The University of Iowa
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
NEWSLETTER

Annual bulletin of items concerning the scholarly and professional interests of both faculty and doctoral graduates.

1978-79 Number 64

News

The University of Iowa Studies in History has been begun by the department, to be published by the University of Iowa Press. A number of manuscripts were received and read this year, and initial recommendations have been made to the press for what it is hoped will be a distinguished series. The department continues to solicit manuscripts from all fields of historical scholarship, and Iowa graduate alumni are urged to keep the series in mind if they have or know of significant works.

The Third Conference of Polish and American Historians (nicknamed "LoWarsaw III"), sponsored by the department together with the Polish Academy of Sciences and Poznan University, was held in Poznan, Poland, from May 27 to June 1, 1979 around the subject "Nationality—Society—State from the Sixteenth to the Nineteenth Century." A dozen papers were presented by both Polish and American scholars, including three from this department—Professors Jaroslav Pelinka, Ralph Giesey, and Malcolm Rokhburg. Jaroslav Pelinka has been an organizer of this series of conferences, the first of which was held in Poland in 1974 and the second at Iowa in 1976 and is also arranging publication of the proceedings.

The Center for the Study of the Recent History of the United States was organized in order to take advantage of the rich documentary sources for the study of twentieth-century American society housed at the University, the State Historical Society, and the Hoover Presidential Library at nearby West Branch. The center has already published A Guide to Resources for the Study of the Recent History of the United States in the Libraries of The University of Iowa, the State Historical Society of Iowa, and in the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library, compiled by Boyd K. Swigger (Iowa City: The University of Iowa Libraries, 1977, $10 cloth). In March 1979, the center sponsored its first conference, "Three Progressives from Iowa: Gilbert Hansen, Herbert Hoover, and Henry Wallace," to which college teachers of recent U.S. history from throughout Iowa were invited. Members of the history faculty serving on the center’s steering committee are Ellis Hawley and Lawrence Gelfand.

A Study of the Status of Historical Instruction in Iowa Secondary Schools has been undertaken this past year by Professors Hawley and Gelfand along with Robert Fitch from the College of Education, William Carroll and William Heywood from Cornell College, and Allan Jones and Philip Kintner from Grinnell College. Drawing upon comprehensive data supplied by the State Department of Public Instruction, extensive surveys covering all history teachers of grades 9-12 in the state and all superintendents, along with North Central Association periodic reviews, and interviews with teachers and school administrators, the study focuses on several broad areas of concern: the preparation and certification of history teachers, the relationship of history instruction to the social studies and to such other educational and extramural activities as coaching in which large numbers of history teachers are involved; the status of the required course in U.S. history as well as the qualitative and quantitative condition of the world history and other elective historical courses. The project, scheduled for completion by the end of 1979, has been financed through a grant administered by University House of The University of Iowa.

Walter Ross Livingston

WALTER ROSS LIVINGSTON, professor emeritus in the Department of History and member of its faculty since 1925, died at the age of 83 on December 30, 1978, in Iowa City. In the absence of that distinctive, booming voice, his dynamic and regular presence putting on the ubiquitous, cheap cigar, the atmosphere in Schaeffer Hall has been significantly altered. Ross was one of those rare, yes, unforgettable characters, sometimes outspoken, always candid, who was as concerned about the welfare of the world and the nation as he was about his adopted Iowa and this University. In his later years, he seemed to roam about the campus enjoying the role of elder statesman familiar with the struggles of the past but forever curious about the happenings of the History Department, the college, and the entire institution.

Ross Livingston was born in Miller County, Missouri, on October 14, 1893. His rural origins continued to be a matter of personal pride, for he kept in touch with agriculture through physical labors which he actively performed on his Missouri farm until his last years. Ross received his collegiate training at Knox College before proceeding to the University of Missouri and then to the University of Wisconsin from which he received his doctorate. Soon after joining The University of Iowa’s History Department, he began to lecture in the several courses which would bring him continuing popularity among undergraduates: American Constitutional History, American Diplomatic History, as well as his preferred interest, the History of the British Empire and Commonwealth. It was in this specialty that Ross’s teaching, his many loyal graduate students, and his scholarship brought him and the University international distinction. Ross’s scholarly publications were mainly concerned with the constitutional development of responsible government in the overseas British world.

