



THE KEY REPORTER

TO MAKE A PRAIRIE

BY RITA DOVE

This article is adapted from an address to Phi Beta Kappa initiates at the University of Virginia in April 1993. Rita Dove, Commonwealth Professor of English at that university, was appointed poet laureate of the United States by the Library of Congress in May.

WHEN I WAS INDUCTED into Phi Beta Kappa at Miami University (Ohio) two decades ago this year, many of the presiding faculty were aghast when I answered their query concerning my career plans with "I want to be a poet." The implied sentiment was "How can you throw away your education?"—as if declaring one's intention to be a poet was analogous to putting on a dunce cap.

Phi Beta Kappa's motto, "philosophy or the love of knowledge is the



Precious Williams, a senior at Houston High School for Health Professions and prospective freshman at Yale University, received the first President George Bush Award, endowed by the Greater Houston ΦBK association, from the former president in April 1993. In the center of the picture is Susan K. Cruse, the association's president.



Rita Dove

guide of life," puts it well. Wisdom is the *guide* of life—not the goal. Intelligence is a desirable commodity, but, as one character in Madeleine L'Engle's book *A Wind in the Door* says, "The naked intellect is an extraordinarily inaccurate instrument." Intellectual achievement requires imagination.

I want to discuss here an activity which, although often smiled at or benevolently dismissed in children, is barely tolerated in adolescents, rarely commended in the boardroom, and, to the best of my knowledge, never encouraged in school—but without which no bridges would soar, no light bulbs burn, and no Greek warships set out upon Homer's "wine-dark sea." That activity is daydreaming—an activity so prevalent that we had to jerryrig a word, an oxymoron of sorts, because, so to speak, the default for dreaming is night. *Daydreaming*. There's a loftier expression for it, of course—reverie. But daydreaming is the word that truly sets us adrift. It melts on the tongue. The French phenomenologist Gaston Bachelard speaks of a "dreaming consciousness" and calls poetic reverie a "phenomenology of the soul," a condition in which "the mind is able to relax, but . . . the soul keeps watch, with no tension, calmed and active."

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ABOUT THIS ISSUE

As in the past two years, a substantial part of *The Key Reporter's* autumn issue is being devoted to reports from the various entities that are responsible for many of the Society's activities: the officers, the chapters, the associations, and the Associates. We hope that the 395,000 members who receive this issue will find the material of interest. If you have not been receiving the newsletter regularly and wish to receive all future issues, or know another member whose address is lost to the Society, please use the top half of the back page to convey that information to the *Key Reporter* Circulation Office, Phi Beta Kappa, 1811 Q Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20009.

MONTEREY INSTITUTE OFFERS SCHOLARSHIP

The Monterey Institute of International Studies has announced the availability of a half-tuition, two-year scholarship to a Phi Beta Kappa member who is admitted to a degree program at the institute in 1994–95. Members may obtain application forms from the institute at 425 Van Buren St., Monterey, CA 93940.

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TO MAKE A PRAIRIE

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Many of you have heard the story of Thomas Edison's method for courting inspiration: whenever he became stymied, he would take a nap, and often the solution to his problem would come to him in his sleep. Herbert Marcuse calls this kind of daydreaming the drive toward *Eros*, as opposed to—what else?—*Tbantos*, or death. And what is the ultimate expression of this drive toward *Eros*? Child's play, which Marcuse defines by saying that playing as a child plays is its own goal, its own contentment, whereas work serves a purpose that lies outside the self.

When I was a child, I loved math—the neatness of fractions, all those pies sliced into ever-diminishing wedges. I adored unraveling the messy narratives of story problems, reducing them to symbols. I did this with the singlemindedness of a census taker. However, there were two stumbling blocks in my mathematical education. The first occurred when I was forced to drill with flash cards; although there are absolute answers with flash cards, there is no end of the series: one correct solution merely prompts the next problem. Something about this procedure frightened me; I believe I recognized in it some metaphor for the numbing repetitions of daily existence—taking out the garbage, doing the dishes, washing laundry, driving to the office, working from 9 to 5. . . . Here's a poem I wrote on the subject:

FLASH CARDS

In math I was the whiz kid, keeper of
oranges and apples.
What you don't understand, master,
my father said; the faster
I answered, the faster they came.
I could see one bud on the teacher's
geranium,
one clear bee sputtering at the wet pane.
The tulip trees always dragged after
heavy rain
so I tucked my head as my boots slapped
home.
My father put up his feet after work
and relaxed with a highball and *The Life*
of Lincoln.
After supper we drilled and I climbed the
dark
before sleep, before a thin voice hissed
numbers as I spun on a wheel. I had to
guess.
Ten, I kept saying, I'm only ten.

I hit the second snag in 10th grade, a few weeks into geometry. My homework assignment was to prove a theorem. But how could I even begin if I had to use points and lines and planes in order to prove it—points with no dimension, lines without thickness, and planes that had no length or width or area or perimeters, but stretched into infinity?

I asked my brother, who was two years older and had weathered geometry without a whimper, but his only advice was "You have to sit down and think about it until you get it." He let me use his desk to do this thinking. And so I sat for 20 minutes, for half an hour, trying to imagine what didn't exist. I began to daydream, and my eyes drifted to the ceiling . . . a plane. No, a representation of a plane; and, though I couldn't see it, the ceiling continued beyond the walls of my brother's room, into the hall and above my bedroom and my parents' bedroom—and if I could imagine the ceiling beyond that closed door, why not a ceiling that went on past the house and the neighborhood, all the way to Forever? Walls met ceiling, forming lines that did the same trick. Where ceiling and two walls met, a point . . .

GEOMETRY

I prove a theorem and the house
expands:
the windows jerk free to hover near the
ceiling,
the ceiling floats away with a sigh.
As the walls clear themselves of
everything
but transparency, the scent of carnations
leaves with them. I am out in the open
and above the windows have hinged into
butterflies,
sunlight glinting where they've
intersected.
They are going to some point true and
unproven.

Some Stereotypes

There are a thousand and one myths about artists in general, writers in particular, and specifically poets: Poets, the legend goes, are eccentric, not quite of this world; poets are blessed with imagination that the rest of us can never hope to approach. Poets lead wild—or at the very least, wildly disorganized—lives and say outrageous things in polite company. And lo, poets may even be the prophets of our time. The prevailing notions our society harbors about the creative arts

make it difficult for artists, and especially that lofty breed of poets, to be taken seriously.

Oddly enough, there is the converse myth that poetry is difficult—hermetic, cerebral stuff, impossible for the mere mortal to comprehend. I cannot tell you on how many occasions I have read poetry in a church basement or high school classroom, only to have someone come up afterwards and exclaim: "I never knew poetry could be like that—why, that was *fun*!"

What this tells us about our society is that we regard the creative arts with a degree of apprehension, perhaps even suspicion. We do not expect the arts to be accessible, nor do we see any reason to incorporate the arts into our everyday or professional lives. And so, unfortunately, for many students, the years at the university and the few years beyond, in graduate study, may be the last opportunity to live in an environment where intellectual discourse and artistic expression are acknowledged and considered essential.

Of course, stereotypes cut both ways. The flip side of the coin is the assumption that intellect and imagination do not mix. This might be, partly at least, a result of one of our century's most dangerous signs of progress—the concept of specialization.

Let me illustrate this point. In the winter of 1984, when I was giving a series of lectures on the East Coast, a severe storm closed many airports along the seaboard, forcing plane passengers to scramble for the trains. I was on my way to New York City from Providence, Rhode Island, with my husband and infant daughter. The train was so crowded that people were standing—even sitting—in the aisles and in the passageways between cars. In that situation there was no question of chivalry: no one stood up to give me a seat. After about an hour, a seat became free and the young man standing nearest to it—and therefore, according to the laws of survival of the fittest, entitled to it—sat down, then turned and motioned for me to take his place. After another half-hour of travel, the seat next to me became vacant, so I was able to scoot over and give my cavalier a chance to rest his feet.

We began a careful conversation: first about the weather, then my

daughter's vital statistics (she was blissfully asleep), and finally, we turned to occupation. "What do you do?" I asked, and was puzzled by his obvious hesitation before the reply came: "I'm . . . I'm a microbiologist." Pause. Then he added, "I usually don't tell people that. It tends to stop conversation."

"So what do you usually tell people?" I asked.

"Oh, that I work in a lab. Or that I study diseases. And what about you?" He turned the tables: "What do you do?" Now it was my turn to hesitate before I answered: "I'm a poet."

"Oh!" he exclaimed. "That's wonderful!"

"And isn't microbiology wonderful, too?" I asked. "Sure," he conceded, "but when I tell people I'm a microbiologist, they're so afraid they won't understand anything I say, they never ask any further. It gets to be a bummer."

"Yeah," I said, "I know what you mean." And I did; many a time I had experienced that awkward silence toward me as a poet. I never knew, however, that there were scientists who suffered the same blues.

"So tell me," I went on, "what exactly *do* you do as a microbiologist?"

What followed was a fascinating account of this man's work with the molecular structure of DNA. He described how, aided by an electron microscope, he "walked" the length of a healthy DNA strand, taking notes along the way on the distinguishing traits of every cell. He then compared these observations with the reports from similar "walks" along DNA strands from people who had multiple sclerosis. By comparing these scientific diaries, he hoped to pinpoint the determining traits for one of the world's most devastating and mysterious diseases.

