Report from the Chair

1. Money (or the lack of it).

Several months before I assumed the chairmanship, the politicians in Des Moines started dealing the financial blows that have made 1980-81 a nightmare for people with budgetary responsibilities. Scarcely had Hermann Rebel’s promotion to tenure been approved than he was off to Arizona and a 48 percent salary increase. Bob Dykstra is also leaving us, for SUNY, Albany. With them goes a significant part of the department’s expertise in quantification, and our ability to continue this distinguished tradition in historical scholarship is further threatened by the elimination of University funds for data entry. We have gotten a one-year reprieve on that, but it is not clear whether we shall be able to attract quantifiers to fill the vacancies next year.

I have discovered that our general expense budget is remarkably small compared to that of history departments at other universities, and it will not be increased next year. To head off a disastrous deficit, we have cut all but five subscriptions to the Daily Iowan and have eliminated films and other audiovisual materials from all our courses except Mac Rorhough’s heavily enrolled The Frontier West in Film.

We have also had to eliminate this Newsletter from our budget. This year it will be financed by funds contributed by our alumni to The University of Iowa Foundation. We are most grateful to those of you who have sent us checks or have offered to do so. We ask you to contribute a few dollars to the History Department Gift Fund of The University of Iowa Foundation. This Newsletter has created a $300 deficit in that fund. If we get enough contributions to pay off the deficit and provide a surplus for next year, the Newsletter will continue. If not, we may have to suspend publication until our financial situation is better.

2. Stow Persons.

Even before we realized the magnitude of our financial difficulties, we knew that Stow Persons would retire at the end of this academic year. How can one begin to describe what it means to a department to lose a colleague like Stow Persons? For three decades he has been a symbol of so much of what we value in this department. I was in the tenth grade when Stow came to Iowa in 1950, the year in which he published the first edition of Evolutionary Thought in America. I was beginning my own graduate study when he was acting dean of the Graduate College at Iowa. I had just joined the Iowa faculty when he was president of the Faculty Senate in 1969-70. Since I have been here, he has won the Phi Alpha Theta prize for The Decline of American Gentility, directed the important self-study of the University in 1977-78. He became a Carver professor in 1978. And my first year as chairman was his last as a faculty member. Through all these years he has earned the respect and affection of colleagues, students, and American historians throughout the country. How we shall miss his teaching, scholarship, and wisdom.


Sad as it is to have Stow Persons retire, we feel a sense of excitement and anticipation at having Steve Pyne join the department. Our search for a new intellectual historian was long and arduous. Intellectual history has become a field of broad dimensions and we had no preconceived notions of what we were looking for. Steve Pyne majored in English at Stanford and obtained a Ph.D. in American studies at Texas. Along the way he learned a great deal about geology, and his first book, an intellectual biography of the geologist G. K. Gilbert, established him as a historian of scientific thought. He has for some years worked with the Forestry Service, notably in the area of fire fighting and he has produced a remarkable volume on the history of fire in North America that will soon be published by the Princeton Press. He will not begin teaching in the department until 1983 because he has an NEH grant for 1982 that will take him to Antarctica to study the work of geologists.

John Henneman
Faculty

R. David Arkush, back from his year in Japan, has participated in various scholarly conferences at the University of Chicago; continues his research on Chinese peasant culture before the revolution; and has published this spring a book, *Fei Xiaotong and Sociology in Revolutionary China* (Harvard), and an introduction to *Literature of the Hundred Flowers*, edited by the UI International Writing Program’s Hualing Nieh Engle (Columbia).

William O. Aydelotte concluded his term as president of the Social Science History Association and delivered his presidential address at the annual meeting of the association in November 1980. In 1980-81 he has given research papers at Grinnell College and to four different audiences at The University of Iowa.

T. Dwight Bozeman continued work on a study of puritanism. During September and October, he visited pertinent manuscript collections in the Boston area while on leave with a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship. In April he participated in a conference on science and religion sponsored by the Center Foundation and the Department of History of Science at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Jeffrey Cox completed a manuscript, tentatively entitled *The English Churches in a Secular Society: Lambeth, 1570-1930*, which will be published by Oxford University Press.

Robert R. Dykstra gave his lecture, “Urban Growth in the Prairies,” at the Organization of American Historians meeting in Detroit; he delivered “The Republican Era” at a conference, Periodization and Reform in American History, Geneseo, New York; and he read a paper entitled “The Frontier against Racialism—Iowans and the Strange Career of Jim Crow, 1838-1880” at the Seminar in American Social and Political History, American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Massachusetts. He spent the spring semester as visiting professor of history at the State University of New York at Albany and will be leaving Iowa to accept a permanent position at SUNY, Albany this fall.