During the First World War, Ross had served as an aerial observer. In the aftermath of Pearl Harbor, he returned to military service. Among other responsibilities, he became historian of the Eighth Air Force and later commanded a military government group in Germany. Before leaving the active air force, he was attached to General Carl Spaatz’s staff where he was
commissioned to prepare a history of the strategic bombing missions. When completed, the history was immediately classified. Only in the 1970s was the classification lifted, and at the time of his death Ross was busy engaged in revising the project for general publication.

Ross Livingston continued his study and research, traveling to New Zealand, Australia, and Canada in the late 1920s and early 1930s. He attended the British Imperial Conference held in Ottawa in 1932. Throughout these travels, he made many lasting friendships with government leaders, relationships which he would put to good use when he would later arrange for The University of Iowa Library to become a depository for government publications of all the Dominion and many colonial governments. Now, our library’s vast collection of government publications from Canada, India, Australia, New Zealand, and Africa, which continues to increase unabated, constitutes one of the finest collections covering the Empire and Commonwealth countries available anywhere. The collection is a tribute to Ross’s vision and continues as a living memorial to its founder.

In recent years, many scholars from throughout the world have come to Iowa City for research in these valuable and accessible records.

Before his retirement from our faculty in 1962, Ross Livingston directed 13 doctoral candidates’ dissertations. Among his students were government administrators, college and university presidents, and probably the most distinguished scholar in British Empire studies in our current generation, John S. Galbraith of the University of California, Los Angeles. Ross was very proud of his “boys” as he affectionately referred to them. After retiring from regular teaching, he continued to be active. He accepted temporary appointments at Coe College, Creighton University, Los Angeles State University, Wake Forest College, and the University of California, Los Angeles. Those of us who knew him well will long remember Ross Livingston.

LAWRENCE E. GELFAND

The Faculty

R. DAVID ARMOUR completed the manuscript of his book on the Chinese sociologist Fri Xiaoting and wrote an introduction to an anthology of literature of the Hundred Flowers Period, edited by Hualing Nieh. He gave a talk in March to the Luce Foundation Seminar on American-East Asian cultural relations at the University of Chicago and has become a regular member of that seminar. He has been awarded an ACLS Mellon Fellowship for Advanced Language Study and Research in East Asia and will spend 1979-80 in Japan.

WILLIAM O. AYDELOTTA chaired a session at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Association in November 1978 and two sessions at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association in December 1978. He has just concluded a three-year term on the board of editors of the American Historical Review. He has been elected vice-president of the Social Science History Association and will serve as president in 1980. He has completed service on the Panel on Privacy and Confidentiality as Factors in Survey Response, under the auspices of the National Academy of Sciences. The report of the panel, to which he contributed a dissenting opinion, is now in press and will appear shortly.

T. DWIGHT BOZEMAN has been appointed to the editorial board for the Journal of the American Academy of Religion. He was a lecturer in September and October in Iowa Humanities Board programs covering “Religion and the Public Schools”; he was the “historian” for programs in Dubuque and Mason City. He continues work on a book on puritanism.


LAWRENCE E. GELFAND participated in the Conference on the Presidency at Springfield, Illinois, and in a panel discussion at the Iowa Council for the Social Studies at Des Moines. He delivered a paper, “Woodrow Wilson and the ‘Revolution’ in American Foreign Policy, 1916-1920,” at the American Historical Association in December. He is editor of the forthcoming Herbert Hoover: The Great War and Its Aftermath, to be published by the University of Iowa Press in September. He continued as a member of the council of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations and as a member of the grants committee of Truman Library Institute. He chaired the Binkley-Stephenson Prize Committee for the Organization of American Historians. He became a member of the board of editors for Diplomatic History. He serves as vice-president of the UI Faculty Senate and will be president next year.

RALPH E. GIESSEY, who was on leave in the fall, gave a paper on Ernst H. Kantorowicz at a conference, “Historians of Modern Europe,” in Binghamton, New York, and chaired a session at the AHA meeting in San Francisco. The Society for French Historical Studies held two annual meetings during the academic year; at the first, in September at Newport, Rhode Island, he headed a seminar, and at the second, in Pittsburgh in March, he chaired a session. In May he went to Poznan for the third conference of Polish and American historians to give the paper “State-Building in Early Modern France: The Role of Royal Officialdom in the Development of National Coherence before the Revolution.”