What impressed me especially about his account was the language he used to describe his work. In order to make this complicated process accessible to a layperson, he resorted to a vivid pictorial—even poetic—vocabulary. When I asked him whether he and his colleagues used the same metaphors in the lab, he seemed surprised. "Well," he replied, "we have specific technical terms of course, but we use some of these words, too. What else can you call it but taking a walk?"

Yes, what else could you call it? Here I was talking with a top-level scientist whose work was so specialized that it had to invent its own language in order to be able to imagine its own investigations. And at this point, when imagination enters, we also enter the domain of poetry.

Making a Prairie

To make a prairie,

Emily Dickinson wrote,

it takes a clover and one bee,
One clover, and a bee,
And revery.
The revery alone will do,
If bees are few.

To make a prairie—or a light bulb, or the quantum theory of mechanics—you need revery. Daydreaming. The watchful soul in the relaxed mind.

A liberal education is intended to make people flexible, able to cope with the boundless changes that accelerating civilization will confront them with. So much of modern university education has become a closed society with privileged access to certain mysteries, a microcosm where palpable interaction with the physical world has been suspended in the interests of specialized knowledge. The Industrial Revolution, whose most poignant symbol is the assemblyline, made specialization practical; now the Technological Revolution, whose symbol might be the silicon chip, makes specialization imperative.

But technological advances also de-emphasize the individual, reducing the grand gestures of the soul to so many impressions on a grain of sand. The humanities, with their insistence on communication and their willingness to admit paradox into the contemplation of truth, are too often silenced by the bully's club of empirical data. There's a Mother Goose rhyme that goes:

If all the world were paper,
And all the sea were ink;
If all the trees were bread and
cheese,
What should we have to drink?

Yes, indeed—for if we assign a category to every wish and leave the fulfillment of these wishes to one discipline, we may be fed but not nourished; someone is sure to forget the lemonade. The groundwork laid

in college stresses the connectedness of all learning. The task upon leaving college and entering into the intricacies of a chosen discipline is to avoid being narrowed into a mere functionary of a professional specialization.

How restless and curious the human mind is, how quick the imagination latches onto a picture, a scene, something volatile and querulous and filled with living, mutable tissue! The mind is informed by the spirit of play. The most fantastical doodles emerge from wandering ballpoint pens in both the classroom and the board meeting. Every discipline is studded with vivid terminology: In geometry various shapes are defined as "random slices of Swiss cheese," chains, or self-squared dragons. There are lady's slippers in botany and wingbacks in football games. There are onomatopoeic bushwhackers in the jungles of Nicaragua; there are doglegs on golf courses and butterfly valves in automobiles. The theory of quark confinement could be a quantum physicist's definition of the human soul. Astronomy has black holes with "event horizons"—the orbital path around a black hole where time stands still, the point beyond which one is drawn inextricably into the core of the imploding star. Every discipline craves imagination, and you owe it to yourself to keep yours alive.

In ancient Rome, every citizen possessed a genius. The genius was a personal spirit that came to every person at birth; it represented the fullness of one's potential powers. This genius was considered a birthright, but it needed to be nourished in order to survive. Now, in our narcissistic age children celebrating a birthday expect gifts to shower upon them from the outside, but the ancient Roman was expected to make a birthday sacrifice to his or her genius. If one served one's genius well during life, the genius became a *lars*, or household god, after one's death. If one neglected one's potential, the genius became a spook, a troublesome spirit who plagued the living.

Poets do not have a monopoly on imagination: the world will be ever unfolding, as long as one can imagine its possibilities, as long as one honors one's spirit—or, as the Romans would have said, one's "genius"—and lets the fresh air blow in, fragrant, from the flowering prairie. ■

ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS REPORT

1992-93 ACTIVITIES, SCHOLARSHIPS

Phi Beta Kappa associations are groups of members organized on a geographic basis to provide intellectual stimulation and social activities for members and guests, and to bring to the attention of their communities the ideals and goals of the Society. The groups range in size from fewer than 25 members to almost 2,000. Associations may be chartered by the Society once they have been in continuous, active existence for at least three years. Association leaders attend the Society's triennial Council meetings and participate with chapter representatives in the work of the Council.

Many associations make awards—cash, scholarships, certificates, pewter cups—to encourage academic achievement among high school and college students. Many also sponsor lectures, dinners or luncheons, panel discussions, and museum tours.

About 50 associations are active to varying degrees across the United States. Although over the years associations have existed in several cities around the world, there are no active associations outside this country now.

The news reported here has been compiled from reports sent to headquarters by the associations themselves. For details on programs or samples of awards, association leaders are encouraged to write to the secretaries of other associations (see the addresses on page 9).

Any questions about organizing new associations or chartering existing ones should be addressed to the Phi Beta Kappa Society, 1811 Q Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20009.

West Coast Associations

The **Southern California** association increased its membership from 1,736 to 1,925 members, awarded fellowships totaling \$30,000 to 31 international graduate students (from countries that included China, Sudan, and Iran), and gave 10 fellowships to **ΦBK** initiates in 10 chapters for graduate study (for a total of \$12,000). The association is now developing a high school scholarship program as well.

In addition, the Southern California group sponsored two dinner meetings and one Sunday afternoon lecture. In

October 1992, Joseph R. Cerrell, campaign consultant, spoke on the presidential and state elections. In March 1993, Roberta and Peter Markman lectured on Meso-American mythology. In April, Edward C. Stone, director of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, discussed the Keck Observatory in Hawaii.

The **Northern California** association increased its membership from 1,060 to 1,100, increased the number of \$2,500 graduate fellowships it awarded from five to six, and received a \$48,000 bequest to endow a new \$2,500 scholarship, awarded for the first time this year, in the name of Elizabeth B. Reed. The scholarships, and an excellence-in-teaching award, were presented at the annual dinner meeting in June, where the guest speaker was C. Leo Ortiz, professor of biology at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

The association sponsored a total of 11 activities during the year, including nature walks and visits to the San Francisco Cable Car Museum, the NASA Ames Research Center, and the Stanford Linear Accelerator. On April 18, seven members met at 4:45 a.m. to commemorate the San Francisco earthquake of 1906; then they enjoyed breakfast together and attended a ceremony at the "fire hydrant which saved the City." Some 125 persons attended the annual retreat at the Asilomar Conference Center in Pacific Grove.

The **San Diego** association (219 members) presented copies of the volume on Emerson from the Library of America series to 42 outstanding juniors in area public high schools. The group also sponsored several activities. At a dinner meeting in November 1992, Gary C. Jacobson, professor of political science at the University of California, San Diego, spoke on "The Election of 1992: What Have We Learned?" At two Sunday afternoon teas, Stephen Clark, a Ph.D. candidate, spoke on "Anthropology: Art or Science?" and pianist/musicologist Mary Evans Johnson discussed "Beyond Romanticism: Life and Art for Robert and Clara Schumann." The association also continued its biweekly Sunday afternoon study group, at which the mem-

bers discussed China and Japan. The San Diego group also published a newsletter in October and February.

East Coast Associations

The **New York** association (about 800 members) sponsored three events during the year, beginning in September 1992 with a wine seminar on lesser known, relatively inexpensive domestic, European, and Australian wines, led by Michael Green. In December the group heard a program of Christmas and Hannukah music by members of the New York City Opera Children's Chorus. In May 1993, the association awarded \$2,000 scholarships to two Columbia University students: Gage C. McWeeny, an English major, and Chaya S. Sendrovic, a biochemistry major. The scholarships were awarded from association funds in honor of Allen Walker Read, professor emeritus at Columbia University and a former president of the association. This year's \$1,000 gift to a branch of the New York Public Library went to the Tottenville Branch, Staten Island, in memory of Rev. Timothy Healy, who at the time of his death in December was president of the New York Public Library and president emeritus of Georgetown University. He was also a cofounder of the Phi Beta Kappa chapter at Fordham University.

The **Scarsdale/Westchester** association (110 members) sponsored three events in 1993: a panel discussion on health care in January, a roundtable discussion on abortion in March, and a dinner meeting and discussion of family dynasties in May.

The **Greater Hartford** association (102 members) sponsored three dinner meetings. In October 1992, state representative Naomi Cohen discussed "The Child, the State, and the School"; in January, the speaker-performer was musician Bob Price; and in March, Melvin Horwitz, M.D., J.D., discussed national health insurance.

The **District of Columbia** association (142 members) sponsored six dinner meetings with speakers throughout the year. The topics and speakers were "Land of the Rising Sun: Historical Treasures," by Yvonne Romney Dixon; "An Encounter with Shakespeare at Oxford," by Esther C. Lawton; "Some Personal Recollections of Katherine Anne Porter and

A REPORT FROM THE LEADER OF THE CONFERENCE OF ASSOCIATION DELEGATES

Carson McCullers," by John L. Brown; "Foreign Policy and Overseas Diplomatic Representation of a Small State in the International Community," by the ambassador of Grenada, Denneth M. Modeste; "What Is Mysteriously Killing Our Temperate Forests?" by Allan N. D. Auclair; and "Worldwide Social, Economic, and Ethical Problems," by John W. McDonald. The group also gave savings bonds valued at a total of \$200 to three high school seniors.

