of Mozart in connection with *Pride and Prejudice*. As Darcy and Elizabeth

come to know and love each other they become more alike, sharing each other's values, even talking more alike — as Elizabeth's speech becomes tempered by judicious, Johnsonian phrases, Darcy's stately dialogue is leavened with some of Elizabeth's liveliness and wit. The final triumph of the novel is that their marriage is satisfying on all levels of experience, and to all readers. *Economically*, it confirms that happy progress already seen in the life of the Gardiners. *Socially*, it brings an aristocracy of tradition into contact with an aristocracy of talent. *Aesthetically*, we feel that Darcy and Elizabeth are "right" for each other, their styles of living are complementary. All of these accommodations, so long anticipated by the reader and so stubbornly resisted by the proud and prejudiced characters, first come into Elizabeth's view when she approaches Pemberley, Darcy's Derbyshire home. You will remember that Elizabeth, on her vacation trip with the Gardiners, is persuaded almost against her will to tour Darcy's supposedly vacant great house. This is how Jane Austen describes Elizabeth's first sight of Pemberley:

They gradually ascended for half a mile, and then found themselves at the top of a considerable eminence, where the wood ceased, and the eye was instantly caught by Pemberley House, situated on the opposite side of a valley, into which the road with some abruptness wound. It was a large, handsome, stone building, standing well on rising ground, and backed by a ridge of high woody hills; — and in front, a stream of some natural importance was swelled into greater, but without any artificial appearance. Its banks were neither formal, nor falsely adorned. Elizabeth was delighted. She had never seen a place for which nature had done more, or where natural beauty had been so little counteracted by an awkward taste. They were all of them warm in their admiration; and at that moment she felt, that to be mistress of Pemberley might be something!

Sir Walter Scott has been much abused for his remark that Elizabeth "does not perceive that she has done a foolish thing until she accidentally visits a very handsome seat and grounds belonging to her admirer." Presumably those who protest against Scott's interpretation of the scene think he places too much emphasis on material things. But of course Scott was right. It is precisely because Elizabeth sees Pemberley as a symbol

(continued on back cover)

Saul Bellow

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Descartes Against the Sceptics.

E. M. Curley. Harvard. \$12.50.
Patricide comes naturally to philosophers, and the Father of Modern Philosophy has been dispatched innumerable times. This very good book, marked by careful argument as much as by exposition, is more concerned to understand the sceptical position against which Descartes formulated his thought, and to defend him against contemporary misinterpretations.

The Self and Its Brain. Karl R. Popper and John C. Eccles. Springer International. \$17.90.

It is stimulating to encounter a forthright and extended defense of interactionism in an unusual work by a distinguished philosopher and a Nobel Laureate neurologist. Each of them contribute a third of the book on their respective specialties, and the last third is a series of taped conversations between them on the central issues. They have some differences, but they agree in rejecting a materialist interpretation of mind and in affirming the action of the mind on the brain.

Presence and Absence. Robert Sokolowski. Indiana. \$15.

A thoughtful and original investigation of semantics developed out of a phenomenological context. Naming and addressing another are taken as the primary axes of referring, and the subsequent phenomena of language are developed out of these in terms of the presence and absence of what is named. It is good to have our common approaches to these issues met by another perspective.

Four Hasidic Masters. Elie Wiesel. Notre Dame. \$7.95.

In the best tradition of Hasidic storytelling, Wiesel relates and meditates on some tales of four Hasidim. Not theology but stories, not answers but epiphanies of friendship, learning, doubt and faith in the lives of men at once warmly human and something more.

The Growth of Medieval Theology (600-1300). Jaroslav Pelikan. Chicago. \$17.50.

The third volume in what is already clearly a masterful history of the development of Christian doctrine takes the vicissitudes of the Augustinian synthesis after the 9th century as a guiding thread through the hammering-out of common doctrine on redemption, Mary, the sacraments, the Trinity and the question of method. Impressive in its annotation, clear in exposition, precise in formulation: a great work of scholarship.