JONATHAN GOLDSMITH has completed a study, “Jewish Acceptance and Rejection of Hellenism,” for Symposium II of the McMaster University Project on Judaism and Christianity in the Greco-Roman Era: The Process of Achieving Normative Self-Definition. He continues to work on his II Macabees for the Anchor Bible. He developed two new courses—Greek-Jewish Literature and Crookedness and Immorality in Athens and Rome. Tel-Aviv University invited him to be a visiting professor, but he was unable to accept.

PAUL GREENOUGH has been on leave for the year. In the summer of 1978 he attended an NEH summer seminar at the University of Chicago on “Anthropological Models of Indian History.” In the fall, supported by a University faculty development grant, he worked on the manuscript of his book, “Prosperity and Misery in Modern India: The Bengal Famine of 1943-44.” In the winter and spring he was in India for several months on a grant from the American Institute of Indian Studies, doing research for a new project on the eradication of smallpox in India by native and European means in the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries. He will continue to gather materials for this in England his summer with a grant from the National Institutes of Health via The University of Iowa’s Research Council.
Charles A. Hale continues to serve as the department's chairman. In 1978 he chaired the AHA's Beveridge and Dunlop Prize Committee and is 1978 chairman of its conference on Latin-American history.


John B. Henneman published an article, "The Military Class and the French Monarchy in the Late Middle Ages," in the October 1978 issue of the American Historical Review. He presented a paper in Washington, D.C., entitled "Nobles, Taxes, and Privilege in France: Reflections of a Medievalist," and one in Hampton-Sydney, Virginia, on "The Liberal Arts College and the Public's View of Higher Education." In March he chaired the joint meeting of the Society for French Historical Studies in Pittsburgh. He completed a two-year term as president of the Iowa Conference of the American Association of University Professors. He continues to serve as North American secretary/treasurer of the International Commission for the History of Representative and Parliamentary Institutions and attended the meeting of that body in Antwerp in June of 1978. He has completed several substantial articles for the forthcoming Dictionary of the Middle Ages and is currently doing research on the work of Jean Foussart as part of a collaborative volume on Foussart as Historian that will be published in Britain. He continues his research on the medieval French nobility and is writing a book on the political behavior of the French military aristocracy.

Henry Horowitz continues to work on a study of the merchants of Augustan London.

Sydney V. James has an article called "The World of Roger Williams" in Rhode Island History (vol. 37, 1978), based on a lecture he gave at the Rhode Island Historical Society on the occasion of being inaugurated as a fellow of that institution. He delivered a public lecture at the University of Winnipeg, "Innocent Infamy: The Beginning of the Private Corporation in Colonial Rhode Island." He serves on the committee on women historians of the AHA, the council of the Institute of Early American History and Culture, and the board of editors of the William and Mary Quarterly. He has been awarded a fellowship at Harvard's Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History for the year 1979-80, during which time he hopes to finish another book on colonial Rhode Island.

Linda K. Kerber read a paper on "Perspectives in Women's History: The Cautionary Example of Mary Beard," at the Berkshire Conference of Women Historians, Mount Holyoke College, and chaired a panel on "Perspectives on Post-Revolutionary American Republicanism," at the Southern Historical Association's annual meeting. She was a review panelist for the NEH's summer seminar and will be program chairman for the OAH's 1980 meeting.

Sarah H. Madden gave a paper at the AHA meeting in San Francisco entitled "The Discover Politiques in Huguenot Political Thought: Resistance Right in 16th-Century France."

Jaroslaw Pielecki has been busy with the series of conferences in Polish and American historians. He was in Poland in the spring of 1978 making arrangements for the publication of conference volumes; the proceedings of the second conference, The American and European Revolutions, 1776-1840s: Sociopolitical and Ideological Rannifications, edited with an introduction and a paper by him, will be published by the University of Iowa Press on a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. He was coordinator of the third conference, held in Poznan, Poland, May-June 1979, and delivered a paper there entitled "Poland-Lithuania (1454-1573): Nobility Democracy or Tripartite Mixed Government." He also presented the paper "State and Society in Muscovite Russia and the Mongol-Turkic System in the Sixteenth Century," at the Fourth International Conference on Early Russian History held at the Free University of Berlin, June 1978.