The **Richmond, Virginia**, association (169 members) sponsored a dinner, attended by 142 persons, to honor initiates at the University of Richmond chapter, at which W. Taylor Reveley, III, was the speaker. The association also presented engraved pewter cups to 28 top-ranking high school seniors this year.

The **Shenandoah (Virginia)** association (40 members) sponsored a dinner at which Douglas Foard, the Phi Beta Kappa Society's secretary, spoke.

The **Wake County, North Carolina**, association (86 members) held two dinner meetings with speakers, presented books to two winners of its high school essay contest, and presented one certificate to a community

This has been a very good year for associations in terms of their activities and involvement in the Phi Beta Kappa Society, as well as the interest expressed by individuals who wish to set up associations in their regions.

Associations have responded favorably to the levying of assessments to

leader. The speakers at the meetings were Victorian scholar Elliot Engel, who discussed Edgar Allan Poe, and Sandra Thomas, vice president for student affairs, Meredith College, whose topic was "Worlds of the Conquistadors: A South American Odyssey."

The **Guilford County, North Carolina**, association (51 members) sponsored an autumn dinner with speaker and a spring business meeting and social. The group reported that although it has no awards program, a few of its members volunteer in a local literacy program and the association supports this work by providing \$100 per volunteer for the purchase of reading materials and other supplies.

The **Coastal Georgia—Carolina** association (86 members) sponsored

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

cover their expenses to attend the triennial Council meetings. This response should make it easier for smaller associations to send delegates to these meetings. We are looking forward to a good turnout in San Francisco next year.

The expanded *Key Reporter*, giving more extensive news about associations to all readers, was probably instrumental in the approval of four new associations by the Committee on Associations: the Phi Beta Kappa Association of Guilford County (North Carolina), Northeast Missouri Association, Phi Beta Kappa Association of Kentuckiana, and Phi Beta Kappa Association of Colorado.

Since the beginning of this year, nine other groups have inquired about establishing associations in their regions. *Key Reporter* readers who live in the following geographic areas, where interest in forming associations has been shown, should write to the Society's headquarters in Washington: Huntsville, Alabama; Little Rock, Arkansas; Muncie, Indiana; Natchitoches, Louisiana; Duluth, Minnesota; St. Bonaventure, New York; Statesville, North Carolina; Newport, Rhode Island; and Huntington, West Virginia.

Associations continue to award scholarships to outstanding students and scholars, to donate to libraries, and to promote academic excellence in their community high schools, colleges, and graduate schools.

We hope that the good works of the associations noted in this issue will encourage Phi Beta Kappa members to join associations in their communities or to help in establishing the new affiliates. The secretaries of our active associations are listed in this issue, and they are eager to provide information about their groups to inquiring Phi Beta Kappa members.

Emma Norris, the secretary of association delegates, and I will soon be discussing the agenda for our meeting in San Francisco, and we welcome comments and suggestions from association officers and members. Please feel free to contact either of us through Linda Surles, our very able association staff member in Washington.

—Arline L. Bronzaft



New York association members attended a performance of the New York City Opera Children's Chorus in December 1992. The director (back row) is Mildred Hobner, a former vice president of the association. One member of the chorus is Alexander Oveis (second row, fourth from the left), a great-grandson of Hamilton Bail (ΦBK Harvard, 1913).

ASSOCIATIONS REPORT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

two dinner meetings with speakers and awarded copies of Phi Beta Kappa's prizewinning books to local university libraries. The speakers and their topics were James T. Byrd, assistant professor of chemistry, Armstrong State College, "Heavy Metal: Toxic Metal Poisoning in Fact and Fiction," and Charles S. Thomas, associate professor of history, Georgia Southern University, "Bismarck and Hitler."

The **South Florida** association (67 members) gave \$250 scholarships to two potential drop-outs who completed high school, and 24 medals to other high-achievers. At the group's Founders' Day lunch in November 1992, Ken Lipner, professor of economics at Florida International University, spoke on the economic consequences of the elections. At the spring 1993 meeting, University of Miami musicology professor Raymond Barr discussed the death of Mozart.

The **Sarasota-Manatee** association (190 members) reported holding three luncheon meetings with speakers; attendance averaged 100. The speakers and their topics were Gordon E. Michalson, dean, New College, "Changes in Liberal Education at the Turn of the New Century"; historian James Horgan, of St. Leo College, "What Makes a Good President?"; and political scientist Margaret Bates, of New College, "Africa: 21st Century." The group also presented certificates of merit to 113 high school seniors.

North Central Associations

The **Chicago** association (548 members) sponsored a variety of events, including a cruise on the Chicago River and lakefront, a mock trading session at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, a tour of the federal courts, "Food & Thought" with friends of Bill Clinton, and an open forum on health care reform. The group also presented its Distinguished Service Award to Frank Galati at its annual meeting last November.

The **Cleveland** association (319 members) reported that 419 persons attended its annual meeting and awards banquet in May 1993, at which one high school senior received a \$750 scholarship toward study of the liberal arts in college, and 129 others received plaques recognizing their achievement. Cuyahoga County's public prosecutor, Stephanie Tubbs

Jones, was the banquet speaker. Association members also attended *Of Thee I Sing* at the Cleveland Playhouse in November 1992.

The **Toledo** area association (40 members) doubled both the amount of its cash awards (from \$250 to \$500) and the number of recipients (from two to four high school graduates) this year. The group also held two luncheon meetings with speakers. David Hoch, director of the honors program at the University of Toledo, talked about developments in the university's honors program, and Dimitrios Xanthakos, M.D., discussed "European and American Health Problems from an Ontological Point of View."

The **Charleston, West Virginia**, association (44 members) annually presents certificates to the valedictorians in each of the 10 high schools in the county. The association also sponsored a dinner in December 1992 at which Thomas Conlin, conductor of the West Virginia Symphony, discussed "Are the Arts Experiencing a Crisis or a Renaissance?"

The **Southwestern Michigan** association, which reported an increase in membership from 38 to 56, sponsored one dinner at which Richard J. Cook, provost of Kalamazoo College, spoke on "Wasting Away in America—Confronting Ecological and Economic Denial." Guests at the dinner were the

16 top graduates from Kalamazoo area high schools, who received \$18 bookstore gift certificates.

The **Detroit** association (300 members) has a generous scholarship program, provided by the Matilda Wilson Fund, under which approximately 90 high school seniors with a grade-point average of 4.0 received \$250 each. Another 1,200 seniors with a grade-point average of 3.75 received certificates of recognition.

The association also sponsored a potluck supper, at which L. R. Berkower, M.D., spoke on a psychiatrist's view of Mozart, and a dinner, at which Alann B. Steen, visiting professor of journalism, Albion College, discussed "Press Coverage and Captivity." The association also sponsored tours of a historic home and a bookstore.

Last year the **Greater Milwaukee** association (128 members) gave four scholarships valued at a total of \$6,500 (two of \$2,500 each and two of \$750 each) to Phi Beta Kappa graduates of Wisconsin colleges and universities seeking to pursue graduate or professional study. The scholarships are funded by a nonprofit foundation affiliated with the association. The association is exploring the possibility of starting an annual awards program for Milwaukee area high school teachers.

the American Scholar

Settle down with *The American Scholar* this Winter for a taste of contemporary writing at its best. If you join our circle of readers, you will discover for yourself why Jonathan Yardley of *The Washington Post* describes the *Scholar* as "the only magazine that regularly delivers what it promises." And what do we promise? A rare blend of serious discussion, argument, and humor, presented not only in feature articles and essays but also in our other regular departments . . . reappraisals, memoirs, and biographies of important literary and scientific figures . . . a continuing series of articles about great university teachers . . . poetry . . . memoirs of other places and times . . . and incisive reviews of books and the arts.

Among the articles scheduled to appear in the forthcoming Winter 1994 issue are "The Strategic Vision of Alexander Hamilton," by Thomas K. McCraw; "Psychotherapy Awry" by Paul McHugh; "The Nobel Prize for Literature," by Renee Winegarten; and "Uncle Hans," by Evelyn Toynton.

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In addition, the Milwaukee group sponsored two slide-illustrated lectures. At the Founders' Day dinner in December 1992, the speaker was W. Dudley Johnson, M.D., on "Contributions of Bypass Surgery to Quality and Length of Life." At a brunch in April 1993, art conservator Anton Rajer spoke on "Art Conservation at the Wisconsin State Capitol." The Milwaukee association also sponsored six lunchtime lectures on "200 Years of the Bill of Rights."

The **Greater Kansas City** association (189 members) gave one \$1,500 scholarship to a University of Missouri at Kansas City undergraduate and sponsored an annual dinner, at which Al Hunt, then Washington bureau chief of the *Wall Street Journal*, spoke on "Washington and Politics."

The **Northeast Missouri** association (27 members) held an organizational meeting in November 1992 and in March 1993 sponsored a lecture on "Freedom and Creation in Three Traditions" by David Burrell, Hesburgh Professor of Arts and Letters at the University of Notre Dame.

The **East Central Illinois** association more than doubled its membership during the year—to 56—and reported a turnout of 200 for a lecture last autumn by Daniel B. Shea, professor of English, Washington University, on "The Masks of Louisa May Alcott." At the annual spring banquet, David Jorns, president, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, spoke on "The Student and Scholarship," and six outstanding high school seniors received cash awards of \$25 to \$75 and books for their winning entries in the association's annual essay contest.