Barbarism with a Human Face. Bernard-Henri Levy. Harper & Row. \$10.

No doubt this is a *livre d'occasion*, but it is a dazzling rather than plodding one even if its passion aims at unmasking illusions rather than at hopefulness. The liberation promised by socialism is a delusion, its practice is oppression, power is an inevitable reality not a historical contingency: these themes are carried along in a style more flood-like than analytic, but worth the ride.

Dear Russell — Dear Jourdain. I. Grattan-Guinness. Columbia. \$20.

Bertrand Russell's correspondence with a young mathematician is the basis of an illuminating, often technical, account of the working out of his ideas on such topics as the theory of types and the axioms of infinity and choice.

The Origin of Christology. C. F. D. Moule. Cambridge. \$15.95.

An analysis of the first-century development of thinking about the person of Jesus via an examination of four titles ascribed to him and which, it is argued, only articulated rather than transformed the original comprehension of his nature. Careful and cogent.

ANDREW GYORGY

The Political, Social and Religious Thought of Russian 'Samizdat': An Anthology.

Eds. Michael Meerson-Aksenov and Boris Shragin. Nordland Pub., Belmont, Mass. \$29.50.

This carefully edited and comprehensive collection offers a broad and exciting panorama of the existing Russian *Samizdat* literature. Particularly interesting chapters deal with the problems of "Personality, Freedom and Responsibility," as well as the role of "The Church in *Samizdat*." Essential for students of Soviet politics.

Para-Military Politics in Weimar Germany. James M. Diehl. Indiana. \$18.

This study illuminates a relatively dark chapter of interwar (Weimar) Germany, analyzing paramilitary groups both on the left and on the right. It stresses the gradual rise of militarism during this crucial period which played directly into the hands of Adolf Hitler and the National Socialist movement. Important for historians and political scientists specializing in German history, militarism and in political violence.

Nothing But Honour: The Story of the Warsaw Uprising, 1944. J. K. Zawodny. Hoover. \$15.

This impressive book describes in great detail the dramatic Warsaw uprising of 1944 in which over 200,000 people were

killed. This work excels in the use of primary source materials, particularly from Ukrainian, Polish, Soviet and German sources. The meaningful photographs help to underscore the fate and inevitability of this desperate popular move. Of great interest to the general public as well as the specialized student of Eastern European history.

Workers' Self-Management and Organizational Power in Yugoslavia. Eds. Josif Obradovic and William N. Dunn. University Center for International Studies, Univ. of Pittsburgh. \$8.50.

This ably edited volume presents a panoramic view of the problem of workers' self-management which is a social issue transcending by far the confines of Yugoslavia. Indeed, it is one of the major reform problem-areas of great concern to the elites and the public of various Eastern European states.

The Communists of Poland: An Historical Outline. Jan B. de Weydenthal. Hoover. \$8.50.

A native of Poland, Dr. Weydenthal has demonstrated meticulous scholarship in this most useful volume in the Hoover Institution's ongoing series on the "Histories of Ruling Communist Parties," edited by Dr. Richard F. Staar. This reviewer was particularly impressed by the broad yet painstaking analysis of the "Years of Crisis: 1968-1971" chapter which presents interesting new information and insights into troubled Poland.

The Final Fall: An Essay on the Decomposition of the Soviet Sphere. Emmanuel Todd. Karz Publishers, N.Y. \$12.50.

The Final Fall, despite its highly optimistic subtitle, presents and views in detail some of the major and salient problem areas in both the USSR and the various states of Eastern Europe. The author's long discussion of "Social Determinisms" is especially good.

Eurocommunism and Detente. Ed. Rudolf L. Tokes. N.Y.U. \$24.50; p. \$10.95.