Stow Persons has been designated Carver Professor of History; he will reside at a session in nineteenth-century conservatism at the AHA meeting in December.


David Schoenbaum has published articles on current politics and foreign affairs in the Nation, Foreign Policy, Washington Post, Christian Science Monitor, Des Moines Register, and book reviews in the Chicago Tribune's Book World. He will be in Bonn for two months this summer working on a New York Times Magazine piece on the thirtieth anniversary of the federal republic. His Hitler's Social Revolution has just appeared in France as La Révolution brune (Editions Laffont). He was commentator on a paper of Walter Laqueur's at a Holocaust conference in Seattle commemorating the fortieth anniversary of the great pogrom of 1938, the so-called Reichskristallnacht.

Alan B. Spitzer delivered a paper, "Guillaume de Bertier de Sauvigny and the History of the French Restoration," at the Conference on French Historical Studies at Pittsburgh in March. He presented a paper at Princeton on "The Frustrated Mobility of the French Generation of 1820." He has been awarded a faculty research fellowship and will spend 1979-80 at Princeton as a visiting member of the Institute for Advanced Study. He continues his research on the French generation of 1820.

Donald W. Sutherland gave a talk at Princeton on the conflict of common law with local and administrative habits in Northamptonshire (England) in 1330: "King's Law and Gentlemen's Law in the Eye of Northampotshire." The spring semester he was again on leave from teaching with the support of a project grant from the NEH to organize editing the unprinted law reports from the English eyes of 1329-1331. This coming summer he is directing an NEH summer seminar for college teachers on the topic "Freedom and the Role of Law: The English Foundations, 1300-1700."

Jonathan Walton presented a paper at the Canadian Historical Association's annual meeting. He has completed his doctoral dissertation and will receive his Ph.D. from Princeton in June.

Lynne Withey has resigned from the department. She will do historical research and write in San Francisco.

Visiting Faculty


New Graduates

Since the last issue of the Newsletter, the degree of doctor of philosophy has been conferred on the following people from
Old Graduates

ELMER ELLIS, 1930, president emeritus of the University of Minnesota, has completed his three-year term as president of the State Historical Society of Missouri and now serves on the executive and finance committees. He also works with the University of Missouri Library.

LLOYD MCNERTY, 1930, writes that he has "been retired since 1960 and enjoy in my idle time reading here and there in my excellent library."

WILLIAM J. PETERSON, 1930, who served 42 years on the State Historical Society of Iowa staff and taught Iowa history at The University of Iowa from 1930 to 1968, has two books coming out this fall. "Tea-botearing on the Mississippi" (A.S. Barnes & Co.) includes material from a log that he kept of what he saw from the pilothouse of almost two score towboats beginning in 1928. The other book is entitled "Henry Lewis and His Mississippi Panorama."

BOYD C. SHAPER, 1932, is editor of the series Europe and the World in the Age of Expansion, published by the University of Minnesota Press. Eight volumes have appeared since 1975 and two more are in progress.

CHARLTON W. TEBAU, 1933, writes that "in the third year of rather complete retirement" his only professional activity is an updated edition of his "A History of Florida" (University of Miami Press, 1971), scheduled for 1980.

EVERETT W. THORNTON, 1933, retired as professor of history at Oklahoma Baptist University in 1966 and as archivist in 1978. Since then he has been engaged in research on the history of Oklahoma Baptist University and has written two articles, one published. He is 86.

JUSTIN WILLIAMS, Sr., 1933, has a book coming out this month from the University of Georgia Press with an assistance grant from the Japan Foundation: "Japan's Political Revolution under MacArthur: A Participant's Account."

J. A. GREENLEE, 1934, is retiring as president of California State University, Los Angeles. He will be with a management consulting firm in 1979-80.

