



# THE KEY REPORTER

## A Global Garden in the 21st Century?

By Joel E. Cohen

**T**HIS YEAR MARKS THE 200th anniversary of Thomas Robert Malthus's "Essay on the Principle of Population," which asserted that the human population grows exponentially. Many people think the human population has grown exponentially, but that is not so. An exponentially growing population always doubles in the same amount of time, like an interest-bearing savings account with a fixed compound interest rate. The human population doubled from perhaps one-quarter billion 2,000 years ago to a half-billion after 15 or 16 centuries. The next doubling took 2 or 3 centuries, and the population passed 1 billion around 1830. The next doubling took only 1 century, as the population passed 2 billion around 1930. The next doubling to 4 billion people took only 44 years.

Looking backward from today's population of nearly 6 billion, the most recent doubling of the human population took only 40 years. Thus,

the doubling time of human population accelerated roughly 40-fold, from 16 centuries to 40 years. Never before the second half of the 20th century had any human being lived through a doubling of the human population, and now everyone who is 40 years old or older has seen the Earth's population double.

The past half-century saw another major demographic event that is also without precedent in human history. Around 1965 the population's growth rate peaked and began to decline. In the 14th century, a fall in the growth rate was caused by increased deaths from plagues, war, and famine. By contrast, the fall in the growth rate since 1965 has been caused by voluntary reductions in fertility. Although fertility in the rich countries has been falling for more than a century, the news in 1965 was the reduction of childbearing in the poor countries, where a majority of the world's people lived and live.

## 1998-99 Visiting Scholars Named

Phi Beta Kappa has named 13 Visiting Scholars for 1998-99. Members of this group will make about 100 individual visits to universities and colleges that have chapters of Phi Beta Kappa, spending two days on each campus. During each visit the Visiting Scholar is expected to meet with undergraduates informally, to participate in classroom lectures and seminars, and to give one major address open to the entire academic community. The program, which began in 1956, is intended to enrich the intellectual atmosphere of the institution and to enable undergraduates to meet and talk with distinguished scholars in diverse disciplines.

The Scholars were selected by the 11 members of the Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar Committee, which meets twice a year at the Society's headquarters in Washington, D.C., to consider nominations of Visiting Scholars in the social and natural sciences as well as the humanities.

The Visiting Scholars for 1998-99 are as follows:

**Manthia Diawara**, professor of comparative literature and film, and director, Africana Studies Program and the Institute of Afro-American Affairs, New York University. He is the author of *Black-American Cin-*

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I offer these speculations to encourage us all to imagine a positive future we can work toward. The future is at least partially an object of choice, and not entirely (I hope) an inevitable outcome of an uncontrollable mechanical world.

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Both the speed of population growth since World War II and the dramatic fall in global fertility since 1965 are without precedent. The timing and magnitude of both events were not predicted by anyone.

### Pyramid of Population, Economics, Environment, And Culture

Why that colossal failure of prediction?

Let us think about population as one vertex of a symmetrical pyramid in which the other vertices are the environment, economics, and culture. Any corner can go on top. One

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

### KEY NOTES

Life Outside Academe  
*Kathryn Carlson*  
PAGE 5

Phi Beta Kappa in the News  
PAGE 7

Letters to the Editor  
PAGE 7

North Replaces Relman as a  
ΦBK Senator at Large  
PAGE 8

Recommended Reading  
PAGE 9

Multigeneration ΦBK Families  
PAGE 15

Society Hosts Reception to Greet  
Inaugural Issue of *Fadiman's  
American Scholar*  
PAGE 16



## VISITING SCHOLARS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

*ema*, *African Cinema: Politics and Culture*, and *In Search of Africa: The African-American Dream of Modernity*, as well as the director of *Rouch in Reverse* and codirector of *Sembene Ousmane: The Making of African Cinema*.

**Carl Djerassi**, professor of chemistry, Stanford University. He is the recipient of the National Medal of Science, the first Wolf Prize in Chemistry, the National Medal of Technology, the Priestley Medal (American Chemical Society), and the National Academy of Sciences' Award for Industrial Applications of Science. His "science in fiction" books include *Cantor's Dilemma*, *The Bourbaki Gambit*, *Menachem's Seed*, and *NO*.

**Ciprian Foias**, Distinguished Professor of Mathematics, Indiana University. He is a recipient of the AMS/SIAM Norbert Wiener Prize in Applied Mathematics, the Weizmann Institute's Michael Fellowship, and the Rothrock Faculty Teaching Award at Indiana. He is the author of *Harmonic Analysis of Operators on Hilbert Space*, *Navier-Stokes Equations*, and *The Commutant Lifting Approach to Interpolation Problems*.

**Carmela Vircillo Franklin**, associate professor of classics, Columbia University. She has written *Early Monastic Rules*, *The Ecclesiae Atinatis Historia of Marcantonio Palombo* (2 vols.), and *The Latin Dossier of Anastasius the Persian Monk* (forthcoming). She received a Mellon Fellowship in Medieval and Renaissance Studies, American Academy in Rome, and has been a fellow of the National Humanities Center.

**John Harte**, professor of environmental science, policy, and management, and professor in the Energy and Resources Group, University of California, Berkeley. A fellow of the American Physical Society, he is the author or coauthor of *The Green Fuse: An Ecological Odyssey*, *Consider a Spherical Cow: A Course in Environmental Problem Solving*, *Patient Earth*, and *Toxics A to Z*.

**Linda K. Kerber**, May Brodbeck Professor in the Liberal Arts and pro-

fessor of history, University of Iowa. Past president of the Organization of American Historians and the American Studies Association, and recipient of two faculty awards from Iowa, she is the author of *Federalists in Dissent*, *Women of the Republic*, *Toward an Intellectual History of Women*, and *No Constitutional Right to Be Ladies* (forthcoming).

**Mimi Koehl**, professor of integrative biology, University of California, Berkeley. She is the recipient of a Presidential Young Investigator Award and was a MacArthur fellow, 1990-95. She has been a visiting professor at the Centre for Mathematical Biology (Oxford) and the Zoologisches Institut der Universität Basel, as well as Steinbach Visiting Scholar at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

**José E. Limón**, professor of English and anthropology, University of Texas at Austin. A fellow of the Stanford Humanities Research Center, he is the author of *Mexican Ballads and Chicano Poems*, *Dancing with the Devil: Society and Cultural Poetics in Mexican-American South Texas*, and *American Encounters: Greater Mexico and the United States* (forthcoming).

**Nancy K. Miller**, Distinguished Professor of English, the Graduate School and Lehman College, CUNY. She is the author of *The Heroine's Text: Readings in the French and English Novel, 1722-1782*; *Subject to Change: Reading Feminist Writings*; *French Dressing: Women, Men, and Ancien Régime Fiction*; and *Bequest and Betrayal: Memoirs of a Parent's Death*. She is the editor of *The Poetics of Gender*.

**Paul Steven Miller**, commissioner, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Past director of litigation for the Western Law Center for Disability Rights, he was adjunct professor of law at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, a visiting professor of law at UCLA, and Parson Visiting Scholar at the University of Sydney. His articles include "The Impact of Assisted Suicide on Persons with Disabilities."

**Leroy S. Rouner**, professor of philosophy, religion, and philosophical theology, and director of the

Institute for Philosophy and Religion, Boston University. He is general editor of *Boston University Studies in Philosophy and Religion* and the author of *Within Human Experience: The Philosophy of William Ernest Hocking*; *The Long Way Home*; and *To Be at Home: Christianity, Civil Religion, and World Community*.

**Burton A. Weisbrod**, John Evans Professor of Economics, Northwestern University. He was director of Northwestern's Center for Urban Affairs and Policy Research and founder and director of the Center for Health Economics and Law at the University of Wisconsin. Recent books are *The Urban Crisis*, *The Nonprofit Economy*, and *To Profit or Not to Profit: The Commercial Transformation of the Nonprofit Sector*.

**Philip Zimbardo**, professor of psychology and director of the Social Psychology Graduate Research Training Program, Stanford University. He is codirector and founder of the Shyness Clinic and the author of *Psychology and Life*, *Shyness*, and *The Psychology of Attitude Change and Social Influence*. He has won four awards for his PBS series *Discovering Psychology*. ■

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## A GLOBAL GARDEN?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

reason no one foresaw the rapid rise in population and the fall in fertility after World War II is that our understanding did not, and still does not, encompass these four dimensions. Thinking in terms of this pyramid provides a checklist of crucial dimensions, although it will not eliminate uncertainty about the future.

This article offers some speculations about the future. These speculations, organized around the themes of population, environment, economics, and culture, are not intended to divert attention from today's serious problems—the poverty, malnutrition, illiteracy, disease, and indignity of life for billions of people, plus unprecedented physical, chemical, and biological perturbations of the planet. I offer these speculations to encourage us all to imagine a positive future we can work toward. The future is at least partially an object of choice, and not entirely (I hope) an inevitable outcome of an uncontrollable mechanical world.

### Population and Society

Let's begin with population and society. A century from now, humankind will live in a global garden, well or poorly tended. Most people will live in cities, surrounded by large, thinly populated zones for nature, agriculture, and silviculture. Worldwide, between 100 and 1,000 cities

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of 5 million to 25 million people each will serve their inhabitants' wants for food, water, energy, waste removal, political autonomy, and cultural and natural amenities. Some cities will serve people who want to live only with people ethnically and culturally like themselves. Other cities will

serve people who are attracted by ethnic and cultural diversity. Different cities will gain shifting reputations as being favorable for young people, childrearing, working, or retirement. The efficiency and quality of services that cities provide will depend on the quality of their managements and on the behavioral skills and manners of their populations.