This comprehensive study of Eurocommunism presents a true picture of the phenomenon currently threatening the unity and solidarity of the World Communist movement. Particularly outstanding chapters were written on French Communism (Prof. Tiersky), on Spanish and Portuguese Communism (E. Mujal-Leon) and on the Soviet Union and West European Communism (Dr. Legvold). Others are equally noteworthy.

ELLIOT ZUPNICK

The World Economy: History & Prospect. W. W. Rostow. Texas. \$34.50.

This is an encyclopedic work by the Doyen of American economic historians. Naturally enough, the book focuses on those problems with which Rostow has wrestled for many years. The stages of economic growth are explored for twenty countries comprising both highly developed ones — the U.S., Britain and Germany — as well as those in relatively early stages of development. In the final part of the work, Rostow turns his attention to the future of the world economy. His analysis of the limits to growth,

population, food, raw materials and energy problems as well as the tasks of international cooperation are provocative. Rostow's views of the long term Kondratieff Cycle are, of course, guaranteed to generate sparks.

Worldwide Inflation: Theory and Recent Experience. Eds. Lawrence B. Krause & Walter S. Salant. Brookings. \$19.95; p. \$9.95.

Inflation is clearly one of the most serious problems facing the advanced industrial countries. This book consists of the papers prepared for a conference sponsored by the Brookings Institution. The papers fall into three categories: theories of inflation; recent experiences in eight countries, and directions for future research. Despite the high caliber of most of the papers, what emerges most strongly from this volume is the absence of a consensus amongst economists regarding both the causes and the cures of inflation. The most important function this volume can serve is to provide economists with a degree of urgency to undertake a more penetrating analysis of this problem.

International Economic Policy: Theory and Evidence. Eds. Rudiger Dornusch & Jacob Frenkel. Johns Hopkins. \$18.50; p. \$7.95.

The literature on trade and payments theory and policy has grown by leaps and bounds in recent years. Many of the old orthodoxies have been shattered and new doctrines have emerged to take their place. The essays in this volume attempt to assess the state of the field today. Although the essays are fairly technical, they are required reading for anyone wishing to understand the complex international economic problems of today and of the 1980's.

Inflation, Exchange Rates and the World Economy. W. M. Corden. Chicago. \$11. In these brilliant lectures on international monetary economies, Max Corden assesses the recent contributions of the "Chicago School" to balance of payments theory. While acknowledging that these contributions have profoundly affected our understanding of the international monetary system, Corden demonstrates the continuing validity of much of the older analysis.

LEONARD W. DOOB

Snapping: America's Epidemic of Sudden Personality Change. Flo Conway and Jim Siegelman. Lippincott. \$10.

An indignant, useful description of the various cults (such as the Moonies, est, the Church of Scientology, Children of God, Esalen, the Manson family) whose converts, as we now know from Guyana, are seeking better ways to understand the personal problems arising in part from a society that leaves them bewildered and unhappy. The snappy title refers to the authors' conception of what they believe happens when "an individual stops thinking and feeling for himself, when he breaks the bonds of awareness and social relationship that tie his personality to the outside world and literally loses his mind to some form of external or automatic control." Praise

is heaped on "deprogramming" efforts to wean converts away from their gurus.

Middle Eastern Muslim Women Speak. Eds. Elizabeth Warnock Fernea and Basima Qattan Bezirgen. Texas. \$16.95; p. \$7.95.

A fascinating glimpse into the thoughts and feelings of Muslim women beginning with the Koran's edicts and quotations from Muhammad's first wife and ending with indignant outcries by an Egyptian feminist (b. 1914) and a Lebanese novelist (b. 1942). The insight is gained by offering samples of their poetry ("The fresh roses are such a lovely company in beauty and splendor"), of their fiction ("The Mistake"), and above all their fury ("marriage today . . . is a corrupt institution"); and through autobiographies, biographies, and interviews. Most apparently detested their polygamous and subservient status, yet only recently have they begun to revolt.

The Empty Polling Booth. Arthur T. Hadley. Prentice-Hall. \$8.95.