The **Minneapolis** association (45 members) participated in observance of the University of Minnesota chapter's centennial and cosponsored a public lecture in November 1992 by Donald E. Stokes, University Professor of Politics and Public Affairs, Princeton University, on "The Revolution in Presidential Politics."

The **Indianapolis** association (about 50 members) published a newsletter this spring, in which it announced its annual dinner meeting, at which Roger Mitchell, head of the creative writing program at Indiana University, Bloomington, talked about poetry and read from his own work. The group also presented \$50 U.S. Savings Bonds to 24 high school juniors.

The **Southern Illinois** association (40 members) held its annual brunch in April, at which time Lewis E. Hahn, professor of philosophy at Southern Illinois University, spoke on "Extending Our Legacy of Values."

The **Kentuckiana** association, which describes itself as "a new but active" group with 105 members, gave one \$300 scholarship to Karen Shelby, for outstanding academic achievement at the University of Louisville, and sponsored three meetings, each of which attracted about 75 attendees. In September 1992, Thomas Van, professor of English at the University of Louisville, Belknap, talked on "A Touch of Blue: Working-Class Ethos and Old Gentility in Academe" at a wine and cheese reception. A January 1993 meeting featured a performance and talk by harpsichordist and violinist Jack Ashworth, professor of music history at the same university. In April, Laura Freeman, a cattle farmer who heads a business that produces leaner beef, was the speaker at a luncheon program.

South Central States

The **Greater Houston** association reported a very successful year in which its membership increased from 600 to 636 and the number of \$1,500 scholarships the group awards to high school seniors rose from 61 to 65 (for a total of \$97,500). The association also funded an endowment for the annual award of a scholarship in honor of former president George Bush. Almost 500 persons attended the annual banquet in April 1993, at which the scholarships were awarded. On the same evening Milton Carroll, chairman of Instrument Products, Inc., received the "Outstanding Contribution to Education Award," and Baine Kerr, executive committee chairman, Penzoil Co., received the "ΦBK Outstanding Alumnus Award."

In addition, in October 1992, the Houston association cosponsored, with the University of Houston and the League of Women Voters, a forum on "Salient Issues for the 1992 National Election," with six panelists and a moderator.

The **San Antonio** association (162 members) gave a \$500 scholarship to the outstanding graduate at each of five local high schools; the presentations were made at a reception in May 1993. Certificates of recognition were presented to the top 10 graduating se-

DELAWARE VALLEY GROUP TO SPONSOR DECATHLON

In response to the Society's encouragement of efforts to support community schools, the Delaware Valley (Pennsylvania) association has arranged to sponsor a new program—the academic decathlon—in the Philadelphia school system beginning this autumn. Although several suburban schools now participate in the decathlon, which equates academics with athletics, only one Philadelphia high school now participates. Association leaders have been coordinating plans with school district officials and are starting the project with a pilot program in about six schools.

In addition, the association (866 members, including 76 life members) awarded books (David McCullough's *Truman*) to outstanding seniors in 122 preparatory and high schools in the area and sponsored four dinner meetings with speakers.

niors in each high school in San Antonio, for a total of 400. The group also sponsored a banquet in December 1992, at which Ian McCord spoke about "Exploring the Berber Kingdoms of Morocco's Atlas Mountains."

The **North Texas** association (208 members) held two dinner meetings with speakers. In November 1992, Dr. Robert W. Haley, director of epidemiology at Southwestern Medical School, discussed medical ethics and health care reform. In April 1993, historian James McGregor Burns discussed leadership. Because of a downturn in donations, the association decided to give books to university libraries in the area instead of scholarships this year.

The **Phoenix area** association again increased the amount of the scholarships it gives to eight seniors in area high schools from \$400 to \$600 each, and awarded 32 medals to outstanding students in grades 9–12. The association conducted a telethon to raise scholarship funds last November.

The **Omaha** association, with about 50 members, reported that the amount of its annual scholarship award to an outstanding high school senior was increased from \$700 to \$1,000. The 1993 scholarship was named in memory of Howard H.

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ASSOCIATIONS REPORT

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Moldenhauer, a former association president, who died in June 1992.

The **Southwestern Louisiana** association (27 members) sponsored one dinner meeting, at which Paul H. Meredith, management professor at the University of Southwestern Louisiana, discussed his experiences in post-war Kuwait. Also at the dinner, the group awarded a \$250 scholarship to the outstanding USL graduate.

The **Northeast Alabama** association (30 members) sponsored a "Fallfest," with a lecture on Costa Rican archaeology by Dr. Sewastynowicz, and a spring banquet. The group also awarded one \$150 scholarship to a college undergraduate.

The **Southeast Alabama** association awarded one \$100 prize to Lori Adams Hodges, an outstanding graduate in the College of Arts and Sciences at Troy State University.

A REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE ΦBK ASSOCIATES

For 53 years the Associates have been providing an annual income to Phi Beta Kappa to support the Society's aims. Each regular member of the Associates now contributes \$200 annually for 10 years (to be raised to \$300 in 1994), after which time the donor enters life membership and another person is invited to join the group of 300. These contributions have been the principal source of funds for the Phi Beta Kappa Foundation, the endowment that secures the Society's future.

The Associates Lectureship program is one of the main activities of this organization. Many chapters and associations call on the distinguished speakers of these panels for public lectures, initiation banquet addresses, and honors convocation lectures. In 1992-93 some two dozen engagements were scheduled.

In May the Associates sponsored a luncheon at the University Club in New York at which William H. Luers, president of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and a former Foreign Service Officer and U.S. ambassador to Czechoslovakia and Venezuela, spoke on "Japan, Germany, and Italy: Renewing Their Reconstruction after World War II."



ΦBK Associates Lecturer David Jay Luban, Morton and Sofia Macht Professor of Law, University of Maryland Law School, is pictured (center) at Troy State University, where he lectured in May on "Lawyers' Ethics: The Adversary System and Beyond." The lecture was sponsored by the Southeast Alabama association. Also in the photograph are (from the left) Jack Hawkins, Jr., chancellor of the university, and the association officers: Emma Coburn Norris, secretary; James G. Davis, president; and Anna Smith, vice president.

In October the Associates held their annual meeting in Baltimore, which included a luncheon at the Peabody Library and a dinner at the B&O Railroad Museum where *American Scholar* editor Joseph Epstein was the speaker and psychologist and educator Kenneth B. Clark (ΦBK, Howard University, 1963) received the sixth

annual Associates Award.

I am also pleased to note that during the past year, representatives of the Associates have repeatedly been called upon to assist in deliberations about Phi Beta Kappa's future course at the highest levels within the organization.

—Richard W. Couper

HAVE YOU LOST YOUR KEY?

The Phi Beta Kappa key is a universally recognized mark of academic achievement, with the pointing finger proclaiming the wearer's commitment to the Society's principles represented in the trio of stars—friendship, morality, and learning. Each key, made today to the standards adopted by the Society some 80 years ago, is engraved with the member's name, chapter, and year of election to Phi Beta Kappa. Keys and key pins are available in a variety of sizes and styles, and each is gift-boxed.

Pictured here is the #4 key (the number refers to size), which costs \$74 in 10-karat gold, \$24 in 24-karat electroplate; the #4 key pin costs \$78 in 10-karat gold, \$27 in 24-karat electroplate. Other sizes as well as tie chains, tie tacks, and neck chains are available. To receive an order form and complete price list, write to the Treasurer, Phi Beta Kappa Society, 1811 Q Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20009, or telephone (202) 265-3808.



ASSOCIATION SECRETARIES, 1993-94

Alabama

Northeast Alabama—Dr. George E. Whitesel, 907 Second St., N.E., Jacksonville, AL 36265.

* Southeast Alabama—Dr. Emma Curburn Norris, 1857 Galena Ave., Montgomery, AL 36106-1909.

Arizona

Phoenix Area—Mrs. Doris Krigbaum, 1230 E. Loyola, Tempe, AZ 85282.

California

* Northern California—Dr. Madeleine Babin, 50 Kevin Ct., Walnut Creek, CA 94596-5427.

* San Diego—Dr. Mary M. Knight, 1256 Rancho Encinitas Dr., Olivenhain, CA 92024.

* Southern California—Mrs. Virginia L. Hornak, 5034 Palomar Dr., Tazana, CA 91356.

Colorado

Denver—Mrs. Kathleen McCormick Price, 27 Crestmoor Dr., Denver, CO 80220.

Connecticut

* Greater Hartford—Ms. Marilyn Pet, 93 Bette Dr., Manchester, CT 06040.

District of Columbia

* District of Columbia—Ms. Louise M. Rovner, 2500 Virginia Ave., N.W., Apt. 902, Washington, DC 20037.

Florida

Northeast Florida—Dr. Elinor A. Scheirer, University of North Florida, 4567 Saint Johns Bluff Rd. S., Jacksonville, FL 32224.

Sarasota-Manatee—Mrs. Martha G. Fleming, 3885 El Poinier Ct., Sarasota, FL 34232.

* South Florida—Ms. Agneta C. Heldt, 3024 Kirk St., Miami, FL 33133.

Georgia-Carolina

Coastal Georgia-Carolina—Dr. George B. Pruden, 13 Old Mill Ct., Savannah, GA 31419-2824.

Illinois

* Chicago—Prof. Nona Mary Allard, 7900 W. Division St., River Forest, IL 60305.