Just as feudal obligations were replaced by labor markets, other present rights and obligations will increasingly be replaced by markets. For example, there will be a worldwide market in permits for permanent residence in cities. The prices of these permits may be tacked on to real estate or rental prices. City managements will compete to command



*Joel E. Cohen*

Photo by Robert Reichert, Rockefeller University

market rewards for the public goods they are able to provide. Countries like the United States that insist on a person's right to leave his or her country of birth will have to decide if that implies a person's right to enter some other country. Social and individual values will determine how far markets will be allowed to intrude into allocations previously determined by traditional means.

Women around the world will demand and receive education and jobs comparable to men's education and jobs. With better education and jobs, women will have increased autonomy and power in the family, economy, and society. Partly as a consequence of women's having attractive alternatives to childbearing and childrearing, the number of children that women bear in a lifetime will decline globally to the

replacement level or below. As childbearing will occupy a falling fraction of most women's lengthening lives, women will intensify their demands for other meaningful roles.

Although global human population growth will end in the next century, some regions will be net exporters of people while others will be net importers. Rising pressures for migration from poorer to richer countries will strain traditionally xenophobic countries like Germany and Japan, as well as traditionally receptive countries like the United States, Australia, Sweden, and Argentina. Migrations will bring culturally diverse populations into increasing contact. The result will be many frictions as humans learn manners and tolerance. Inter marriages will make a kaleidoscope of skin colors.

The elderly fraction of the population will increase greatly, and the absolute numbers of elderly still more dramatically. Among the elderly, women will outnumber men by as much as 2 to 1. New social arrangements among the elderly will arise.

### Environment

Now let's focus on the environment. The continental shelf, especially off Asia, will be developed to provide food, energy, and perhaps living space. Oceanic food sources will be largely domesticated. The capture of any remaining wild marine animals will be managed like deer hunting now.

The tropical forests that survive the onslaught of population growth and economic exploitation between 1950 and 2050 will be preserved as educational and touristic curiosities, like the immensely popular John Muir Woods north of San Francisco. Many forests will be meticulously managed for fiber, food, pharmaceuticals, and fun (that is, recreational exploration). Today's simplified agricultural ecosystems will be replaced by managed ecosystems of high complexity. Biological controls and farmer intelligence will maximize yields while nearly eliminating biocidal inputs like today's pesticides and herbicides.

Required agricultural inputs of nutrients and energy will be derived

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



## A GLOBAL GARDEN?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

from human, animal, and industrial wastes rather than from today's fertilizers and fossil fuels. Unwanted effluents like eroded soil or agricultural runoff with pesticides and fertilizers will be eliminated or converted to productive inputs for industrial and urban use.

The atmosphere will also be managed. Rights to add carbon dioxide, methane, and other climatically significant trace gases and particles to the atmosphere will be traded in global markets for the services that natural ecosystems provide. Governments will recognize the potential of atmospheric and many other natural ecosystem services to generate taxes that can support other public goods. Gases will be manipulated as part of food production and wildlife management. For example, genetically engineered bacteria and farming practices will manipulate agricultural methane production.

People will revalue living nature as they realize that they do not know how to multiply old forests, coral reefs, and the diversity of living forms. People will increasingly value nature's genetic resources and aesthetic amenities. Conservation movements will gain renewed strength in collaborations with businesses.

The intensive management of continents, oceans, and the atmosphere will require massive improvements in data collection and analysis, and especially in our concepts.

A century hence, we will live on a wired earth. Earth, air, and sea will be continuously sensed. Like the weather stations on land and the satellites that now monitor the atmosphere, the oceans and solid earth crust of the next century will have three-dimensional lattices of sensing stations at all depths.

Mathematical models of earth, air, and sea will aim to predict major events such as El Niños, hurricanes, earthquakes, volcanoes, major plumes of hot water from oceanic vents, and shifts in major ocean currents. These models will improve with at least million-fold improvements in com-

puting power over the next century. Models will integrate not only the atmosphere, crust, and oceans but also human and other biological populations, including domestic animals, trees, cereal crops, and infectious diseases; economic stocks and flows, including all natural resources; informational stocks and flows, including scientific, literary, artistic, and folk traditions; and familial, social, institutional, and political resources and constraints. Comprehensive models will include factors beyond human control, such as solar flares, and will represent, though not predict, human decisions.

Despite improvements in information, concepts, and management, the Earth will still bring surprises. Geophysical surprises will arise from an improved awareness of what the planet is doing, from inherent insta-

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### **The need for careful global management, trusteeship, or stewardship will become irresistible—particularly stewardship of living resources, human and nonhuman.**

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bilities in geophysical systems described by the mathematics of chaos, and from rising human impacts. Surprising infectious diseases will continue to emerge from the infinite well of genetic variability. Historically, each factor-of-10 increase in the density of human settlements has made possible the survival of new human infections. As more humans contact the viruses and other pathogens of previously remote forests and grasslands, dense urban populations and global travel will increase opportunities for infections to spread.

### **Economies and Culture**

Now let's turn to economies, which will be increasingly integrated. Cities will concentrate the talent and resources required for international business. Hardly any complex product will be conceived, financed, engineered, manufactured, sold, used, and retired within the boundaries of a single political unit. Businesses will learn to profit from the eternity of atoms by designing

products for use, return, and regeneration. Governments will find that a growing fraction of the power to control the economic well-being of their citizens lies outside their borders. Economic integration will give profit to those who can recognize the comparative advantage of other societies. Information will become increasingly valuable. Those who can create it, analyze it, and manage effectively on the basis of it will be at a premium. Information technology and global economic integration will grow hand in hand.

Culture pervades everything I have said about population, the environment, and economies. For example, culture conditions the productive and reproductive roles of men and women, defines which biological raw materials are seen as food and which are not, and shapes what consumers demand from the economy. Let us conclude with some speculations about the future of global culture.

An international common law—not a world government but rather international standards of behavior—will grow stronger and more comprehensive in a progression from technical, to commercial, to political law. International agreements on vaccination and on metric measures work because they benefit all who abide by them and many who do not. Growing investments by multinational corporations will force the development of international contract law.

Once the regional and global economic customs, institutions, and laws are firm, it will become too costly for nation-states or their successors to ignore them. Legal and economic resolutions of political conflicts will become more efficient than violent ones. Not all parts of the world will learn this lesson with equal ease.

As the peoples of Asia, Latin America, and Africa grow wealthier (too slowly, and with too many setbacks), their environmental fatalism and modest demands for food will be replaced by impatience with the accidents of nature, intolerance of environmental mismanagement, and refusal to eat less well than their neighbors. The definition of wealth may change toward one that is more information-rich and less material-



intensive. The need for careful global management, trusteeship, or stewardship will become irresistible—particularly stewardship of living resources, human and nonhuman.

## Awe and Choice

Perhaps I am dreaming when I speculate that geophysical and biological surprises, the revaluation of living nature, our greater dependence on people all over the world, our growing determination to act lawfully, and our own aging (individually and as a population) will increasingly inspire in many of us a greater awe for the world, for others, and for ourselves.

The immense uncertainty of the future is the arena of human choice. A task for universities and their graduates is to provide the facts, theories, and people needed to achieve a prosperous, wired, well-tended, and beautiful global garden a century from now—a prospect, as Matthew Arnold put it, “which seems to lie before us like a land of dreams, so various, so beautiful, so new.”

Universities and the thoughtful people they produce can help societies to understand populations, economies, environments, and cultures; to balance the goals of efficiency and equity; to improve the accounting of social well-being, of materials, and of the consequences of actions; and to illuminate the benefits that the well-off derive from helping the poor live better lives. When universities and their graduates seek imaginative new ways to address the natural constraints and the human choices that we, our children, and their children will face in the 21st century, there is hope. ■

*Joel E. Cohen, (ΦBK, Harvard University, 1963) is Abby Rockefeller Mauze Professor of Populations at Rockefeller University and professor of populations at Columbia University in New York City, on sabbatical leave at Harvard during 1997–98. His most recent book, How Many People Can the Earth Support? (W. W. Norton, 1995), was awarded the first Olivia Schieffelin Nordberg Prize by the Population Council in 1997. He was a ΦBK Visiting Scholar in 1992–93. This article is based on his talk to the trustees of Columbia University in March 1997 at Biosphere 2, Oracle, Arizona.*

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# LIFE OUTSIDE ACADEME

*As deputy commanding general, Army and Air Force Exchange Service, in Dallas, Brig. Gen. Kathryn George Carlson (ΦBK, University of South Carolina, 1970) is the second in command of a \$7 billion retail and services organization. If this self-supporting retail government operation could be ranked with other retailers, it would be the eighth-largest general merchandiser in the United States.*

*How did a Phi Beta Kappa library science major from Latta, South Carolina, get to the top in the retail industry and become one of nine female general officers on active duty in the U.S. Army? She talked with the Key Reporter last January about her education, her profession, and her experiences.*

Carlson grew up in a farming community of less than 2,000 and attended the University of South Carolina in the time when women were encouraged to get teaching certificates “not necessarily to have a career, but to supplement the family income if necessary.” English was her first choice as a major, but because there was a glut of English teachers, she settled on library science as the next closest thing—a major that might offer employment as a school librarian when she graduated and one that provided a state library association scholarship for tuition. (USC, she says, was unusual if not unique in offering an undergraduate library science degree.) She worked in one of the university’s libraries while in school, but never applied her library science degree professionally after graduation.

She did, however, eventually become involved in education, working as a civilian for the Army Education Center in Berlin, Germany, in a program to help soldiers who were not high school graduates earn the general equivalency diploma (GED). She worked first as a counselor while she earned her master’s in counseling at night, and subsequently became director of the high school completion program.