A breezy, quick analysis of why 46 percent of voting-age Americans failed to vote in the 1976 presidential election based upon a surveyed sample of 2,006, "depth" interviews with "some 100" of them, and clever journalistic reasoning. Non-voting is associated not with demographic attributes (education, ethnic group, etc.), as the popular stereotype suggests, but generally with attitudes. A not completely original typology is proposed, with the percentages placed here in parentheses: positive apathetics (35), by-passed (13), politically impotent (22), physically disenfranchised (18), naysayers (6), and cross-pressured (5). Non-voting is enthusiastically condemned; constructive ways to reduce the percentages are suggested.

Learning Non-Aggression: The Experience of Non-Literate Societies. Ed. Ashley Montagu. Oxford. \$10.95.

A scholarly, tantalizing attempt to unravel a significant secret: what techniques do other peoples employ so that their children emerge, unlike many of ours, with relatively non-aggressive personalities? It is scholarly because after a sensible introduction by the gadflying editor ("Human beings can learn virtually anything"), seven traditional societies, ranging from an aboriginal group in Australia to two small groups in the Canadian Arctic, are examined not from afar but by anthropologists who actually lived among them and both carefully and lovingly observed them and their child-rearing practices. It is tantalizing because even for them no magic recipe is discernible: the methods vary considerably and depend in large measure upon environmental constraints. Banal? No, because the glimpses provide hints and remind us again of our overlooked responsibilities.

The Concept of Man in Contemporary China. Donald J. Munro. Michigan. \$10.

A coolly sympathetic, constructively critical, largely document-based dissection of the assumptions concerning human nature and society that guide the thinking and practices in contemporary China.

ROBERT B. HEILMAN

A Decade of Euphoria: Western Literature in Post-Stalin Russia, 1954-64. Maurice Friedberg. Indiana. \$17.50.

A thorough, scholarly, and very readable study of the popular and official Russian attitudes to western literature—of the public's fondness for the imports, and the party's efforts to discourage this and to render imports safe by censorship and editing.

Trelawney: The Incurable Romancer.

William St. Clair. Vanguard. \$12.95.

This matter-of-fact biography tries constantly to distinguish between fact and fantasy in the autobiographic accounts of a histrionic figure who parlayed a brief acquaintance with Shelley and Byron into a 50-year career as their spokesman and interpreter.

Chateaubriand: A Biography. Volume I (1768-93). The Longed-For Tempests.

George D. Painter. Knopf. \$15.

The excellent first third of a biography-in-process takes a striking figure of European Romanticism through Breton childhood, early Parisian career, the first years of the French Revolution (which he barely survived), and his formative search for noble savages in America. Painter combines meticulous research and imaginative prose.

Caught in the Web of Words: James A. H. Murray and the Oxford English Dictionary. K. M. Elizabeth Murray. Yale. \$15.

His granddaughter writes an unusually interesting life of a Scottish country boy, a rarely self-taught polymath whose special linguistic aptitudes and discipline made him England's greatest lexicographer. She fully portrays activities at home and in workshop.

The Strange Ride of Rudyard Kipling: His Life and Works. Angus Wilson.

Viking. \$17.50.

Though not fond of Kipling's politics, Wilson has great sympathy with the man and artist, and he gives a superb independent account of the relationship between life and works and of the varying quality of the works. Wilson's research included visits to all the foreign spots where Kipling lived.

John Stuart Mill in Love. Josephine Kamm. Gordon & Cremonesi. \$14.95.

Kamm traces the extraordinary influence upon Mill's career and thought of three "mother substitutes," especially of Mrs. Harriet Taylor, whom he later married, and, after Harriet's death, of her daughter Helen—a "highly intelligent" pair, "domineering, dogmatic, and ruthless," and idolized by Mill.

The Diary of Virginia Woolf. Ed. Anne Olivier Bell. Intro. Quentin Bell. Vol. 1, 1915-1919. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich. \$12.95.