East Central Illinois—Dr. Jonell Comerford, Mathematics Department, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL 61920.

* Southern Illinois—Dr. Keith H. Beyler, c/o Law School, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901.

* Chartered associations. Charters are granted by the **ΦBK** Senate.

Indiana

* Indianapolis—Dr. Roger Roeske, 6815 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis, IN 46220.

Iowa

* Sioux City—Mrs. Marjorie C. Meyer, 2412 Allan St., Sioux City, IA 51103.

Kentucky

Kentuckiana—Dr. Scott D. Johnson, 4129 Brentler Rd., Louisville, KY 40241.

Louisiana

Southwestern Louisiana—Dr. Mary R. Meredith, USL Box 43570, Lafayette, LA 70504.

Maryland

Frederick County—Dr. Annette S. Thompson, 17605 Parkridge Dr., Gaithersburg, MD 20878.

Massachusetts

Newton—Dr. James T. Barrs, 4 Bay Rd., Milford, MA 01757.

Michigan

* Detroit—Ms. Carol Poosch Klein, 31720 Franklin Rd., Franklin, MI 48025.

* Southwestern Michigan—Dr. George Nielsen, Department of Mathematics, Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI 49006.

Minnesota

Minneapolis—Mr. George A. Warp, 4824 Thomas Ave., S., Minneapolis, MN 55410.

Mississippi

* Northeast Mississippi—Mr. John McGill, Jr., P.O. Box 2124, Tupelo, MS 38803.

Missouri-Kansas

* Greater Kansas City—Mr. Richard D. Woods, 1200 Main St., 28th Floor, Kansas City, MO 64105.

Northeast Missouri—Ms. Carol Race, Northeast Missouri State University, Kirksville, MO 63501.

Nebraska

* Omaha—Ms. Ann Gallagher, 2509 S. 102nd St., Omaha, NE 68124.

New Mexico

Los Alamos—Ms. Krista Steele, 597 Myrtle, and Ms. Janet Tallman, 165 La Cueva, Los Alamos, NM 87544.

New York

* Long Island—Prof. Sharon D. Abramson, Nassau Community College, Garden City, NY 11530.

* New York—Ms. Jean Golden, 382 Central Park W., New York, NY 10025.

* Scarsdale/Westchester—Dr. Gloria T. Edis, 7 Rochambeau Rd., Scarsdale, NY 10583.

* Upper Hudson—Dr. Frances C. Allee, 24 Providence St., McKownville, Albany, NY 12203.

North Carolina

Guilford County—Ms. Ann Braxton, 17 Wheaton Circle, Greensboro, NC 27406.

* Pitt County—Dr. Tinsley E. Yarbrough, Department of Political Science, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 27858-4353.

* Wake County—Ms. Sarah D. Williamson, 1801 Craig St., Raleigh, NC 27608.

Ohio

* Cleveland—Ms. Lorelei M. Romito, 757 Pipes Ct., Sagamore Hills, OH 44067.

* Toledo Area—Mr. Lyman F. Spitzer, Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, 1000 Jackson, Toledo, OH 43624.

Oklahoma

* Oklahoma City—Ms. Carolyn Horter, 2349 N.W. 121st St., Oklahoma City, OK 73120.

Pennsylvania

* Delaware Valley—Mr. Robert F. Maxwell, 12 Barley Cone Lane, Rosemont, PA 19010.

South Carolina

* Piedmont Area—Dr. B.G. Stephens, Wofford College, Spartanburg, SC 29301.

Tennessee

* Chattanooga—Prof. John Tinkler, 1012 Hanover St., Chattanooga, TN 37405.

Texas

* Greater Houston—Mrs. Nancy Garfield, 3838 Piping Rock Rd., Houston, TX 77027.

* North Texas—Mrs. Patricia A. Irvin, 5423 Hilton Head Dr., Dallas, TX 75287-7326.

* San Antonio—Dr. Matthew D. Stroud, 13703 Pebble Walk, San Antonio, TX 78217.

Virginia

* Richmond—Mr. G. Edmond Massie III, Route 1, Box 2140, Hanover, VA 23069.

Roanoke Area—Mr. Richard M. Thomas, P.O. Box 1791, Roanoke, VA 24008.

Shenandoah—Dr. Kay Knickrehm, Department of Political Science, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA 22807.

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CHAPTERS REPORT AWARDS, DONATIONS

Most of the 242 chapters concentrate on selecting new members and maintaining standards at the sheltering institutions, but some also award scholarships or other prizes and sponsor various activities. Here are some highlights from the annual chapter reports to the Society. Names of awardees have been included when they were submitted in the chapter reports, but the detail in those reports varies substantially.

Albion College—gave its Faculty Scholar of the Year award, including a cash prize, to math professor Mark M. Meerschaert. Each year the chapter gives book awards to outstanding juniors and seniors at the college and to top graduates at the local high school. This year, thanks to a gift from an emeritus member of the chapter, the top high school sophomores and juniors also received tickets to the college's lecture-concert series.

University of Arizona—gave its "outstanding Φ BK initiate" award of \$200 to Laurel Johnstone.

Baylor University—gave Henry L. Robinson Phi Beta Kappa Scholarships, which provide full tuition for a year of study at Baylor, to three juniors: Jennifer Aigner, Emily Todd, and Peter Luedemann.

University of California, Berkeley—awarded \$2,500 scholarships to eight graduate students: Sean Bates, Julie Belz, Shannon Dudley, Sarah Kupfenberg, Cecelia O'Leary, Frederick Schafter, David Silverman, and Susan Weinberg.

ASSOCIATION SECRETARIES

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Washington

Inland Empire—Prof. John Morey Maurice, Gonzaga University School of Law, P.O. Box 3528, Spokane, WA 99220-3528.

* Puget Sound—Ms. Myra Lupton, P.O. Box 84103, Seattle, WA 98124.

West Virginia

* Charleston—Mr. W. F. Mansell, Jr., 3818 Venable Ave., S.E., Charleston, WV 25304-1532.

Wisconsin

* Greater Milwaukee—Mr. Scott Enk, 3163 South 10th St., Milwaukee, WI 53215-4729.

University of Cincinnati—gave \$700 awards to the highest-ranking senior and junior initiates (the 17th annual Jean Winston and Melba Phillips Bowers prizes) and \$400 each to runners-up (Melba Wuenschel prizes).

University of Colorado—awarded the \$6,000 Crisp fellowships to Melissa Murray, who majored in English and physics, and Angela Thieman, whose major was anthropology. Chapter officers reported that they were planning a number of chapter social activities.

Denison University—gave an award to the top-ranking senior initiate, Steven Bailey.

University of Denver—raised \$1,795 to increase the pool for the annual Phi Beta Kappa Senior Prize, which went to Mary Jee Young Lee.

Elmira College—gave \$100 prizes to nine seniors and \$100 scholarships to five juniors.

Emory University—has, for the past four years, asked newly elected members to invite to the initiation banquet a faculty member to be recognized for having "helped students to excel" and for exemplifying "intellectual rigor and enthusiasm for scholarly pursuits."

Franklin and Marshall College—awarded three \$1,000 scholarships to sophomores from disadvantaged backgrounds who showed meritorious academic progress in their freshman year.

Gettysburg College—established the Charles H. Glatfelter Phi Beta Kappa Leadership Prize and made the first presentation to Timothy D. Kennedy. Glatfelter, Professor Emeritus of History at Gettysburg, was secretary of the chapter for many years.

Grinnell College—annually gives \$50 credits at the college bookstore to the three top-ranking sophomores, as well as one \$200 award and a plaque to a student for an outstanding piece of scholarly work in any field.

University of Hawaii—sponsored seven lectures during the course of the year, all of which were open to the public. The topics ranged from "The Art of Islam," by Thomas M. Klobe, professor of art at the university, to a description, by E. Allison Kay, professor of zoology also at the university, of a meeting between Charles Darwin and John Gulick of Hawaii,

NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER RECEIVES \$90,000 BEQUEST

Last autumn, the University of North Carolina at Greensboro received a bequest of approximately \$90,000 from the estate of the late Josephine Hege, a long-time member of the history faculty, to establish a fund to help student members of Phi Beta Kappa pursue academic, professional, or personal enrichment experiences. The first award will be made in 1994.

In 1993 the chapter awarded John E. Bridgers scholarships (\$1,000 each) to junior initiates Judy Shearer Adair and Tara Diane Wall, and \$100 gift certificates for the purchase of books to two sophomores with 4.0 averages.

who "contributed to Darwin's theory the important element of isolation in the evolution of subspecies."

Lake Forest College—gave its annual Φ BK thesis prize to Roger Summers, for a thesis in chemistry.

Lehigh University—chapter members are participating in the Lehigh University STAR (Students That Are Ready) Program, which aims to encourage students in grades 6–12 to improve academically, stay in school, acquire a high school diploma, and consider attending college. The program also exposes the students to new experiences on the Lehigh campus and in the community. Several chapter members served as faculty mentors/instructors during the Saturday morning and afternoon sessions in both autumn and spring semesters. The activity is described as "our chapter's response to the Harrisburg meeting" in October 1992 [reported in *The Key Reporter*, Winter 1992–93]—a "first-rate program that has been extremely well received by students, undergraduate tutors at Lehigh, faculty participants, benefactors, and parents."