Working so closely with the military taught her that “people in uniform didn’t just have a job, they had a way of life—rewarding, adventurous, selfless, and supportive—a real community of friends, family, and professionals.”

This was the early 1970s, when women were demanding equal rights and liberation, and Carlson believed strongly that to have such expectations, women should share equally the responsibility for these rights. So in 1974 she joined the Army, receiving a direct commission as a first lieutenant—an incentive that recognized scholastic achievement and professional experience while providing mature female leadership in an Army that was opening more and more jobs to women.

She forcefully denies she has ever



*Kathryn Carlson*

encountered any obstacles to advancement related to her gender. In fact, she believes that initially it was easier for her, as a woman, to impress her superiors because they didn’t expect so much. (Not true today, she quickly added.) “The only times when my career development lagged were times when my commitment was not what it should have been,” she recalls. “Any obstacles were self-induced.”

Obviously, there could not have been many, because she enjoyed a rapid rise through the ranks, having her ticket punched in the Army’s excellent schools system, including the Command and General Staff College and the Army War College. She served in personnel and public affairs positions in Berlin, under the shadow of the now-dismantled Wall; a variety of stateside posts; and key jobs at the Pentagon, primarily in legislative affairs on the Army Staff, and later in the Office of the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, where she worked as deputy legislative assistant to generals Colin S. Powell and John Shalikashvili.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



## LIFE OUTSIDE ACADEME

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Along the way the Army has offered her extraordinary opportunities—"I've worked as a social aide for Presidents Reagan and Bush; I've carried the Army story to members of Congress as they pondered key defense decisions; and I've worked personnel issues for a force that faced down the Soviet Union and today provides aid, security, and hope to freedom-loving people around the world."

The travel alone has been an education. A highlight of a recent study trip through Asia was a banquet with the president of China in the Great Hall of the People. She has made post-Desert Storm visits to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and northern Iraq. She has cheered children in Kurdish refugee camps and observed the international relief effort in Zaire for refugees fleeing ethnic brutality in Rwanda. She spent a New Year's Day in Haiti visiting her retail team that supports the U.S. forces in that desperate nation.

She acknowledges that the travel is one of the best parts of her current job. The Exchange Service has facilities in 25 countries and all 50 states, and "I'm trying to visit them all!" she jokes. She just recently returned from visiting Bosnia, Croatia, and Macedonia to inspect the Exchange Service's retail facilities and to thank her employees serving the U.S. military forces there.

Today the company she helps lead has a twofold mission: (1) to provide good-quality merchandise and services to service members around the world (e.g., it has 18 stores and some 130 other activities in the Balkans) and (2) to generate earnings (\$360 million last year) that can be used to supplement the morale, welfare, and recreational activities of the military, reducing the requirement for appropriations to support military quality-of-life programs.

She is proud of her college major but wryly suggests that in light of her current responsibilities, she might have done well to take some business courses instead of the linguistics, literature, French, and drama electives she enjoyed. She spends a lot of her personal time studying the retail business, but to maintain the Army's physical fitness standards, she enjoys jogging and walking. Late-night and airplane reading keeps her mind equally active—*Our Sacred Honor*, *Emotional Intelligence*, *The Pursuit of Wow*, *Chicken Soup for the Woman's Soul*, and *The Provincials* are on her current reading list.

Would she recommend the Army to

today's Phi Beta Kappas? "Oh, yes," she quickly responds. "First, we need the best and the brightest in the military today. We have the most advanced technology in the world, the most aggressive training, and the most sophisticated intelligence; and we operate in the most complex geopolitical environment. For success we must attract and retain America's finest—our future requires it. Moreover, the military adds an essential character dimension to anyone's development. Whether a person spends a career in uniform or serves briefly, integrity, courage, and commitment are indelibly stamped on one's personality."

As for the Army's well-publicized discipline problems last year, Carlson says that the instances that gained publicity were "not typical of how 'my' Army normally conducts itself." She acknowledges leadership challenges but notes with pride "the magnificent job the Army routinely does in developing men and women with strength of character, considering the broad range of values, education, and life experiences that America's sons and daughters bring to military service. The end result is not just the best-trained, most capable soldiers in the history of the nation, but honest, disci-

plined, compassionate, and ambitious citizens."

Carlson claims that membership in Phi Beta Kappa has helped her enormously by giving her confidence in her abilities. "Basically, I have been validated (by my membership) as demonstrating a certain level of intelligence, knowledge, and capability. From the first day, I have worn that assurance as a badge to remind me consciously that my opinions do matter—Phi Beta Kappa has told me that's true."

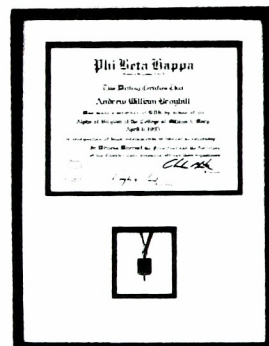
She always makes sure that her Phi Beta Kappa membership is prominently mentioned in her official biography. "The effects are mixed," she says. "Some people say, 'I don't know that sorority—what is it?' But in certain audiences, it establishes a degree of credibility. When you walk in that door, you are accepted as bringing good, thoughtful information and sound judgment to the table."

She adds, "I also put it in my biography because it is the one thing that has made my mother (who was recently named South Carolina's Mother of the Year) proudest. Forget the general officer star, the professional success I have had—she wants the world to know she produced a Phi Beta Kappa!" ■

### Membership Wall Display, Key Jewelry Available

Phi Beta Kappa is now accepting credit card purchases of its wall display and key jewelry. The wall display combines a membership certificate and a large gold-plated key, framed in walnut (12 by 16 inches) and double matted. Both the key and the certificate are engraved with the member's name and chapter.

Keys and key pins also may be purchased by credit card. Each key/pin is gift boxed. Pictured here is the medium-size key (the most popular). Other sizes, as well as neck chains, tie tacks, and tie chains, also are available. To order, check the item you want on the form below and send it to the Treasurer, Phi Beta Kappa Society, 1811 Q Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009. You may also place your order or request a complete price list by faxing (202) 986-1601 or by calling (202) 265-3808.



_____ Wall display (key and certificate, framed)	\$79
_____ Medium-size key, 10-karat gold	\$79
_____ Medium-size key, 24-karat gold plate	\$26
_____ Medium-size key pin, 10-karat gold	\$83
_____ Medium-size key pin, 24-karat gold plate	\$29

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# Phi Beta Kappa in the News

## New York Times Profiles Anne Fadiman; Her Book Wins Critics Circle Award

In a long feature article (Feb. 28) titled "Fresh Vision for an Intellectual Journal: Diversity, Brevity, Even a Cover Picture," *New York Times* writer Jonathan Mahler described the *American Scholar's* new editor, Anne Fadiman, as the product of a family that served as an "intellectual hothouse." Her father, Clifton Fadiman, a noted editor and critic, and her mother, Annalee Jacoby Fadiman, who had been a World War II correspondent for *Time-Life*, fostered a fiercely competitive atmosphere in which everyone matched wits with participants on the popular television quiz shows.

Mahler quoted Fadiman as emphasizing that her agenda at the *Scholar* is "to further the genre of the essay," although she expects the list of *Scholar* contributors to grow. "I feel strongly that because Phi Beta Kappa represents the full spectrum of political ideology, the *Scholar* should too." While indicating that the writers in her Rolodex are more varied

than those in her predecessor's, she said, "I think of the *Scholar* as a kind of national historic landmark. It's O.K. to change the moldings on the windows and perhaps sand the floors, but by God, don't tear it down."

In late March, Fadiman won the 1997 National Book Critics Circle award in the general nonfiction category for her book *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down*, a chronicle of a Hmong family in California, which details the collision of two cultures.

## American Scientist Reviews History of Phi Beta Kappa and Scientific Societies

In a well-researched article titled "Technology and Societies," in the March-April issue (pp. 113-17) of the magazine of Sigma Xi, the scientific research society, Henry Petroski, an engineering and history professor at Duke University, traced the intertwined history of Phi Beta Kappa, Tau Beta Pi, and Sigma Xi.

Petroski described in some detail

the influence of Phi Beta Kappa on the founding of the two engineering and scientific societies, the evolution of all the societies' keys and badges, and the increasing cooperation among the societies in recent years.

## Kilpatrick vs. Buckley On English Usage

In a column discussing whether writers should pick the "hard, precise word," as William F. Buckley is said to favor, versus "simple, clear ones," James K. Kilpatrick (*Greenville* [S.C.] *News*, March 14, 1998) commented:

The primary purpose of writing is to communicate. If I use a word that derails the reader's train of thought, that purpose is ill served.

In making a choice of roughly synonymous words, writers must envision their audience. We employ one vocabulary for a daily newspaper and another, harder vocabulary for *National Review*. *People* magazine is one thing, the Phi Beta Kappa magazine is something else, and a novel in the style of Marcel Proust is something yet again.

## Letters to the Editor

### Nonacademic Representation In Phi Beta Kappa

I read with interest two items in the Winter 1997-98 issue of the *Key Reporter*. Christel McDonald presented a wish list for a more ideal Phi Beta Kappa, including a call for "ways to reach out to Phi Betes inside and outside academia," while Douglas Ayres, in a letter to the editor, appealed for better representation of nonacademics on the Phi Beta Kappa Senate.

Long a standard bearer of academic excellence, Phi Beta Kappa needs to revitalize itself by responding not only to the demands of academia but to those of society. For example, Phi Beta Kappa associations could establish local tutoring programs to help "at risk" children and teenagers become successful students and, ultimately, productive citizens. In turn, Phi Beta Kappa would achieve increased recognition for its work and a heightened

awareness of its mission to support high academic achievement in communities across the country. By offering some critical assistance to local jurisdictions, Phi Beta Kappa could broaden its vision and encompass the dual roles of academic and non-academic ranks of Phi Beta Kappa into a cooperative, vital effort of significant benefit to society at large.