The first of five volumes indicates that the Woolf diary will contain much of daily reportage, portraits of self and family and friends, keen observations of the physical world and criticism of literary works, ironic sense of situation, and witty comments on many things.



The Shows of London. Richard D. Altick. Harvard-Belknap. \$35.
This large "panoramic history of exhibitions, 1600-1862" is a well-researched, well-written, very inclusive, and beautifully designed and printed book, with 181 black-and-white illustrations.

The Nature of Biography. Robert Gittings. Washington. \$7.95.

Thomas Hardy's Later Years. Robert Gittings. Little Brown. \$12.50.
In the first book Gittings writes with lively learning about the theory and history of biography; in the second he writes first-rate biography. Concentrating on the diverse raw materials re-worked in the novels and poems, he fully portrays Hardy, a not wholly admirable man, and the troubled personalities of his first and second wives.

On Broadway. Performance Photographs by Fred Fehl. Text by William Stott with Jane Stott. Texas. \$24.95.

A handsome collection of 400 photographs of scenes from plays produced in New York in the 1940s, 50s, and 60s. These, plus comments from actors, directors, and reviewers, many published for the first time, constitute an informal theatre history of the period.

RUSSELL B. STEVENS

Birds of Man's World. Derek Goodwin. Cornell. \$12.50.

Possum in the Parking Lot. Ronald Rood. Simon & Schuster. \$8.95.

At long last, it might almost be said, there is a growing realization that whatever the future may bring, it will not be a return to the so-called wild. It must be recognized that an increasing number of this nation's people live far indeed from anything that a generation or so ago would have been called "nature," and they have as a consequence little realization of its complexity and interest. That said, it is none too soon to accept the fact that the outcome of man's remodeling of the Earth is a drastic change in the pattern of its flora and fauna, rather than its elimination. Many of the insights available to our forefathers are available at the present day; but they must be sought in the situations that remain—cities, towns, and managed countrysides. To spend time thus is far more rewarding than simply to bemoan the turn of events.

In seeking to help, Goodwin has given us a series of accounts of various bird species as they have reacted to the human element. Rood centers his attention on common mammals and other residents of the urban society. Neither work is a detailed or comprehensive treatment; both deal with an issue deserving attention and too long neglected.

Analysis of Ecological Systems. Eds. David J. Horn, Rodger D. Mitchell, and Gordon R. Stairs. Ohio State. \$27.50.
Those of us whose formal education lay in the period before mid-century, or for whom the symbols and logic of mathematics and systems analysis are at best uneasy companions, will find some of the

passages in this symposium proceedings rather more than we can handle. Yet we cannot longer tolerate the inexcusable over-simplifications of the mass media, in which "ecology" has been used to mean so many things that it no longer means anything at all.

Analysis of Ecological Systems to those conversant with modern thought in this area, will be helpful as another of a number of works available. To those less well-informed, it provides a rather good insight into what is going on among serious students of the subject; and it is a welcome antidote to the flood of trivia brought forth to bolster this or that already firmly fixed subjective opinion. If the environment is to be understood at all, even in time, it will be by the patient efforts of persons such as those assembled for this colloquium—not by the headline seekers and the pressure groups.

Food and Social Policy. Eds. Gary H. Koerselman and Kay E. Dull. Iowa State. \$8.95.

To Feed this World. Sterling Wortman and Ralph W. Cummings, Jr. Johns Hopkins. \$25; p. \$6.95.
Food in general, and nutrition in particular, has become a matter of pervasive concern in the last decade. Thoughtful examination of the issues is made the more difficult because: (1) almost everyone regards himself as an expert and holds firm views on the subject; (2) almost no one actually knows a great deal about it; many who speak most volubly know almost nothing; and (3) the topic itself is a bewildering mixture of natural science, social science, politics in the crudest sense of that term, and differing human value judgments. These two books provide useful insights although they make no pretense of covering the entire span of fact and opinion. The first is a collection of papers from a 1976 conference of the same title, and touches on a wide diversity of subjects. The second, by two agricultural scientists who have spent their careers in the international arena, addresses fundamental issues of world hunger and agricultural productivity and the social instruments that must be set in place if the two are to be brought into consonance.