Mount Holyoke College—holds an annual competition for "excellence in creative or critical work." This year Heather Winkelmann won first prize for her critical essay "Taphonomy and Paleoecology of Rhynian Chert Arthropods." Two second prizes were awarded, to Vikki Merton for her poetry collection and to Chandra Miller for an essay on poetry.

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University of New Hampshire—

has received a donation from Edmund G. Miller, retired professor of English, to establish an annual award to a junior initiate. In 1993 the award, \$600, was to be awarded to the winner of a 500-word essay contest.

Ohio University—

gave cash awards, funded by an endowment from the Thomas and Edna Wolfe estate, to the junior and senior initiates with the highest grade-point averages. Elizabeth Hill won the junior award (\$350) and Amy Lockard the senior (\$1,050).

University of Oregon—

awarded a \$300 first prize and \$150 second prize in its undergraduate essay contest, named for Stanley B. Greenfield.

Princeton University—

annually awards a \$200 Phi Beta Kappa Prize to the graduating senior with the highest grade-point average.

Purdue University—

this year for the first time, as part of the annual literary awards program directed by the English Department, provided three \$200 awards for outstanding papers by students at the high school, undergraduate, and graduate levels.

University of Redlands—

gave its triennial Morlan Award to Douglas Bowman, professor of religion. The award, given in memory of the founding president of the chapter, honors a faculty member who shows distinction in teaching, scholarship, community service, and dedication to the liberal arts. The award carries with it honorary membership in Phi Beta Kappa. The chapter also made two awards in its annual essay contest.

University of Richmond—

gave book awards to three top-ranking juniors—Mark R. Flory, James M. Joseph, and Cheryl S. Scott—and certificates of commendation to nine sophomores.

University of Rochester—

holds a Scholar Recognition Day Brunch on campus each year to honor one outstanding senior from each of 35 area public and private high schools. Students' teachers and family members are also invited to the recognition ceremony.

Rockford College—

has, for 28 years, awarded \$50 scholarships (one in each class).

Saint Olaf College—

gave \$600 scholarships, named for Henry H. and Anna Tosdal, to the top-ranking male and female seniors (Kristen A. Engelhardt and Joel B. Espelien); and

A LETTER TO PRESIDENT FERRANTE

I received a letter this summer which raises important concerns for a society that is attached to its traditions and its history, that takes pride in what it does, and that also wants to contribute to retaining and improving the quality of liberal arts education in the country. I would like to share that letter with the membership:

I have always been proud of my membership in Phi Beta Kappa and glad to support in some small way its work and the welcoming of young new scholars. Lately, however, I see in the Society a quiet drift to a conservative stance that makes me very uncomfortable. I say this knowing that I have not reviewed all the literature of the Society, and I hope I am wrong. But I do not see, in the book awards or in the rhetoric, much inclusion of the valuable critique being offered the arts and sciences by new perspectives of gender, race, class, and postcolonial inquiry, to mention four arenas where assumptions that many of us formerly took for granted are called into question.

I do not want Phi Beta Kappa to become a dinosaur clinging to the edge of the slime pit while other more tenable forms of life survive around it. We are a community of scholars, and I hope as such we welcome those unsettling questions that make us reexamine all that we were taught. I have nothing to nominate, but only hope to see among the book awards some challenging feminist critique or postcolonial analysis, and to hear in the Society's rhetoric some stimulating dialogue about the real and provocative confrontation that is taking place between Western civilization privilege and prejudice and the rest of the world's experience. We are in exciting times—the Chinese curse embodied—and it would be sad to see a society dedicated to liberal education retreat into championing only those endeavors that correspond to past models.

... I would like to believe that Phi Beta Kappa is capable of promoting the best in arts and sciences efforts, and I am convinced that to be the best of the best today, one must engage in the current debates and be informed by new, invigorating perspectives. It comes down to questioning what matters, and that is the most painful question we face. It is also the most powerful.

In a funny way the destruction of "Western civilization" as we and the founders of Phi Beta Kappa have known it may be a good thing! I hope a liberal education today can raise that question, and that Phi Beta Kappa, an organization formed in a radical environment in a revolutionary society, can as well. This is not a canon question, or a multicultural question, or a women's question, or an affirmative action question, in my mind, because all of those popular movements seem to get solved by including a representative example of the group du jour and returning to business as usual. This is a question of whether a society devoted to intellectual investigation can embrace scholarship that shakes its own foundations. Certainly Phi Beta Kappa should be able to do that.

I too think that Phi Beta Kappa can "embrace scholarship that shakes its own foundations"—that is the kind of scholarship that advances learning in the liberal arts as in all fields of study. The liberal arts have been changing slowly but continuously through the many centuries of their existence, and must continue to change if they are to remain alive and productive. How we can absorb those changes and retain what we value in the disciplines is something we must all be thinking about. Indeed, we plan to have a panel discussion devoted to this question at the triennial Council next August in San Francisco. Meanwhile, we welcome comments from our members on these or any other points of concern to them and the Society.

—Joan M. Ferrante, President, Phi Beta Kappa Society

gave \$300 awards, named for Albert E. and Marion Finholt and John M. Bly, to three top-ranking juniors: Mark S. Deretich, David C. Horstmann, and Mark A. Pearson.

University of South Carolina—

annually hosts a reception for Phi Beta Kappa members who are not associated with the university but live in the Columbia area. This year the chapter commissioned and had installed a large bronze ΦBK key, with a dedica-

tion plaque, at a prominent location on campus.

University of South Dakota—to introduce new students to Phi Beta Kappa, annually participates in the freshman tea hosted by the university president.

Stanford University—gave its annual Phi Beta Kappa teaching award, selected by junior initiates, to Robert Waymouth, assistant professor of

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CHAPTERS REPORT

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chemistry. The \$1,500 prize and plaque are funded by a gift from the Amoco Foundation. The first recipient, in 1991, was David Brady, of the Business School and political science department. The recipient in 1992 was Jody Maxmin, of the art and classics departments.

Swarthmore College—awarded its \$1,500 fellowship to Carolyn Fay for graduate study in French literature.

Vanderbilt University—awarded two \$100 prizes for outstanding papers written for the freshman seminars, one in the autumn and one in the spring. Junior initiates judge the papers.

Vassar College—awarded to Lisa Gustavson the annual Phi Beta Kappa Prize (\$50 cash), which recognizes the senior with “the strongest academic record.”

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University—sponsors two luncheons with speakers for members and guests, gives a \$500 essay prize, and presents bookstore gift certificates to top scholars at the county’s high schools. This fall the chapter will establish a visiting scholars speakers bureau for area schools.

Wake Forest University—annually presents the Carlton P. West Prize, named for the long-time secretary-treasurer of the chapter, to the senior with the highest grade-point average. The chapter also uses the proceeds from the George Washington Green Memorial Fund to support the Visiting Scholar program at Wake Forest.

Washington and Lee University—annually presents an award to the sophomore with the highest grade-point average at the end of the fall term.

Washington University (St. Louis)—annually makes a book award to one or two students to recognize outstanding work in their freshman year.

College of William and Mary—initiated two new awards this year: Elizabeth Outten Badavas won the \$500 scholarship established in the name of Col. William Lamb, who was instrumental in reviving the chapter in 1893; this award provides financial assistance to a senior “who has shown excellence in self-expression and

RECOMMENDED READING

BOOK COMMITTEE

Humanities: Frederick J. Crosson, Robert P. Sonkowsky, Jean Sudrann, Lawrence Willson

Social Sciences: Earl W. Count, Richard N. Current, Leonard W. Doob, Thomas McNaugher, Madeline R. Robinton, Catherine E. Rudder, Anna J. Schwartz

Natural Sciences: Ronald Geballe, Russell B. Stevens

Richard N. Current

Sojourner Truth: Slave, Prophet, Legend. Carleton Mabee. New York Univ., 1993. \$35.

Once a slave in New York State, she took the name Sojourner Truth after she was freed and became a traveling evangelist. “Despite her poverty and illiteracy, despite being black in a predominantly white society, despite the customary pressure at that time [1797–1883] for women to remain passive, she significantly shaped both her own life and the struggle for human rights.” Much of what has been written about her is more or less legendary. This biography, thoroughly researched and carefully annotated, gives a truthful and respectful account of a remarkable woman and her place in American history.

Ethnicity, Race, and American Foreign Policy: A History. Alexander DeConde. Northeastern Univ., 1992. \$32.50.

DeConde’s central theme is that “while ethnoracial considerations have always had an influence on foreign policy, only in specific circumstances can they be considered

oratory through public speaking activities at the College.” Cheryl Lynn Granger, a double major in physics and biology, won the Chappell Prize for Outstanding Achievement; this award is funded by an endowment created by R. Harvey Chappell, former rector of the college, in honor of his wife, Ann Callahan Chappell; both are 1948 members of Phi Beta Kappa. Bonnie Lynn Powell won the \$250 McCulley prize awarded annually to a humanities graduate. The annual faculty award for the advancement of scholarship went to Francie Cate-Arries, associate professor of modern languages, who is studying the relationship of Garcia Lorca and his writing to the art and texts of Salvador Dali.

decisive.” The most influential ethnic group, he argues, has always been the “Anglo-American,” which he views as maintaining a separate identity rather than forming the nucleus of an assimilative nationality. In recent years Jewish Americans have been able to “direct the course of policy-making in the Middle East.” Irish Americans have been less successful in their efforts to get U.S. support for the Republican cause in Northern Ireland. In elaborating on these and kindred topics, DeConde casts new light on the diplomatic history of this country.