Dale C. Pappas, Bethesda, Md.

Like Mr. Ayres, I was amazed to learn that only 2 of the 24 senators come from outside the academic community. Also like him, I am in the corporate sector.

We all know that the Society's time-honored mission of promoting academic excellence in the undergraduate years is being questioned today on our university campuses; indeed, we also know that in many instances, awareness of the Society's very existence is declining.

I am neither a proponent of revisionism nor a champion of "relevance"—the Society's mission is laudable and continues to have great merit. However, the promotion of excellence as continuing beyond the undergraduate experience (and perhaps of ethics as well) is also a worthy cause in today's complex world.

I strongly agree with Mr. Ayres that the role of Phi Beta Kappa needs to be reappraised if it is to continue to play a meaningful role in our society as a whole. Members of the Society who are active in communities beyond the academic can contribute much to such a reappraisal through a larger voice in the Senate.

Robert J. Malley, Westery, R.I.

The letter to the editor from Douglas Ayres has triggered this observation: Among the most interesting articles in the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

*Key Reporter* are those in the Life Outside Academe department. For example, Marv Levy's article in the Autumn 1994 issue is as good an autobiographical sketch as I have found anywhere, and I frequently refer to it. Such articles from those outside academe should be a regular feature. They would help address the imbalance to which Mr. Ayres refers.

*Jonathan V. Maxwell, Greensboro, N.C.*

### Reminiscences (cont'd)

Readers' reminiscences of induction into Phi Beta Kappa rekindle the glow of my experience at Wellesley College in 1945. During my college years, my dad, a U.S. major general responsible for logistical supply to the European theater of war, seemed to work 24 hours a day. It was some comfort to him that my mother was safe in Ohio with her parents. But his only child, at Wellesley, had a serious boyfriend who hopped a transcontinental train whenever he could, to visit her between his semesters at Cal Tech.

In the evening after the initiation, I assembled a stack of quarters at the pay phone in the dorm and reached my dad in New York.

"Daddy, I have some big news!"

"Yeah, what is it?" Apprehension dripped from every word. Had I eloped? Was I pregnant, or both?

"I made Phi Beta Kappa."

"Is that right? That's mighty fine. I'll call your mother."

The release of tension flowed right through the phone. I think we were both crying.

There were mellow years ahead. My dad and the boyfriend, who has now been my husband for over 52 years, became the best of friends, and my dad received great pleasure from his grandchildren.

Certainly I am proud to be a member of Phi Beta Kappa. But I am even more grateful to have been able to do what I did for my dad who did so much for me.

*Frances Goodman Fenn, Elkton, Ore.*

I have read with interest the letters from people who seem not to realize that there is a great difference between appreciating the key and flaunting it.

In World War II, I was notified that I was being called up in the draft within a week. About the same time, I received a *Key Reporter* announcing that a Commander Hindmarsh was touring the United States to interview Phi Beta Kappas who might join the Navy to learn Japanese. The article said that a prospect

had to have a personal interview with the commander.

I read this article on a Saturday; it said that he was to be in Los Angeles for interviews the following Monday. I met him, I joined the Navy, I learned Japanese, and I was sent to Washington, D.C., to work in the Office of Naval Communications. The key kept me from being a foot soldier.

*G. W. Ziegler, Burbank, Calif.*

When I was 17 my education was summarily interrupted by Hitler's decrees against Jews in Austria. I spent the war years in England, earning my livelihood as a secretary; I did the same in this country after the war until 1953, when I was finally able to think of continuing my education at GS-Columbia University.

Going through the catalog, I came across a description of an honor society called Phi Beta Kappa. Since I had been an honor student at the gymnasium in Austria, I innocently asked my adviser if I could join such a society. He looked at me pityingly and told me in no uncertain terms that you had to *earn* membership by outstanding scholarship. I remember going away rather dispirited, for here I was, going back to school in a different country, in a different language, and with a different school system.

To cut the story short, I not only made Phi Beta Kappa on my undergraduate work, but also was elected to Sigma Xi on the basis of my dissertation. By the way, I now wear these keys on a charm bracelet.

*J. Nina Lieberman, Woodstock, N.Y.*

Like some other readers, I knew little about Phi Beta Kappa until I was invited to join in 1949 [at the University of Wisconsin at Madison]. I was most impressed by the reaction of our house-mother, who could only be described as ecstatic. My classmates in J-School and the professors who offered congratulations educated me quickly to the honor conferred.

For the previous three years I had been corresponding with a soldier who had elected to remain in the regular army while I had accepted discharge from the Women's Army Corps to attend the university. I decided not to write him about Phi Beta Kappa but to keep the news as a surprise when he came back to the U.S. that summer. After catching up on his activities and plans, I modestly pulled out my key. "What's that?" he asked. It was all downhill from there!

I wore my key proudly many times while I worked as a consultant with the state Department of Education, but since

retirement 20 years ago there have been few occasions when it seemed appropriate.

*Luida E. Sanders, Oshkosh, Wis.*

I've read with great enjoyment your series of letters on members' experiences with their Phi Beta Kappa keys.

I won my key at Wabash College in 1943, and after three and a half years in the U.S. Army, entered Harvard Law School in the fall of 1946. During three days of orientation, figuratively speaking, you couldn't hear the speakers for the jangling of the Phi Beta Kappa keys. At the end of those three days we realized what we had got ourselves into and what lay ahead of us. All the Phi Beta Kappa keys disappeared, and I never saw another one while a student at the law school.

*Robert Bracken, Frankfort, Ind.*

I am a law student at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. I love my Phi Beta Kappa key. I'm sorry if it makes some people envious or uncomfortable, but that's not why I wear it on my bracelet. It's because I worked hard to get it and I'm tremendously honored to belong to such an admirable fraternity of scholars. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

*Melissa Kaiser, Carrboro, N.C.*

Although nearly 30 years have elapsed since my admission to membership (Reed College, 1969), I have only recently ordered a key, inspired in part by the letters to the editor relating to the sense of achievement that the key symbolizes to many  $\Phi$ BK members.

It strikes me, however, that although many women members are able to wear their keys on necklaces, the wristwatch has rendered the watch chain anachronistic for men.

Any chance that the Society might commission production of a necktie bearing a representation of the key?

*James J. Joseph, Los Angeles, Calif.*

## North Replaces Relman As $\Phi$ BK Senator at Large

Helen North, Centennial Professor of Classics Emerita at Swarthmore College, has been named to complete the term of Arnold Relman, professor of medicine at Harvard University, as a  $\Phi$ BK senator at large. Relman, who recently resigned from the Phi Beta Kappa Senate, was elected to a second six-year term at the triennial Council in Chicago last September.



# RECOMMENDED READING

BOOK COMMITTEE

**Humanities:** Svetlana Alpers, Michael Griffith,

Simon McVeigh, Robert P. Sonkowsky, Eugen Weber

**Social Sciences:** Louis R. Harlan, Thomas McNaugber,  
Catherine E. Rudder, Anna J. Schwartz, Larry J. Zimmerman

**Natural Sciences:** Ronald Geballe, Russell B. Stevens

## Larry J. Zimmerman

**Blessing for a Long Time: The Sacred Pole of the Omaha.** Robin Ridington and Dennis Hastings. Univ. of Nebraska Press, 1997. \$50.

This innovative blend of Omaha poetics, ethnography, and ethnohistory moves back and forth between past and present to document the life of Umon'hon'ti or Venerable Man, the "Sacred Pole" of the Omaha tribe. Ridington, an anthropologist, and Hastings, an Omaha tribal historian, ingeniously adopt the conventions of Omaha oral narratives to tell the story and significance of the Sacred Pole.

Considered both a physical sacred object and a living human being, Umon'hon'ti is a focal point for tribal identity, unity, and existence. In 1888, under pressure to abandon their beliefs and accept Christianity, the Omaha tribe turned Umon'hon'ti and other sacred objects over to ethnographer Alice Fletcher to take to Harvard's Peabody Museum for safekeeping. After an extraordinary effort on the part of the Omaha to reclaim their objects, the Peabody returned the pole in 1989, and other objects since then.

In the often contentious contemporary climate regarding the repatriation of human remains and sacred objects to their indigenous owners, this volume contains many insights into the importance of repatriation to American Indians, and lets the Omaha tell the story in their own fashion.

**The Vulnerable Observer: Anthropology That Breaks Your Heart.** Ruth Behar. Beacon Press, 1997. \$22.

Anthropologists have been reluctant to consider their own emotions in their fieldwork and writing, largely for fear of introducing bias into what they consider to be an objective exercise. Behar's essays explore a growing recognition among social scientists that the lines between participant and observer are never clear. Through her own stories of loss as a young Cuban Jewish immigrant, Behar reflects on her fieldwork in the United States, Cuba, and Spain. Especially

poignant is the story of her Mexican friend Marta, who lived in Detroit—"across the border" from Behar in Ann Arbor—and whom Behar could not stop from punishing herself for becoming "modern" by having a hysterectomy at age 26. All the essays are compelling. Behar's approach certainly makes for a vastly more humanistic anthropology.

**Golden Arches East: McDonald's in East Asia.** Ed. by James L. Watson. Stanford, 1998. \$45; paper, \$16.95.

If you are among the many people who fear that international businesses promote a homogeneous, global culture, you should read this book. McDonald's restaurants, for example, serve tens of millions of customers daily in more than 100 countries. Does American fast food undermine centuries-old local cuisines in favor of the burger and fries?