RICHARD BEALE DAVIS

Cotton Mather: The Young Life of the Lord's Remembrancer, 1663-1703. David Levin. Harvard. \$16.50.

'A Faire and Easie Way to Heaven': Covenant Theology and Antinomianism in Early Massachusetts. William K. B. Stoever. Wesleyan. \$19.

From Office to Profession: The New England Ministry, 1750-1850. Donald M. Scott. Pennsylvania. \$12.

Three significant additions to the study of early New England. One hopes that Levin will continue the story of Mather as he has begun in this perceptive, balanced biography of a major colonial figure. Stoever's is an informed, convincing discussion of early Puritan theology of the Shepard-Cotton era just before Mather's time. Scott's book is a real contribution to regional and denominational American church history,

a little marred by the explicit assumption that New England's story is that of all early America.

Town and Country: Essays on the Structure of Local Government in the American Colonies. Ed. Bruce C. Daniels. Wesleyan. \$20.

Landlord and Tenant in Colonial New York: Manorial Society, 1664-1775. Sung Wok Kim. North Carolina for the Institute of Early American History and Culture. \$19.

Chesapeake Politics, 1781-1800. Norman K. Risjord. Columbia. \$27.50.

Three books focussing on regions or provinces of America in the eighteenth century. Risjord analyzes in depth the evolution of political organization in Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina. He considers at length economic, legal, and social factors.

The Philosophy of the American Revolution. Morton White. Oxford. \$15.95.
Inventing America: Jefferson's Declaration of Independence. Garry Wills. Doubleday. \$10.

White's is a useful attempt to show that Jefferson (with Adams, Hamilton, and James Wilson) applied technical philosophical doctrines in the Declaration of Independence to support the argument. Wills' argument is that Jefferson in the Declaration is making a *scientific* approach to the various principles he discusses and proposes, that Jefferson as a true son of the Enlightenment is far from being a vague idealist. Though both men see many of the same sources for the ideas of the great document, Wills insists on the dominance of the Scottish minds of the eighteenth century as Jefferson's principal "sources." White's is an excellent classroom presentation containing new attitudes and interpretations. Wills' is a more complex, beautifully written exposition of the Enlightenment philosophers who may have been familiar to Jefferson in their relation to the phrases of the great document, an original and in-depth study not entirely convincing, for the writings of Gordon-Trenchard-Sidney-Shaftesbury as progenitors of ideas seem to this reader strangely neglected; and the moral-order basis for government seen in Jefferson is for this reader dubious.

The Mellons: The Chronicle of America's Richest Family. Daniel E. Koskoff. Crowell. \$14.50.

Moderate in tone, with implicit weighing of the character and significance of individuals. Sane, apparently accurate, a most interesting survey of a family of major importance in our history.

The Slum and the Ghetto: Neighborhood Deterioration and Middle-Class Reform, Chicago 1880-1930. Thomas Lee Philpott. Oxford. \$17.95.

Ethnic Leadership in America. Ed. John Higham. Johns Hopkins. \$12.95.

Urban Masses and Moral Order in America, 1820-1920. Paul Boyer. Harvard. \$18.50.

Useful and original studies of characteristic American problems. Genuinely critical assessments.

VISITING SCHOLARS

(continued from page one)

Visiting Scholar Program and the first chairman of the Committee. He would no doubt have been pleased by a comment from the secretary of our founding chapter, Alpha of Virginia at the College of William and Mary: "I want to sing the praises of the Visiting Scholar Program. More directly than almost any other activity of the United Chapters, this program allows and encourages the individual chapter to take an active role in the intellectual life of its institution. What could be more in keeping with the spirit and goals of Phi Beta Kappa."