Lawrence E. Gelpand was elected vice-president of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, and will serve as president in 1982. He continued to serve this year as member of the board of editors for *Diplomatic History* and as chairman of the grants committee for the Harry S. Truman Library Institute.

Ralph E. Gueck gave a two-day seminar at the Newberry Library (July 1980) on interpreting and editing of Roman law texts; gave a paper, “Models of Rulership in French Royal Ceremonial,” at the New England Renaissance Conference at Williams College (October 1980) and at the Shelby Cullom Davis Center at Princeton University (March 1981); gave a paper at the Society for French Historical Studies at Indiana University (March 1981), “Le Bret on Leue Majeste” (written in collaboration with two Iowa graduate students, Lanny Haldy and James Millhorn); and presided at a session at the AHA meeting in Washington, D.C. (December 1980) devoted to Quentin Skinner’s *Foundations of Modern Political Thought*.

Jonathan A. Goldstein should finish his volume on II Maccabees for the Anchor Bible this year. He has completed an article, “The Date of the Book of Jubilees,” and in Montreal presented his lecture “Types of Jewish Courage.” He served as informant on the meaning of the stories in Genesis and on ancient Near Eastern accounts of creation for a discussion on creation and evolution held at Trinity Episcopal Church in Iowa City.

Paul R. Greenough continues his work on a study of smallpox and malaria in South Asian history. During 1980-81 he gave papers at conferences in Iowa City and Detroit, and he participated in conferences in Cambridge and Toronto. He also served as South Asia editor for the *Journal of Asian Studies*. His book, *Prosperity and Misery in Modern Bengal: The Famine of 1943-44*, is to be published by Oxford University Press in 1982. He has been promoted to associate professor with tenure.

Charles A. Hale is on leave this year and is writing a chapter on social and political ideas, 1870-1930, for the *Cambridge History of Latin America*. He also delivered a paper, “The Científicos as Constitutionalists: Mexico’s Crisis of 1892-93,” at the Latin American Studies Association meeting in Bloomington in October 1980.


John B. Henneman, chairman of the department, has completed his six-year term as North American secretary/treasurer of the International Commission for the History of Representative and Parliamentary Institutions. He is now editing a collection of papers presented at a recent meeting of that organization in Atlanta. They will appear as a special issue of the *Legislative Studies Quarterly* in 1982. He has published reviews in *Speculum* and the *International History Review* and has completed four more articles for the *Dictionary of the Middle Ages*. He has completed much of the course work towards a degree in library science at Iowa. He led a workshop, “Faculty Responsibilities in Academic Governance,” at Parkersburg Community College in West Virginia.

Henry Horwitz has published “The Minutes of a

Sydney V. James returned from a year's leave of absence. He contributed "Religion and the American Revolution: The Development of the Federal Style in the Relations between Religion and Civil Authority" to The American and European Revolutions, J. Polenski, ed.


Sarah Hanley Madden was appointed a Davis Fellow, Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies, Princeton University, 1980-81. She has presented the following papers: "The Litt de Justice of the Kings of France: Constitutional Ideology in Legend, Ceremonial, and Discourse" (Symposium on Symbolist, Ritual, and Political Power, Princeton University); "The Making of the Litt de Justice Assembly in the Early Sixteenth Century: The Historical and Rhetorical Debate over a Constituitional Apparition" (Conference on the History of Parlements, International Commission for the History of Representative and Parliamentary Institutions, Emory University); "The Discours Politiques in Monarchonach Ideology: Resistance Right in Sixteenth-Century France" (Davis Center, Princeton University). She has written a review of Quentin Skinner's The Foundations of Modern Political Thought (Cambridge, 1978), in the Sixteenth-Century Journal, 11, no. 4 (winter 1980). She has been elected as secretary-treasurer of the International Commission for the History of Representative and Parliamentary Institutions.

Donald McCloskey was new with us this year, shared with economics, of which he is chairman. An economic historian, he taught for 12 years at the University of Chicago in economics and in history. Shortly after his arrival at Iowa he was named coeditor of the Journal of Economic History. He has been reading proofs this year on two books of essays: one by himself (Enterprise and Trade in Victorian Britain, Allen and Unwin) and another by 30 other people, edited by him and Roderick Floud (The Economic History of Britain since 1700, 2 volumes, Cambridge University Press).

Allan Megill completed two articles this past year, one of which is to appear in the forthcoming issue of Philosophy and Literature and the other in a symposium volume on Vico and Marx. He continues to work on his study of postmodernist thinkers.