Looking at the matter from the perspectives of consumers in Tokyo, Beijing, Taipei, Seoul, and Hong Kong, the book argues that localization of McDonald's occurs when each restaurant is divorced from its American roots. As the process moves along, the corporation also adjusts, allowing its restaurants to become leisure centers, after-school clubs, and meeting halls. The authors pay attention to the influence of McDonald's on family and social organization and education. For example, they note that the fast-food boom in East Asia corresponds with the rise of a child-centered consumer culture.

## Louis R. Harlan

**Free to All: Carnegie Libraries & American Culture, 1890–1920.** Abigail A. Van Slyck. Univ. of Chicago, 1995. \$47.50.

Maybe the comic character Mr. Dooley was right, that a Carnegie Library is architecture, not literature, a big brownstone building with the donor's name blazoned on the door. One of the reasons this book is rather expensive is the many photographs and floor plans illustrating the author's analysis of the cultural impact of the public-library reform movement. Carnegie's infusion of money

Larry Zimmerman (ΦBK, University of South Dakota, 1988) has joined the Book Committee to review books in the social sciences. Adjunct professor of anthropology at the University of Iowa, he is the author of *Native North America* (Little, Brown, 1996) and coeditor, with Thomas Biolsi, of *Indians and Anthropologists: Vine Deloria Jr. and the Critique of Anthropology* (University of Arizona Press, 1997).

around 1900 entered a library reform movement already under way, under the leadership of Melvil Dewey of Columbia University. Carnegie's contributions, with strings attached, influenced but did not dominate the movement. Other groups with distinctive outlooks and objectives that influenced the reform were the increasingly professional librarians, local library boards chosen from the communities' cultural elite, the architects, and the users. Out of their cultural warfare emerged the design of the modern library.

Once the large city had its monumental, and somewhat intimidating, central library, it became clear that branch libraries were needed, with simpler and more functional design and easy access by the working class. Libraries in smaller towns served needs somewhat different from those of city libraries, and responded to a different social dynamic. Professionalization of librarianship, combined with gender and economic factors, led to an increasing feminization of librarianship, particularly in the lower ranks. In short, as the author concludes, "Carnegie libraries are more than they seem from the sidewalk."

**Jefferson's Declaration of Independence: Origins, Philosophy, and Theology.** Allen Jayne. Univ. Press of Kentucky, 1998. \$39.95.

"Nature's God" occupies much more space here than in the key document of American democracy, the Declaration of Independence. Nevertheless, Jayne asserts persuasively that theology was as important as philosophy in the eclectic world view of its author, Thomas Jefferson. While acknowledging the influence of John Locke's rationalism and political ideas on Jefferson, Jayne places at least equal emphasis on Jefferson's heterodox religious views founded on an Enlightenment *mentalité* in general and on the writings of Henry St. John, Viscount Bol-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



## RECOMMENDED READING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

ingbroke, in particular. Jefferson considered the tyranny of religious faith over reason to be as dangerous to human intellectual freedom as political tyranny. Beginning in college, Jefferson kept notes of his reading, and his notes and quotations from Bolingbroke's five-volume *Philosophic Works* are among the longest.

Jefferson became a deist, which entailed rejecting such key Judeo-Christian beliefs as the divine origin of the Ten Commandments, the Trinity, and the divinity of Jesus. He thought priests of all denominations used irrational beliefs to fetter the minds of the faithful. Like other deists, Jefferson believed that people could understand the purposes of nature's God directly through reason rather than through intermediaries. Jayne shows how these views guided Jefferson to sponsor the Virginia Statute of Religious Freedom and to work with Madison in behalf of the First Amendment of the Constitution. I found this a stimulating and rather original book.

**A Brief History of American Culture.** Robert M. Crunden. Paragon House, 1994. \$22.95. M. E. Sharpe, 1996, paper, \$19.95.

If the title suggests a textbook, that is misleading. This is, rather, a lively and opinionated essay ranging over four centuries of American life and art. The author states succinctly at the outset his thesis that "American culture is essentially a peculiar mixture of Christianity, capitalism, and democracy, *in that order*." The reader should not be put off by that generalization, however, because what drives this book is not thesis but narrative.

The author examines the leading cultural movements in America largely through brief biographies of their most representative figures. This works rather well to reduce a large subject to manageable proportions. The author has a good fund of interesting stories, a sprightly narrative style, and good judgment, so that reading the book is always entertaining and frequently enlightening. He is particularly good on 20th-century movements in art and literature.

**Liberalism and Its Discontents.** Alan Brinkley. Harvard, 1998. \$27.95.

Brinkley is one of the brightest of younger academic historians, and he has another distinction, in being a historian who tries to communicate with the citizenry outside academe. Among his earlier

publications are two books on the New Deal era and after. This new book is based on his essays over the past decade, held together loosely by a title taken from Freud's *Civilization and Its Discontents* and by a time-thread running from the early New Deal to the very recent past. The topics range easily from biography (of FDR, Huey Long, John F. Kennedy, Allard Lowenstein, and two "icons of the American establishment," Henry L. Stimson and John J. McCloy) to historical analysis (of New Deal experiments, the late New Deal's idea of the regulatory state as a check on runaway capitalist institutions, the legacies of World War II, and the problems of the New Left and of American conservatism) and to historians of the recent past (notably Richard Hofstadter and T. Harry Williams) and the struggle among history, politics, and popular memory in the Smithsonian's *Enola Gay* exhibit and the battle over school history standards. Both professional historians and other readers will enjoy and profit from these essays, which are interesting in themselves and serve as tesserae of an artful mosaic of our recent past.

**Abuse of Power: The New Nixon Tapes.** Ed. by Stanley I. Kutler. Free Press, 1998. \$30.

I began reading this book in the midst of another presidential crisis, but so far I have found few parallels and many differences. The book does serve as a reminder of why President Richard Nixon was forced to resign in 1974, however, counteracting the extravagant praise of the man after he was safely dead. Reading this book was a duty, not a pleasure, and after about the first 200 pages, a painful duty. Nevertheless, I recommend it to all who harbor lingering doubts or second thoughts. Though it does not show any foreknowledge by Nixon of the Watergate break-in, he took part in the cover-up from the outset, and ordered similar actions at earlier times, such as the break-in of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist's office.

Readers may recall that when the first tapes of less than 40 hours were released in April 1974, the evidence they contained of Nixon's "abuse of power" and "obstruction of justice" was sufficient to force his resignation in August 1974. Finally, after an effort of 22 years and a legal battle, Kutler, a distinguished constitutional historian, gained access to the full 3,700 hours of tapes. He and a research assistant carefully transcribed and edited 201 hours of tapes, and for each conversation or series of conversations, he provides introductory information and evaluative comment to place it in context. One is struck less by the exple-

tives than by the low moral tone of the private Nixon and his palace guard.

**The One and the Many: America's Struggle for the Common Good.** Martin E. Marty. Harvard, 1997. \$24.95.

*E pluribus unum*, one from many, has been the national motto of the United States since 1776. The motto originally referred to the states of our union, but over time it has come to refer also to the racial, ethnic, ideological, religious, regional, gender, and class diversity of the American people. It took a terrible civil war in our national midpassage to unify our states and regions into a truly national entity, and the equally challenging task of finding a common cause to unify our diverse people now urgently confronts us. The assertiveness of group leaders seeking to right old wrongs or preserve old segregations and divisions is matched by the narrowmindedness of those who seek to cram us all into the same uniform procrustean bed.

Now through this cacaphony comes the clear, rational voice of Marty, a distinguished scholar of religion and ethics, in this book, based on his Joanna Jackson Goldman Memorial Lecture at the Library of Congress. He hopes to heal the wounds of the body politic caused by these clashes, but this is not a "how to" book. Instead he proposes dialogue. Each group has a story to tell that explains its cultural distinctiveness, and we should all listen to these stories instead of trying to force one national story on the many. Marty believes that Americans should accept a voluntary "civil association" of its diverse groups rather than a coerced "community" that is probably beyond the legitimate power of a free and democratic government. He elaborates these points in lucid prose that is a delight to read.

### Ronald Geballe

**The Truth of Science: Physical Theories and Reality.** Roger G. Newton. Harvard, 1997. \$27.

The author, a well-known theoretical physicist, aims to describe the intellectual structure of physical science and the kind of understanding of reality that it produces. On the way, he argues against those who claim that science is little more than a product of ethnicity, gender, and class and has led to a deterioration of moral and cultural values—and that the results of science have nothing to do with nature, being narratives like myths and fairy tales. Newton describes the facts of science; the models, analogies, and metaphors created to aid in comprehending them; and the inadequacies of language



that lead to “paradoxes” and questions about what is real. Mathematics, he states, provides the precision that ordinary language cannot. He refutes claims that science cannot be objective by reminding us that although a particular scientist may be biased toward his or her own point of view, collectively, science depends on its public nature, its self-correctibility, and its alterations in response to new developments. Newton writes in a style accessible to a general readership.

**Darwin among the Machines: The Evolution of Global Intelligence.** George B. Dyson. Addison-Wesley Longman, 1997. \$25.

Dyson’s preface opens with the statement, “This is a book about the nature of machines,” but it is not merely a history of the development of computers. Instead, with a title taken from Samuel Butler, it deals basically with the relationship between humans and machines.

Dyson begins with the thoughts of Thomas Hobbes on this subject, dating from the time when engines were beginning to affect life. Today, the subject is the growth of computer networks. As the author says, “Everything that human beings are doing to make it easier to operate computer networks is at the same time, but for different reasons, making it easier for computer networks to operate human beings.”

This provocative book contains much history and many anecdotes and stories of personal encounters, but its object is to question whether we are creating, through worldwide computer networks, a collective intelligence greater than the intelligence we recognize as our own, and eventually capable of thought we cannot quite comprehend.