CYNTHIA KENNEDY, 1935, has had articles and a book review in the Cowen College Record, the Menomonee Weekly Record, and in the quarterly News Letter of MIBA (the Menomonee Industry and Business Associates). In October he was keynote speaker at the annual MIBA convention, Cambridge, Ontario. In July 1978 he attended the Tenth Menomonee World Conference in Wichita, Kansas, and in November he served as a delegate to the convention of the New Call to Pecosmaking of the Historic Indian Churches (Brethren, Friends, Menomines) at Green Lake, Wisconsin. In May and June 1979 he and Mrs. Heriburger are engaged in a 45-day study tour in Jordan, Israel, and a few spots in Europe.

PHILIP D. JORDON, 1935, has published "The Passing of the Prairie" (with Martha Jordan Soland), in The Iowan (Spring 1979), and "The Missionary Who Fled Iowa," in Books at Iowa (April 1979). He has had book reviews in The Old Northwest, Annals of Iowa, and North Dakota History and his "Hunters of Kentucky" has been reprinted in Roger M. Berg, ed., Social Studies (Scott, Foresman, 1979). He is on the editorial board of Annals of Iowa, a trustee of the Burlington Public Library, and does local newspaper articles and talks.

WALKER D. WYMAN, 1935, retired from his professorship at the University of Wisconsin, River Falls, but has been running a newspaper course on Wisconsin folklore for the extension system. This spring the University of Wisconsin, Whitewater dedicated a campus mall named in his honor, and Illinois State University awarded him an honorary doctor of laws. His publications this year include Wisconsin Folklore (University of Wisconsin Extension, Madison, 1979), Mythical Creatures of the U.S.A. and Canada (University of Wisconsin, River Falls Press, 1979), and book reviews in Wisconsin Magazine of History.

HAROLD T. HAGG, 1938, professor emeritus of Bemidji State University in Minnesota, is serving on the board of directors of the Beltrami County Historical Society and as a member of the community education advisory council of the local school district. He is continuing his research on the successive frontiers of the Mississippi headwaters region.

CORNELL W. FRAGIN, 1937, received a full grant from the Maryland Research Board to do further research and writing on the battle of Midway. He gave the first lecture in the University of Maryland Departmental History Series entitled "Admiral Husband E. Kimmel and the Responsibility for Pearl Harbor."

He received the University of Maryland Student Award for outstanding teaching and has been made an honorary member of the University of Maryland Alumni Association International. The board of regents of the university has officially designated the East Asia collection in the McKeldin Library, which he acquired for the university toward the end of the occupation of Japan and which is the largest collection of materials anywhere in the world on the occupation, to be called henceforth the Cornell W. Frager Collection; he delivered the concluding address at the dedication ceremonies this spring.

HOMER L. CALEN, 1939, formerly of the Department of State's Historical Office, published "Far and Against an Union," Eire-Ireland (Winter 1978) and "Early Appointments of Blacks to the Foreign Service," Department of State Newsletter (February 1979). His Women in the Department of State: Their Role in American Foreign Affairs (U.S. Government Printing Office, 1979) is believed to be the first extensive professional study of female employees in any branch of the federal government.

MELVIN C. WISEN, 1939, has retired from the University of Toledo ("become professor emeritus as the saying runs") and moved to Everett, Washington, some 40 miles north of Seattle. The fourth edition of his The Course of Russian History has been published by Macmillan.

CARL B. COVE, 1940, has an article, "Sports History with a Kentucky Bouquet," in the Register of the Kentucky Historical Society and a book in press, When Sports Were Young, England, 1780-1835 (University Press of Kentucky), as well as book reviews in the William and Mary Quarterly, American History Review, and Register of the Kentucky Historical Society. He is on the executive council of the Southern Historical Association, director of graduate studies for the Department of History of the University of Kentucky, faculty advisor to Phi Alpha Theta, on the editorial board of the Price-Priestley Newsletter of the University College of Wales, and a member of the board of trustees of the Lexington Public Library.

ALFRED S. MARTIN, 1941, sure that the affairs of the King Fifth Wheel Company, Mountaintop, of which he is chairman and chief executive officer, would be of only passing academic interest, writes, "The only thing that I could possibly report was my appointment to the council of the Friends of the University Library."

AUBREY C. LAND, 1948, research professor at the University