We are pleased to announce the appointment of thirteen men and women for the 1979-80 Visiting Scholar panel who will make some 95 visits.

RICHARD H. BOLT, Chairman of the Board Emeritus, Bolt Beranek and Newman Inc., Cambridge, Massachusetts; specialist in acoustics.

HOWARD M. BROWN, Ferdinand Schevill Distinguished Service Professor of music, University of Chicago.

ABRAM T. COLLIER, Former Chairman of the Board, New England Mutual Life Insurance Company, Boston.

PAUL FUSSELL, John DeWitt Professor of English Literature, Rutgers University.

ANNA J. HARRISON, William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Chemistry, Mount Holyoke College.

LAURA NADER, Professor of Anthropology, University of California, Berkeley.

JOHN R. PIERCE, Professor of Engineering, California Institute of Technology.

WILLIAM B. PROVINE, Associate Professor of History and Joint Appointee at Large, Division of Biological Sciences, Cornell University.

ROY SIEBER, Rudy Professor of Fine Arts, Indiana University.

JANE AUSTEN

(continued from page four)

of social, economic, and personal security that her heart is changed. The description of the great house might be a description of Darcy himself; stately, rich, powerful, elegant, but withal pleasant and attractive. Unlike that other character in English fiction whom she resembles, Henry James's Isabel Archer, Elizabeth has learned the lesson that no human being can be separated from the "envelope of circumstances" in which he or she lives. Remember what Madame Merle tells Isabel early on in *Portrait of a Lady*, "One's self is one's expression of one's self; and one's house, one's furniture, one's garments, the books one reads, the company one keeps — these things are all expressive." Isabel Archer refuses to heed Madame Merle's advice, and the *Portrait* turns toward tragedy. Elizabeth acknowledges these things, and *Pride and Prejudice* turns towards comedy. In recognizing Pemberley as a symbol of Darcy's true personality, a perfect complement to her own, Elizabeth is making both a social and an aesthetic judgment. She is half-consciously anticipating a marriage which will satisfy both our sense of social rightness and our sense of personal style. Which is but to say that at a particular moment of her life, and within the created universe of *Pride and Prejudice*, Jane Austen managed to reconcile the normally conflicting demands of economics, manners, and aesthetics.

FRITZ STERN, Seth Low Professor of History, Columbia University.

VIRGINIA TRIMBLE, Associate Professor of Physics, University of California, Irvine, and Visiting Associate Professor of Astronomy, University of Maryland.

KEY REPORTER EDITOR RETIRES NEW EDITOR APPOINTED

This will be the last issue of *The Key Reporter* edited by Evelyn L. Greenberg. Mrs. Greenberg is leaving Phi Beta Kappa on May 1. She and her husband, who is retiring from the faculty of the University of Maryland, are planning to spend much of their time in Israel. They have a home in Yemin Moshe, a recently restored historic section of Jerusalem.

Evelyn Greenberg has been a member of the Washington staff of Phi Beta Kappa since 1967. In addition to being the editor of *The Key Reporter*, she served as assistant to the late Carl Billman and as acting executive secretary and is currently the associate executive secretary of the United Chapters. Mrs. Greenberg expects to continue with research and teaching in her field, American history. That is, if grandchildren don't lure her out of her study.

The new editor of the newsletter will be Roseanne Rotnem Price, a Phi Beta Kappa graduate in 1974 of Rockford College, Rockford, Illinois.

In addition to assuming her new duties on *The Key Reporter*, Mrs. Price will continue to work as an editor in the Office of Publications of the National Academy of Sciences. Mrs. Price received her editorial training at the American Geophysical Union in Washington, D.C., where she worked primarily on the *Journal of Geophysical Research* and *Eos* magazine.

WILCOMB E. WASHBURN, Director, American Studies Program, Smithsonian Institution.

ROBIN M. WILLIAMS, JR., Henry Scarborough Professor of Social Science, Cornell University.



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