**Before the Beginning: Our Universe and Others.** Martin Rees. Addison-Wesley Longman, 1997. \$25.

Martin Rees, Britain’s astronomer royal, presents a remarkably accessible account of the present state of understanding of our universe and of considerations about its evolution and the possibility that we live in just one of many that constitute the “multiverse.” He treats the question raised by several cosmologists, whether the particular set of values of the basic physical constants that have made possible our existence is a consequence of coincidence, and what the implications of this kind of reasoning are for the existence of life or consciousness elsewhere in the cosmos. His enthusiasm permeates the book, and the clarity of his

(nonmathematical) exposition is an example of the best of science writing.

**Crystal Fire: The Birth of the Information Age.** Michael Riordan and Lillian Hoddeson. W. W. Norton, 1997. \$27.50.

Here is a well-told story of the origin and early history of the transistor, without which contemporary life would be unthinkable. Invented in 1947 by William Shockley, John Bardeen, and Walter Brattain, scientists who had disparate backgrounds and talents, it was perhaps the most striking, but far from the only one, of the many influential consequences of the old Bell Labs’ policy of fostering and merging basic science and product development. Development of the transistor was based, of course, on a growing understanding of the physics of semiconductors and on improved techniques for controlling the composition of crystalline substances. Personalities were important at the beginning, and even more during the subsequent invention by Shockley of a new industry in a region of the country now known as Silicon Valley.

Catherine E. Rudder

**Learning to Govern: An Institutional View of the 104th Congress.** Richard F. Fenno Jr. Brookings, 1997. \$11.95.

**Resolving Gridlock: Politics from Carter to Clinton.** David W. Brady and Craig Volden. Westview, 1998. \$59; paper, \$18.

Informed citizens, baffled by American national politics of late, would do well to consult these two books. Fenno, the dean of congressional scholars, answers the question of why congressional Republicans fared so poorly upon taking control of the House of Representatives for the first time in 40 years after the 1994 elections. Like all of Fenno’s work, his assessment is thoughtful and helpful. In short, House Republicans lacked the requisite experience to operate effectively as a majority party. If Fenno is correct, Republicans should be more up to the task in this Congress.

In contrast, Brady and Volden counsel anyone who would understand Congress to “count votes,” though not in so few words. Unlike the baseball manager’s advice to a flagging pitcher mid-inning to “throw strikes,” Brady and Volden’s prescription is considerably more articulated, and their history of congressional politics over the past 25 years allows readers to consider factors beyond the Brady-Volden formula.

The 1992 elections that produced a government with a single party control-

ling the House, Senate, and presidency did not lead to substantial policy change. Nor did the takeover of the Senate and House by the Republicans after 1994. To explain this relative stasis, Brady and Volden suggest looking at the preferences of members of Congress along a liberal-conservative continuum rather than looking at their party affiliation. If the median preferences are not substantially altered by an election, public policy will not be changed, regardless of which party is in the majority and regardless of whether all incumbents are thrown out.

Supermajority institutions like the presidential veto, requiring a two-thirds vote of each house to be overridden, and the filibuster in the Senate, requiring 60 votes for a proposal to prevail, must be entered into the calculation of vote counting. Votes to change the status quo are increasingly hard to come by, thanks to the politics of the budget, which is characterized by zero- and negative-sum games. Between the point at which a filibuster can be defeated and the point at which a presidential veto can be overcome is the “gridlock region,” an area that grows wider as the American electorate votes for more extremists and fewer centrists. Perhaps Brady and Volden should have titled their book *Expect Gridlock*.

**Ambition and Accommodation: How Women View Gender Relations.** Roberta S. Sigel. Univ. of Chicago, 1996. \$48; paper, \$16.95.

Sigel’s pathbreaking study of gender relations answers the question that baffled Sigmund Freud, “What does a woman want?” It also shows what men want when it comes to their privileged place in society.

Using focus groups and survey research, Sigel examines the perceptions of men and women in New Jersey across most walks of life—from executives to blue- and pink-collar workers and stay-at-home mothers—to discover whether men and women see eye-to-eye on gender equality and how people are dealing with the transition in gender relations they are experiencing.

She found that most women are aware of discrimination and personally experience unequal treatment, but they respond in a typically American way, individualistically. They simply feel that they must work harder than men at work and take a second shift at home in order to prove themselves and preserve their family life.

Men, too, perceive discrimination against women, but not to the same

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



## RECOMMENDED READING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

degree as women do, and men's emotional response to it is akin to indifference. How, she asks, do men accommodate the ambivalence of having been socialized to believe in male dominance and to have reaped the rewards of being male and yet not seem to be unfair to the opposite sex? Men often profess not to see any discrimination in their own environment; that way they can oppose unequal treatment in principle without having to alter their own behavior. Or they may inflate their own worth by overestimating their own accomplishments or underestimating those of others. Or they may rationalize that although discrimination may exist, it is for a greater good, like the need for children to be cared for or for family life to be less harried.

So what do women want? They want respect, equal treatment, rewarding work outside the home, and a satisfying family life. How will they achieve these goals? Not together, but all alone, each woman struggling by herself.

**Color Conscious: The Political Morality of Race.** *K. Anthony Appiah and Amy Gutmann. Princeton, 1996. \$21.95.*

The title of this book constitutes both a description of the contents and a prescription that directly contrasts with insistent calls for color-blind policies. The two meticulously constructed essays, one by Appiah and the other by Gutmann, reward careful reading, as they consider racial identity and public policy in an imperfect world.

Appiah is concerned with how to honor the sovereignty of the individual while coping with a societally imposed identity and the consequent social injustice. Although positively identifying with one's ascribed race can help overcome the negative self-image inflicted by being racially categorized, Appiah worries that to the degree that one chooses a sense-making, healing narrative that is scripted from a collective identity, one may be substituting one type of tyranny for another.

The concept of color blindness on its face seems to hold the moral high ground over measures like affirmative action and preferential treatment, and stops proponents for preferences midstep. This is the problem that Gutmann's essay confronts. She argues forcefully for hiring the black school teacher over the white one in the Piscataway High School controversy in New Jersey, and she makes a strong case for designing electoral districts by race, despite the Supreme Court's *Shaw v.*

*Reno* decision and subsequent redistricting decisions of late. In short, she argues that public policy should not be color blind specifically because society is not.

Gutmann characterizes as "wrong-headed" the suggestion that the best way to move toward social justice but off the explosive topic of race is to substitute social class for race in devising public policies because it does not recognize the independent disadvantage that race holds for African Americans.

### Russell Stevens

**Yellow Fever, Black Goddess: The Coevolution of People and Plagues.** *Christopher Wills. Addison-Wesley Longman, 1996. \$13.*

To his credit, the author has managed, with but few exceptions, to deal effectively with the complexities of host-pathogen interactions in ways that the nonspecialist can comprehend. To the central theme of the book, coevolution, Wills adds valuable material on the histories of plague outbreaks and on the pathways of research leading to an understanding of the causal agents of disease. He includes an all too rare emphasis on the alarming role of runaway population numbers and grinding poverty.

**Survival Strategies: Cooperation and Conflict in Animal Societies.** *Raghavendra Gadagkar. Harvard, 1997. \$22.*


In this relatively slender volume, the

author has succeeded admirably in his expressed aim to "convey the excitement" of recent efforts to examine animal behavior in the light of Darwinian evolution. He uses attractively conversational prose without talking down to the reader. He also faces up to the issue of consciousness in animal behavior and defends the assertion that "consciousness and intelligence are not harmful to the theory [of evolution] . . . just not essential to it." This book demonstrates yet again the impressive imagination, ingenuity, diligence, and patience of those who study animal behavior.

**The Complete Dinosaur.** *Ed. by James O. Farlow and M. K. Brett-Surman. Indiana Univ., 1997. \$59.95.*

Complete? Yes, with a vengeance! This book has more than 700 large pages of somewhat too small type, 30 pages of glossary and index, 2 editors, and 45 contributors. There are comprehensive sections on Discovery, Study, Groups, Biology, and Evolution, topped off with a section on Dinosaurs and the Media (stamps, trading cards, comics, books, and movies). Clearly this was a major undertaking that has resulted in a scholarly yet relaxed compilation of real merit. It will serve to some as an encyclopedia, and to others as a convenient summary of "all there is to know," at this time, about this widely popular group of animals.

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**Am I My Brother's Keeper?: The Ethical Frontiers of Biomedicine.** *Arthur L. Caplan. Indiana Univ., 1998. \$24.95.*

A compilation of some 19 vigorously argued essays on a wide range of topics in the general field of bioethics in medicine. Seven are new, the remainder previously published but substantially revised and brought up to date. In the manner of essays, each is self-contained, albeit addressing a particular facet of the more general area. Not everyone will agree with the author's views as expressed in a given chapter, but each presentation deserves careful consideration. The issues dealt with are of signal importance.

**Betrayal of Science and Reason: How Anti-Environmental Rhetoric Threatens Our Future.** *Paul R. and Anne H. Ehrlich. Island Press, 1996. \$24.95.*

Unquestionably the arguments set forth in this volume address a host of issues critical to the well-being, perhaps even the sheer survival, of the human species. It would be of enormous benefit, individually and collectively, if this book were read thoughtfully by a wide range of the public—here and abroad. That said, I fear that many people will be alienated by what strikes me as a wholly unnecessary combativeness in the rhetoric and a pronounced tendency of the authors to ridicule those with whom they disagree.