Professor Pelikán served as the chairman of the session "The Nationalities Problems of the Russian Empire and the Soviet Union: Continuity and Transformations" at the Second World Congress on Soviet and East European Studies (Garmisch) 80) held in Garmish-Partenkirchen, Germany, September 30-October 4, 1980. He presented a paper entitled "Russia, Poland, and Ukraine: The Present State of Affairs and the Prospects for the Future" at a conference on Polish-Ukrainian relations held in Munich, Germany (October 6-7, 1980). Furthermore he went to Poland to attend to matters connected with the publication of the Proceedings of the Third Conference of Polish and American Historians (Poznan, 1979) and to make arrangements regarding future Polish-American scholarly cooperation and conferences (September 1980).

Stow Persons has announced his retirement as of June 1981 after 31 years in the department. He expects to transfer his activities from Schaeffer Hall to the library, where he looks forward to the life of a gentleman scholar.
HERMANN REBEL’S manuscript, “Peasant Classes: The Bureaucratization of Property and Family Relations,” was accepted for publication by Princeton University Press. He has accepted a position with the Department of History at the University of Arizona, Tucson.

MALCOLM J. ROHRBOUGH has been appointed to a three-year term on the Ray Allen Billington Award Committee of the Western History Association. He is continuing work on his history of Aspen (Colorado) during its silver mining period.

DAVID SCHOENBAUM completed a book: Zabern 1913 (Allen & Unwin, 1981). He completed an article on the dilemmas of West German foreign policy for the Wilson Quarterly in Washington and contributed reviews and short articles to the Des Moines Register, the Chicago Tribune, and the Washington Post. This summer he will journey to Lake Constance to present a paper on domestic politics of West German foreign policy to originally the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations, and will participate in an intensive course in U.S. military history in July at West Point.


DONALD W. SUTHERLAND has published an article, “Legal Reasoning in the Fourteenth Century: The Invention of ‘Color’ in Pleading.” in Morris S. Arnold et al., eds., On the Laws and Customs of England: Essays in Honor of Samuel E. Thorne (Chapel Hill, 1981). He was appointed an adjunct professor in the University’s College of Law for the year 1980-81 and taught a first-semester seminar in English legal history. In January he lectured at Cornell Law School in Ithaca, New York. From March 30 to April 3 he participated in an invitational conference on family and property in traditional Europe at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena. He has been elected a fellow of the Medieval Academy of America.

STEPHEN VLASTOS returned in August to normal teaching duties in the department after spending 18 months on leave: 6 in Berkeley as a research associate of the Center of Japanese and Korean Studies, and 12 in Kyoto, Japan, as a visiting scholar at Kyoto University. During 1980 he completed work on a book-length manuscript dealing with peasant protests and uprisings in the Tokugawa period and published a book review in the Journal of Asian Studies. This summer he will teach a course on uprisings and rebellions in Japanese history at the University of California, Berkeley.

JONATHAN WALTON presented a lecture at Coe College in February, “The Significance of Black History Week,” and served as both moderator and commentator for a panel at the Great Lakes History Conference in April.

New Graduates

Ph.D.s awarded since the last issue of the Newsletter.

Fall 1980

ARMAND ABRAZA, “Nobility in Renaissance Castle: The Formation of the Juristic Structure of Nobiliary Ideology” (Giese).

WILLIAM MILLETT, “The Irish and Mobility Patterns in Northampton, Massachusetts, 1846-1883” (Dykstra). Spring 1980


Old Graduates

We are sorry to learn of the death of GORDON W. PRANGE, 1937, who died in May 1980 just prior to his retirement from a 43-year teaching career at the University of Maryland.

We are also sorry to learn of the death of HOWARD R. ANDERSON, 1930, of Weston, Massachusetts.


WILLIAM J. PETERSEN, 1930, received the Donald T. Wright Award for effective service to inland water transportation in the United States for his two works, Tooeleboat on the Mississippi and Mississippi River Panorama.


CHARLTON W. TERBEAU, 1933, continued as editor of Tequesta, the annual journal of the Historical Association of Southern Florida. A new and revised edition of his history of Florida appeared in 1980.

JESTIN WILLIAMS, 1933, donated his extensive collection of documentary materials on the Allied occupation of Japan to the University of Maryland. He wrote two book reviews for the Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, served as an adviser to Former Members of Congress, an organization which is conducting a comparative study of the Japanese Diet and the U. S. Congress, and addressed the Woman’s Club of Little Rock, Arkansas, “What the Japanese Are Like.”

GUY F. HERSHEBERGER, 1935, in retirement in Glen-