The Promise of the New South: Life after Reconstruction. Edward L. Ayers. Oxford, 1992. \$30.

“This book tries to convey some of the complexity of experience in the New South,” the author announces, referring to the period from the late 1870s to the early 1900s. He succeeds admirably in bringing to life the southerners of that generation, white and black. Here, related in vivid detail, are their responses to economic, social, and political change, which culminated in the final disfranchisement of African Americans. The scope is broader than that of C. Vann Woodward’s *Origins of the New South* (1951), and although this book does not replace that classic, it must take a place beside it as an indispensable supplement.

American Home Life, 1880–1930: A Social History of Spaces and Services. Ed. by Jessica H. Foy and Thomas J. Schlereth. Univ. of Tennessee, 1992. \$34.95.

Nine women and two men here discuss aspects of the American home during a time of rapid industrialization. They deal with house design, the decline of the parlor, children’s rooms, home libraries, beds and bedrooms, family worship, gardens, housework, home utilities, and domestic service. All the chapters fit well together to form a cohesive and in-

formative collection, the informativeness and attractiveness of which are enhanced by 78 well-selected illustrations.

Gunfighter Nation: The Myth of the Frontier in Twentieth-Century America. Richard Slotkin. *Atheneum*, 1992. \$40.

With this 850-page volume, Slotkin completes a colossal work, a trilogy that analyzes frontier mythology and its relation to American history from 1600 to the present. The myth, as he sees it, is the belief that civilization advances through violence, through the forcible conquest of the uncivilized. For the 20th century, he examines this theme as it appears in an amazing variety of sources, ranging from the careers of Theodore Roosevelt and John F. Kennedy to the exploits of Jesse James, the novels of Zane Grey, and the movies of John Wayne. Defeat in the Vietnam War, he concludes, "ruptured the very foundation of our public mythology" and thereby caused an unprecedented "crisis of confidence," which victory in the Gulf War failed to overcome.

Intellect and Public Life: Essays on the Social History of Academic Intellectuals in the United States. Thomas Bender. *Johns Hopkins*, 1993. \$31.95.

The "boundary defining the borders of academe," Bender observes, "has become firmer and less permeable" than it once was, when prominent academics thought of themselves as responsible citizens and reformers rather than merely members of a profession. Three of his essays treat specific intellectuals who took an important part in the discussion of public affairs—E. R. A. Seligman, Charles A. Beard, and Lionel Trilling. Other essays are concerned with such subjects as "The Culture of Intellectual Life" and "Academic Knowledge and Political Democracy." On all the topics the author, an expert in both intellectual and urban history, offers thoughtful and original insights.

Catherine E. Rudder

Sharing Power: Public Government and Private Markets. Donald F. Kettl. *Brookings*, 1993. \$22.95.

To say that a book on contracting public work to the private sector is compelling may seem an exaggeration, but the four case studies in this

volume—from cleaning up toxic wastes to producing nuclear weapons—are just that. Kettl examines the simple, intuitively appealing notion that allowing private vendors to compete to run public programs leads to cost-effective, efficient government. Not surprisingly, imposing this "competition solution" seems to substitute one set of problems for another. For competition to work, private workers cannot merely be substituted for public ones. There must be enough appropriately trained bureaucrats to negotiate the contracts with the private sector and independently oversee and evaluate the work. Moreover, for such privatization to be successful, the conditions of a market model must be met—an unlikely prospect for many matters in which the government is involved. If Vice President Albert Gore wants to make "reinventing government" more than a slogan, he and his deputies should read this book, as should anyone who wants to understand some of the problems besetting the administration of government in the United States these days.

The Congressional Experience: A View from the Hill. David E. Price. *Westview*, 1992. \$16.95.

Elected to Congress in 1986 from the Fourth District of North Carolina (Raleigh–Chapel Hill), Price taught political science at Duke before entering electoral politics. A highly respected scholar of political parties and Congress, Price is well positioned to report on how Congress works and to correct the public's misimpressions of that institution. This is a personal account informed by a lifetime of scholarship and political activism. Price discusses his decision to run for Congress (without independent wealth), the difficulties he faced in his campaigns, and his experiences as a new member of Congress. He shows the reader how a newcomer can affect legislation, discusses political strategy, and demonstrates the multiplicity of sources of support required by a successful proposal. Price is at his best in answering questions that are of interest to observers of contemporary politics, such as how political parties can be weakening in the general electorate while remaining such a powerful organizing force in Congress, with party voting steadily increasing since the early 1970s. He thoughtfully reflects

on the budget process, congressional ethics, and representation. His brief essay on "What Sort of Member Shall I Be?" is worth the price of the book.

Inside Campaign Finance: Myths and Realities. Frank J. Sorauf. *Yale*, 1992. \$30.

If those who would reinvent government should read Kettl and those who denigrate Congress should read Price, anyone who wants to revise the federal campaign finance laws must study Sorauf. Not an apologist for the current system of funding campaigns, Sorauf nevertheless will not tolerate simplistic assertions that Congress is "bought" by large campaign contributors or political action committees. After scrupulously examining the available evidence, Sorauf recognizes that congressional challengers are able to raise much less money than incumbents because of the enormous advantages of name recognition and constituency support incumbents build through the effective use of perquisites of office. Public financing of campaigns would redress the asymmetry, but the public does not support this solution. The best hope for significant reform, Sorauf concludes, is that it will emanate, as it has in the past, from "the aftermath of great and disillusioning events" (p. 246).

Thomas McNaugher

We Were Soldiers Once . . . and Young. Harold G. Moore and Joseph L. Galloway. *Random House*, 1992. \$25.

After Tet: The Bloodiest Year in Vietnam. Ronald H. Spector. *Free Press*, 1993. \$24.95.

The country was indeed young in November 1965, when helicopters dropped Lieut. Col. Harold Moore's battalion into the enemy-infested Ia Drang valley. But Moore's troops were old and well trained, at least in comparison with those who followed; some had even seen combat in World War II and Korea. Above all, they fought with a sense of purpose born of popular support for their effort. And fight they did, savagely, starting only seconds after their arrival. The battle roared on for two days, grinding up hundreds of lives before the Vietnamese withdrew. Moore's troops were replaced by two other battalions, one of which was then mauled in vi-

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cious hand-to-hand fighting as it marched through the jungle to a nearby landing zone.

These battles constituted the first major U.S. military engagement in Vietnam. Moore and Galloway, a journalist present for much of the battle, tell the Ia Drang story in prose that is as riveting as combat, and with insights gained from recent interviews with their North Vietnamese adversaries as well as their own reflections. Their book honors fallen soldiers on both sides, while reminding readers that for a time this was a professional's war, fought with skill, tactical ingenuity, and broad public support.

But not for long. Spector seems to be reporting from a different planet when he picks up the story early in 1968. The Army is beginning to fracture from tensions between races, between lifers and short-timers, and between supporters and opponents of the war. Inexperienced sergeants have replaced Moore's "three-war men," while rotation policies ensure that commanders are uniformly inexperienced in combat. By official standards Tet itself is a "victory" because more Vietnamese than American blood is spilled. But the public is having none of it; Tet 1968 pulled the plug on popular support for the war.

Spector ranges far beyond military commentary, or even the year after Tet. Indeed, this may well be the best and most comprehensive critique of the U.S. effort in Vietnam yet to appear, and certainly one of the most readable. Spector looks everywhere—at tactics, strategy, personnel policies, logistics, public support, politics in Washington and Saigon—and everywhere he finds disarray, frustration, corruption. It all rings true; to this former U.S. Army adviser, for example, Spector's assessment of the U.S. advisory effort is remarkably comprehensive and perceptive.

Obviously these are completely different books, yet they are oddly complementary. Moore's soldiers fought bravely but were quickly withdrawn after the battle; the traditional Army objective of seizing territory had no meaning in Vietnam. The high enemy casualties inflicted by Moore's troops helped guide American officials to the alternative strategy of bleeding North Vietnam into submission, yet this strategy moved the American public

to moral outrage long before it hurt the North Vietnamese. Spector lucidly documents the corrosive effects of the strategy on the nation and its military less than three years later. Spector gives myriad reasons why Moore's troops and those that followed fought and died in vain. But Moore and Galloway remind us that America's soldiers often fought well and died gallantly. Both points are valid, and both need to be taken together.

Earl W. Count

Uncovering the Past: A History of Archaeology. William H. Stiebing, Jr. Prometheus Books, 1993. \$24.95.

Archaeology is human history told by things—the story of how that history has been and is being spaded and dredged up or drawn forth from monuments that have still escaped the need of spade or dredge. Archaeology gestated from the mid-15th century to circa 1860 (Phase I), when it passed through treasure troving and antiquarianism. At the stiff price of destroying much contextual evidence it came to realize that many an artifact was eloquent of history. Archaeology elaborated its techniques, tactics, and strategy. Phase II (ca. 1860–1925) embraced the evolutionism that pervaded the climate of other sciences—paleontology, geology, bioanthropology. In Phase III (ca. 1925–60) a matured archaeology marshaled new theoretical questions and borrowed the techniques of other sciences (e.g., dating by radiocarbon). In Phase IV (ca. 1960–) it quests for laws of cultural evolution and thus looks to the future.