**Matters of Life and Death: Perspectives on Public Health, Molecular Biology, Cancer, and the Prospects for the Human Race.** *John Cairns. Princeton, 1997. \$29.95.*

In the last sentence of his preface, Cairns sets himself a daunting task, no less than to prepare several comprehensive essays "specifically designed to be read by people who know nothing about science." By avoiding jargon and employing an almost conversational writing style, he comes surprisingly close to carrying out his task, although there will be places here and there that nonscientists will find difficult. The general content is well chosen and deals with matters of importance to all, especially the final chapter on population. Hardly anyone will fail to be enlightened by this volume.

**An Inordinate Fondness for Beetles.** *Arthur V. Evans and Charles L. Bellamy. Henry Holt, 1996. \$40.*

This "coffee table" volume provides spectacular photographs and documents the diversity, in every dimension, of this overwhelmingly abundant group of organisms. To its substantial credit, however, it includes a readable, informative discussion of the Coleoptera, including their sheer number, diversity of habitats,

the life cycles of various species, evolutionary history, and interactions with humans.

**The Myth of Scientific Literacy.** *Morris H. Shamos. Rutgers, 1995. \$27.95.*

Shamos makes a compelling case for the futility of seeking to equip a significant fraction of the general public with a level of scientific literacy that will enable them to develop reliable responses to the myriad public policy issues with which they are confronted—this despite however much tinkering with school curricula is undertaken. Rather, he argues that, at best, all that can be hoped for is a general awareness of how the scientific enterprise operates and an increased capacity to select which experts to rely on. And he reminds us that, to a large extent, whatever apparent literacy emerges at the primary and secondary educational levels will have mostly eroded by the time those students are adults—the very age group that is likely to be making policy decisions.

**This Is Biology: The Science of the Living World.** *Ernst Mayr. Harvard, 1997. \$29.95.*

As one might well anticipate, this is a superb work, well worth careful study by specialists in both the physical and the life sciences. In a series of sprightly chapters, Mayr addresses with rare insight key questions such as, What is the meaning of "life"? How does biology explain the living world? What questions does ecology ask? Where do humans fit into evolution? and, Can evolution account for ethics?

### Eugen Weber

**Wellington: A Personal History.** *Christopher Hibbert. Addison-Wesley Longman, 1997. \$30.*

After many distinguished biographies and books of military history, Hibbert tackles and brings off a life of Napoleon's nemesis, Arthur Wellesley, né Wesley (the family changed its name to one with a more prestigious sound and no connotations of vulgar Methodism), created Viscount Wellington of Talavera in 1809.

We learn how the unprepossessing scion of spendthrift Irish lords became Britain's greatest soldier by exhaustive reading and careful preparation. Campaigns are not won by fighting on battlefields but by getting supplies and troops to the right place at the right time. Also, as the 25-year-old colonel learned on his first disastrous Dutch campaign in 1794, by knowing "what one ought not to do, and that is always something."

Equally interesting, we also learn about

Wellington the man of good counsel and flirtations, sickly but stubborn, and unafraid—and about the active national politician. Wellington was 46 when he won Waterloo (*not* on the playing fields of Eton, which he shunned and did not cite), 83 when he died laden with honors. It is one of the virtues of Hibbert's book that more than half of it deals with those later years, when Britain shifted from peers and patronage to reform and reason, and when even Wellington's generalship could not hold back the Gothic hordes.

**Huxley: From Devil's Disciple to Evolution's High Priest.** *Adrian Desmond. Addison-Wesley Longman, 1997. \$37.50.*

Desmond has interwoven several admirable books in one: a life of the skittish, volcanic, and brilliant Thomas Huxley, who dragged himself up by his bootstraps from poverty to scientific eminence; a history of 19th-century—especially British—science as it moved from the era of noble patronage to that of men like Huxley, busy unraveling the secrets of nature and beginning to pull the chariots of industry; and finally, a history of the great moral and scientific controversies of the age: the origins of the world and of humanity, hence the justification of natural and social order; the clash of varieties of evolutionism challenging varieties of creationism—divine design attempting to withstand natural necessity just when all this mattered terribly.

This book is long (640 pages of text and lots more of adjuncts) and heavy, but every page is worth enjoying. Desmond knows his science, his society, his social register, his politics—and he writes with brio. God is in the details, and details are Desmond's forte: he swims in their flood like a fish in water. Colorful, illuminating, *morish*, he has produced a tour de force that only hardened know-nothings can afford to miss.

**Questioning the Millennium.** *Stephen Jay Gould. Harmony Books, 1997. \$17.95.*

Should we celebrate the passing of the millennium in 2000 or 2001? Why so much fuss over round, even dates? And how do such dates fit religious and calendrical expectations? Gould provides, as his subtitle puts it, "A Rationalist's Guide to a Precisely Arbitrary Countdown" that is good-natured, chatty, informed, and personal. He dips into history, twinkles through mathematics, glances indulgently at religious calculators of the past and calendric calculators of the present, and throws in a moving private confidence for good measure.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



## RECOMMENDED READING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

The rationalist is equable, if a bit patronizing. Eclipses, prophecies, millennarians, the Creation (and its date), the solar year, the coming of the 0, and the Second Coming are treated with equanimity. Gould is fascinated by our fascination with numerical regularities, but cannot tell (who could?) why searches for numerical order lead to nuttiness as often as to insight, and why stabs at rationality slip into fatuity. Packed with wit and intriguing information, his 166 pages fit our day's limited attention span as they do our respective skepticisms.

### **Saints & Sinners: A History of the Popes.** *Eamon Duffy. Yale, 1997. \$30.*

The only story more dire than a history of the popes would be that told in the Old Testament: murder, incest, iniquities, mayhem, and a God drawn to forgiveness only late if ever. Like Jerusalem of old, the shrine of Peter was that of the seven deadly sins—pride, covetousness, lust, anger, gluttony, envy, sloth—but also of their transcendence. For the reader's pleasure, in Duffy's pages, sainthood figures less prominently than strife, and humility leaves less of a mark than homicide. Among the 260 popes whom John Paul II succeeded in 1978, death by strangulation, bludgeoning, suffocation, starvation, mutilation, poison was exceptional. So were post-mortem trials of their mummified corpses, like that of Pope Formosus. And yet, perhaps because it reflects a television series, the tale that Duffy tells reads like one long string of bitter rivalries and excommunications, contested elections, lapsed believers, orthodoxy turning heterodox, schism, exile, captivity, cronyism, corruption, riots, and strong-arm tactics. When Jesus said that he came to bring not peace but a sword, this was not what he had in mind.

Less lurid passages, where angels would *not* fear to tread, also are provided. Duffy, a serious historian with a knack for workmanlike prose and an arsenal of magnificent illustrations, emphasizes the high points of 2,000 years of church politics, not very different, most of the time, from secular politics. Inasmuch as sinners run well ahead of saints in the seductiveness stakes, sensationalism makes for good reading.

### **Cracking the Bible Code.** *Jeffrey Satinover. William Morrow, 1997. \$23.*

The *Torah* was dictated directly by God to Moses in precise letter-to-letter sequence. It carries crucial information

about God's plan for mankind, encrypted in a "Bible Code" now being decrypted by Israeli mathematicians, statisticians, scholars, and computer experts. A practicing psychiatrist, Satinover provides a bulletin of their sensational(ist) results, in which Alberti, Columbus, Pascal, Charles Babbage, Alan Turing, John von Neumann, and hosts of Jewish sages are mobilized to demonstrate how the code of this "instructional manual from mankind's Creator and guide" has been broken to discover forecasts of the revolt of the Maccabees, the fall of the Bastille, the treatment of diabetes, and the murder of Anwar Sadat.

The publisher wisely warns us that, in the wrong hands, the codes could be misinterpreted, and that they cannot be used to predict the future. But what is presented as "the real story of the stunning discovery of hidden knowledge in the first five books of the Bible" may fascinate amateurs of cryptology and crossword puzzles. The uninitiated will scratch their heads.

### **Anna J. Schwartz**

### **Chronic Condition: Why Health Reform Fails.** *Sberry Glied. Harvard, 1997. \$45.*

The author, who served as a senior economist at the Council of Economic Advisers in 1992-93 and was one of the 500-member Clinton health-reform task force, cites three reasons for the downfall of the Clinton attempt, as well as of alternative plans to guarantee health coverage to all Americans: (1) Compromise proved impossible between supporters of single-payer reform and supporters of managed competition. (2) The plans made false assumptions about health care spending. (3) Neither group acknowledged that health reform would cost money or reduce use of health care.

In the last chapter the author offers her own proposal. She recommends raising funds by levying a tax at a single, unchanging rate (30%, in her example) on all suppliers of health services, including doctors, hospitals, pharmacists, and managed-care companies, as well as on insurance premiums collected by insurers, and services financed through out-of-pocket payments. Income taxes and other levies now used to fund Medicaid and uncompensated care could be eliminated.

The tax would raise enough money to cover all current Medicaid spending and all Medicare spending for seniors with incomes below twice the poverty line, and would leave \$35 billion toward coverage for the uninsured. The author maintains that a health care tax and subsidy program, which would generate a grow-

ing stream of income over time as health care spending rose, would not result in growing inequality of benefits. One example she gives of how the tax might work in practice is using the revenues for vouchers to fund Medicaid recipients, while the Medicare program would continue. She claims that the tax would not substantially reduce national health care spending.

### **Health and Welfare during Industrialization.** *Ed. by Richard H. Steckel and Roderick Floud. A National Bureau of Economic Research Project Report. Univ. of Chicago, 1997. \$72.*

Using socioeconomic data for eight countries (the United States, Britain, Sweden, France, Japan, Germany, the Netherlands, and Australia), the authors studied the course of national welfare during the process of industrialization. The indicators include real per capita income, real wages, literacy, health (measured by life expectancy at birth, mortality rates, stature as a reflection of nutritional status), and urban percentage.

In a concluding chapter the editors array the individual country results in cross-country tabulations. One arrangement is by country and phase of industrialization at 1800, 1850, 1900, and 1950, to provide benchmarks for assessing change. At these dates the countries varied substantially by income, growth rates, urbanization, health, and literacy. A second tabulation arrays the countries and the indicators during a brief pre-industrial period, an early industrialization period in which the transition to a modern industrial society began, a middle period in which modernization spread, and a late-industrial phase in which it became dominant. The dates of phases of industrialization vary because the process differed across countries.

The editors conclude that not all industrializing countries shared the fate of mid-19th-century England as portrayed by Marx, Engels, and Dickens: "a world of misery, degradation, and declining quality of life for the working population." France, Sweden, the Netherlands, and Japan enjoyed uninterrupted increases in quality-of-life indicators during industrialization. In each of the country essays the interaction of the multiple indicators is explained.

### **The Revolution in Development Economics.** *Ed. by James A. Dorn, Steve H. Hanke, and Alan A. Walters. Cato Institute, 1998. \$14.95.*

This collection of papers on the failure of state-led economic development policy is dedicated to Peter Bauer, professor emeritus at the London School of Eco-



nomics, whose work questioned the emphasis by postwar development economists on central planning and autarky as the way to promote economic growth in developing countries. The shift in focus in the past decade to market prices, internal and external trade, and the institutional framework as important determinants of development owes much to Bauer's pioneering studies of the transition from a subsistence to an exchange economy. Three chapters in the volume are by Bauer, and 17 are by other economists who have been influenced by his writings.

**The Failure of Antitrust and Regulation to Establish Competition in Long-Distance Telephone Services.** Paul W. MacAvoy. MIT and AEI, 1996. \$50.

This is an informative study of what has happened to competition in long-distance telephone service since the 1982 settlement of the antitrust suit against AT&T. The federal court ordered AT&T, formerly franchised by regulation with a near-monopoly, to divest itself of the operating companies, which were

henceforth to specialize in local exchange and long distance within the local calling area. AT&T was to become only an equipment and long-distance telephone service provider. MCI and Sprint, two other long-distance carriers, emerged after the settlement to reshape the long-distance market.

Because of the behavior of prices, market shares, and price-cost margins in the 10 years after the divestiture, the author believes that efforts of the regulators to influence competitiveness of pricing in long-distance markets have constrained, not furthered, the development of competition. By preventing the Bell operating companies from entering interstate long-distance markets, and foreign carriers from entering outbound U.S. service markets, regulators and antitrust officials have delayed the emergence of competition in long-distance telephony. MacAvoy faults the Telecommunications Act of 1996 for its checklist of safeguards that discourages entry by a Bell operating company into the long-distance market. The threat of antitrust litigation for treble damages is sufficient, in his view, to

inhibit any potential injury to competition by permitting entry.

**Endangered Dreams: The Great Depression in California.** Kevin Starr. Oxford, 1997. \$16.95.

This is the fourth in a series on *Americans and the California Dream*. Although the title refers to the Great Depression, the book does not focus on the technical economic dimensions of that business contraction as California experienced it. Instead, the book is mainly a history of organized labor strife in the state, spanning the century before World War II, with detailed discussion on developments in the 1930s. In the political conflicts of the period, presented as a struggle between Right and Left, the author's sympathies are with the Left. The author also celebrates the documentation by photographers, economists, field reporters, novelists, and filmmakers of the Depression migrant camps, strikes, suppression of civil rights, and Communist and right-wing contestants, as well as the physical transformation of California by the public works programs that the New Deal initiated.

## More Multigenerational $\Phi$ BK Families

Benjamin Joachim, Columbia University, 1918; his son-in-law, Meyer Bludman, City College of New York, 1942; Meyer's sister, Miriam Bludman, Hunter College, 1940; Meyer's sister-in-law, Mildred Joachim, Barnard College, 1949; Meyer's son, Daniel Robert Bludman, Princeton University, 1968; Meyer's granddaughter, Lisa Bludman, Barnard, 1995; and the husband of Meyer's granddaughter, Simeon Schopf, Johns Hopkins University, 1993.

Three brothers, all at Gettysburg College: Hugh A. McCaughy, John W. McCaughy, and David A. McCaughy, 1952, 1956, and 1961.

E. M. Smith and his daughter, Mae Deering Smith Church, Wesleyan University, 1871 and 1899; Mae's niece, Mary Kilgore Fingfeld, Ohio Wesleyan University, 1929; and Mary's son, Richard Kilgore Fingfeld, DePauw University, 1953.

Charles Swartz and his brother, Max Swartz, Brown University, 1933 and 1936; and Charles's son-in-law, Richard A. Horowitz, Harvard University, 1961.

Four at the University of Nebraska: Bernard S. Gradwohl and his son, David M. Gradwohl, 1923 and 1954; David's wife, Hanna Rosenberg Gradwohl, and her brother, John A. Rosenberg, 1956 and 1966; and one at Carleton College: David and Hanna's son, Steven E. Gradwohl, 1983.

Four at DePauw University: Ethel Frank Holcomb, 1911, and her two sons, Roger S. Holcomb and Donald F. Holcomb, 1942 and 1949; and Donald's wife, Barbara Page, 1948; and one at Colgate University: Ethel's granddaughter, Nancy Holcomb Miller, 1981.

Louis Cooperstein and his brother-in-law, Harold Shapero, Harvard University, 1933 and 1941; Harold's daughter, Hannah Shapero, Brandeis University, 1974; and Louis's granddaughter, Sarah Felicia Grabel, Brown University, 1995.

Leverett Stearns Griggs, Amherst College, 1860; his daughter, Susan Griggs Graybill, Vassar College, 1906; and Leverett's great-grandson, David Pence Carter, Bucknell University, 1971.

Helena Hadley DeFord and her son, Donald D. DeFord, University of Kansas, 1913 and 1940; and Donald's daughter, Ruth DeFord Kotecha, Oberlin College, 1968.

Cathryn McCleery Harsha, University of Iowa, 1941; her daughter, Mary Harsha Lovejoy, University of Southern California, 1970; and Mary's son, Daniel Lovejoy, Cornell University, 1992.

Edwin Henry Kellogg and his brother, Robert Wallis Kellogg, Princeton University, 1902 and 1907; Edwin's three children, a son-in-law, and a daughter-in-law: John Donald Lewis, Oberlin College, 1928; Ewart Ruth Kellogg Lewis, University of Wisconsin, 1929; Helen Burhans Foote Kellogg, Barnard College, 1931; Joyce Louise Kellogg Sancetta, College of Wooster, 1934; and Ralph Henderson Kellogg, University of Rochester, 1940; Ewart's son, David Kellogg Lewis, Swarthmore College, 1962; and Joyce's daughter, Constance Antonina Sancetta, Brown University, 1971.

Maurice M. Blodgett and Elinor Crockett Blodgett, husband and wife, Tufts University, 1932; Elinor's sister, Dorothy L. Crockett Eames, Tufts, 1933; Maurice and Elinor's daughters, Meredith Blodgett Poppele, Tufts, 1957, and Ernestine Blodgett Philips, University of Minnesota, 1979; and Meredith's daughters, Jessica Poppele, Tufts, 1987, and Kristin Poppele, Wellesley College, 1987.

Although my wife, Joan, and daughter, Marcy, represent only two generations, they were inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa chapter at Virginia Tech in the same year, 1987. My wife returned to college after her children were raised, and graduated at age 55 with high honors. My daughter was 21 when she was initiated.

*Martin Schnitzer, Blacksburg, Va.*



## Society Hosts Reception to Greet Inaugural Issue of Fadiman's *Scholar*

On April 6 Phi Beta Kappa hosted an early evening reception at the Century Club in New York City to mark the publication of the first issue of the *American Scholar* under the editorship of Anne Fadiman. Some 125 guests—including representatives of the news media, members of the *Scholar's* new advisory board, and members of the Phi Beta Kappa Associates—proved an enthusiastic audience for brief readings by six prominent writers from pieces already published or to be published in the *Scholar*.

Fadiman, who was introduced by Phi Beta Kappa's vice president, Joseph Gordon, spoke about what was changing and what was not in the magazine before introducing each of the authors in turn. Representing the "past" of the *Scholar* was Cynthia Ozick, who read from her essay "Public and Private Intellectuals," published in the Summer 1995 issue. Representing the present were Rosemary Bray, who read an excerpt from her review of the collected works of James Baldwin; Paul Muldoon, who read his poem "Now, Now"; Jonathan Rosen,

who read a passage from his essay "The Talmud and the Internet"; and Sean Wilentz, who read excerpts from "The Art City Our Fathers Built," by Alfred Kazin, who was unable to attend because of illness. Representing the future was Noel Perrin, whose essay on "Rereading Kipling" is scheduled for the next issue.

Copies of the new Spring 1998 issue, hot off the press, were distributed at the reception that followed the readings.

Earlier the same day the Associates held their spring luncheon at the King Juan Carlos Center of New York University at Washington Square. In the Couper Lecture following the luncheon, novelist and scholar Gabriel Jackson discussed recent attempts to reform the national curriculum for history, geography, and literature in Spain. ΦBK Associate John Brademas, president emeritus of NYU and founding president of the King Juan Carlos Center, was the host for this meeting.



*Participants in the program of readings at the Century Club on April 6 included (from the left) Sean Wilentz, Rosemary Bray, Anne Fadiman, Cynthia Ozick, Jonathan Rosen, and Paul Muldoon.*



*Author Noel Perrin chats with Anne Fadiman at the reception after the readings.*

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