Archaeology has been rich in events. The author relates some with an even simplicity: Herculeum, Napoleon in Egypt, Schliemann in "Troy," Angkor, Antikythera, La Tène dredging, the raising of the *Vasa*. Although this book was originally intended for college students, it deserves a wider audience.

Making Silent Stones Speak: Evolution and the Dawn of Technology. Kathy D. Schick and Nicholas Toth. Simon & Schuster, 1993. \$25.

Homo faber: 4 million years old. *Homo sapiens sapiens*: 1 million years old. Technology: more than 2 million years old (Olduvai flint—see p. 79)—a moment in a 15-billion-year cosmos (see p. 26).

Two happy young members of *Homo faber*, *sapiens* species, sweaty,

CORRECTION

In the article "Ethical Issues in Organ Transplantation" by Dr. Carl Greiner (*Key Reporter*, Summer 1993), the reference to the pioneer transplantation surgeon (p. 9, col. 2) should have read Joseph E. Murray.

dirty, sometimes battered, dig out the specimens (mainly at Olduvai); replicate them to explore how they were made; and then apply them to butchering kills. (The evolutionary ancestry of humans was carnivorous a couple of million years before they first suckled.)

The dawn of technology is much older than *Homo sapiens sapiens*. Flint is everlasting, other instrumentation is not. But the dawn of symbolopoea, speech, belief, burial, art? Meanwhile, go join your happy conspecifics in their sweat, dirt, bruises.

History from Things: Essays on Material Culture. Ed. by Steven Lubbar and W. David Kingery. Smithsonian, 1993. \$49.

Homo faber, recent. Human artifacts have countless forms, and they speak myriad languages to archaeologists, antiquarians, folklorists, historians of technology, culture historians, and others. But can these aficionados speak to each other? The contributors to this symposium, multilingual themselves, say yes. Artifacts have their intrinsic histories, always set in a wider context. Teapots, ancient Chinese bronzes, formal gardens that set a pattern, the multiple architectures of a town, machines. But let us stand this argument on its head. A thing may disclose itself to you if you already know the history of its progenitors. Now, bona fide historians conventionally confine themselves to written documents and miss much, for documents are selective and only more or less reliable. Things, per contra, are incontrovertible, but their silent eloquence demands that you know how to read them.

An Archaeological Guide to Mexico's Yucatán Peninsula. Joyce Kelly. Univ. of Oklahoma, 1993. \$19.95.

You are an armchair venturer? Here is your archaeological guide to Yucatán. The Maya antedated the Aztec by centuries; they were declining well before the Aztec spied an eagle perched on a cactus. Their declining greatness could yet play guru to an inchoative greatness.

Kelly—a canny and quite practical venturer (she has visited all 90-odd places she describes)—furnishes mundane information that conventional guidebooks may skip: advice on personal things to take; on the availability of servicing for vehicles; on the sources of maps and other road information. Every site has a photograph, a terse description, and a rating from four stars to zero on how worthwhile a visit will be.

Anna J. Schwartz

Openness and Prosperity: Essays in World Economics. *Herbert Giersch. MIT, 1993. \$45.*

This collection of 20 papers gives American readers an opportunity to savor the ideas of a leading German economist. Giersch describes himself as in favor of free trade, limits to government, and openness not only with respect to the outside world but also toward the future. The first group of papers deals with economic growth, structural change, and employment that reflect the emphasis on entrepreneurship, innovation, and production of knowledge associated with the work of Joseph Schumpeter, the Austrian economist who moved to Harvard shortly before Hitler came to power. The second group of papers shifts to monetary policy, inflation, and exchange rates.

The Multinational Paradigm. *Robert Z. Aliber. MIT, 1993. \$27.50.*

The multinational paradigm refers to the choice between centralized and decentralized approaches for the multinational company with respect to the location of its plants, the marketing of its products, and the source of its finance. The author discusses this framework for individual firms within the context of the rates of economic growth of different countries. He evaluates theories of direct foreign investment that were developed in the late 1960s and early 1970s when U.S. firms were expanding their output in plants they established or acquired abroad. The goal is to see how well these theories explain foreign investment in the United States in the early 1980s by firms headquartered in Britain, Japan, and other countries. The theory of direct foreign investment the author offers highlights the difference between changes in the national location of investment and changes in the national identity of firms undertaking the investment.

I enjoyed Professor Derek Bok's recent article [Spring 1993] on the career choices of Phi Beta Kappa graduates. I share Professor Bok's concern about the fact that talented graduates aren't being lured into certain positions that need qualified, intelligent workers; however, whereas Bok is concerned about government service, I am concerned about social services.

I am a 1992 Phi Beta Kappa graduate from Holy Cross, and I work as an employment counselor at Samaritan House of Atlanta, a day agency for homeless people who are looking for full-time, permanent employment, stability, and a way off the streets and out of homelessness forever.

Our approach is based on some fundamental beliefs. Homeless people don't "choose" to be homeless, as the popular stereotype suggests. Most homeless people want to work, but poor education, drug and alcohol abuse, economic downturn, and other factors have placed them in a desperate situation. Most important, homeless people should not simply be placed in jobs or have all their apparent needs met, because such actions can perpetuate dependence and cyclical poverty.

Samaritan House's approach helps homeless people help themselves. We provide the resources and support services that homeless job-seekers need to find their own work—showers, clean clothing, storage facilities, tele-

phones, voice mailboxes, drug and alcohol counseling, and employment counseling. Each guest is responsible for submitting at least 15 job applications and for meeting with a counselor each week, attending employment readiness workshops, dealing with any drug or alcohol problem, developing a budget and finding housing once he or she starts working.

Our program tries to place structure in lives that may have had none for years; we try to foster responsibility, self-esteem, and independence. And the program works; in 1992, 300 homeless people entered Samaritan House, with more than half finding jobs and housing and moving along the road to stability.

The challenges, problems, and opportunities encountered in this, and any other, social service position demand the intelligence, strength, and innovation that Phi Beta Kappa members can provide. Many of the troubles with public education and public welfare agencies stem from the fact that such agencies are not attracting well-educated, intelligent, dedicated graduates into their fields. As talented graduates continue to enter law, business, medicine, and higher education, the social services continue to demand similarly talented persons to grapple with the unique challenges of this field.

—Christopher Serb, Atlanta, Ga.

He distinguishes between locational and ownership advantages or disadvantages.

Thus, overvaluation of the U.S. dollar in the 1960s and early 1980s led to an increasing share of aggregate investment in industrial countries outside the United States. Plants in the United States were at a locational disadvantage. U.S. investment abroad surged.

In the late 1970s and again in the late 1980s the U.S. dollar became undervalued, and the United States had a locational advantage. An increasing share of aggregate investment in industrial countries shifted to the United States, as unit labor costs fell relative to those in Western Europe and Japan. Firms headquartered abroad acquired U.S. dollar income streams at a price that U.S. companies were unwilling to pay.

The author concludes by examining the tensions between multinational companies and national governments.

World Trade since 1431: Geography, Technology, and Capitalism. *Peter J. Hugill. Johns Hopkins, 1993. \$59.95.*

The author, who teaches geography, provides a distinctive approach to the study of world economic history. He has chosen 1431 as his point of departure because it "marks the true, if halting return by Europeans to geographic expansion, an expansion that would quickly increase production, . . . and ensure a sustained five hundred years and more of European-led progress" (p. xx). After comparing his views on the development of capitalism with

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those of his predecessors, he draws connections among three phases of technology and its diffusion; geographic expansion linked to successive transport modes; and cycles in world leadership, which passed from Portugal, to Holland, to commercial and then industrial England, to the slow emergence of the United States.

Adam Smith Goes to Moscow: A Dialogue on Radical Reform. Walter Adams and James W. Brock. Princeton, 1993. \$19.95.

The dialogue the authors have imagined takes place over a seven-day period "in a governmental palace somewhere in Eastern Europe, where an American economist, invited for the purpose, is advising the leader of a newly independent country." On the first day, the economist's advice is to abolish central planning immediately, allow free markets to set prices, transfer state-owned enterprises to private citizens, eliminate the budget deficit, and stop printing money to finance inefficient state enterprises. The reforms are all to be adopted in one fell

swoop with a "Big Bang." The prime minister resists the advice because "it may produce 'shock' but without 'therapy.'" A table summarizes the differences between the protagonists of the Big Bang model and gradualism (p. 116).

In conversational style, the economist gives an account of how market solutions to the problems of transforming a command economy would work, but the prime minister argues that even Western economies depart from market solutions. The daily exchanges depict the realistic contours of both sets of economies. Up-to-date references to the literature on the Communist states in transition and on the economics and politics of market democracies also are useful.

The Coming Health Crisis: Who Will Pay for Care for the Aged in the 21st Century? John R. Wolfe. Univ. of Chicago, 1993. \$22.50.

The forecast of demographic changes in the age distribution of the U.S. population implies that transfers from the young to the old, which in the main currently finance medical care for the elderly, will be inadequate well before the year 2010, when the

baby boom population gets old. If the existing system is maintained, the choice then will be between increasing transfers per worker or decreasing transfers per aged citizen. The author's preferred solution is for baby boomers and succeeding generations to increase their saving in order to offset cuts in transfers and guarantee decent care for themselves after retirement.



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