

For Members Only

i

OLD GUARD. Since we joined the Association in 1930, by tradition we become a member of the Old Guard in 1955. Gives one a start! It might have but didn't have anything to do with our decision to quit the secretariat in September 1956. As an Old Guard we are resolved to nurture new thoughts, not harking back to good old days but continuing confident of better things in store for the MLA as it moves into the exciting years ahead. This, we are persuaded, is the proper way to respect MLA tradition; in our first years as Secretary we timidly expected the older Old Guard to oppose all changes in *PMLA* or in the activities of the Association, but we were never more wrong. In anything and everything accomplished we have enjoyed the encouragement and strong support of MLA presidents, executive councilors, and other elder statesmen. We now have more than a slight suspicion that it is the very young who are the conservatives. Fellow Old Guardians, man the barricades!

TO PRE-1917 MEMBERS. When we became Secretary in 1947, we found the MLA without archives; we have since tried to collect valuable or interesting records to bequeath to our successors. Recently we made a collection of programs of annual meetings, but discovered that in the files were none for the periods 1886-1907, 1909-16. If by good chance you have saved any of these, we should like to have them for binding.

FIFTY. Congratulations to the 10 members who have now achieved their 50th Association year: Oscar C. Burkhard (Minnesota), Hollon A. Farr (Yale), Robert A. Law (Texas), Otto Manthey-Zorn (Amherst), Charlotte F. McLean, Wilbur O. Sypherd (Delaware), Theodore W. Todd, Arthur F. Whittam (Harvard), Ernest H. Wilkins (Oberlin), and Charles Allyn Williams (Illinois), who joined in 1900 but was out for 5 years. Our membership totalled 775 in 1905, and we met in Haverford (the Central Division in Madison). It was the year of Norway's independence from Sweden, Japan's protectorate over Korea, mutiny on the *Potemkin*, the founding of Sinn Fein, and Einstein's special relativity theory. Teddy Roosevelt was beginning his second

term as President, and Edward VII was on the British throne. Men were first reading James's *Golden Bowl* and Wharton's *House of Mirth*, *The Scarlet Pimpernel* and *The Return of Sherlock Holmes*, *Major Barbara* and *Riders to the Sea*. Unamuno had just published his *Vida de Don Quijote y Sancho*, Rilke his *Stundenbuch*, Strauss his *Salome*. In the smaller world of scholarship, the *Modern Language Review* had begun (superseding the *Modern Language Quarterly*, 1897-1904), Courtney had published the first 2 volumes of his *Register of Bibliographies*, Waller had just edited Butler and Cowley and Prior, and Brandes' *Main Currents in 19th-Century Literature* had just appeared.

MEMBERSHIP. It totalled 8,043 on 27 Dec., as compared with 7,578 a year earlier, 7,236 two years ago, 6,900 three years ago, 4,253 in Oct. 1946 (when the present Executive Secretary joined the staff in the national headquarters).

THE 1954 MEETING. It was our largest, with clearly more than 4,200 in attendance. Paid registrants in Chicago in 1953 totalled 2,769; in New York in 1948, 3,049; in New York last December, 3,686. (Oddly enough, the New York meeting in 1950 had only 2,677 registrants.) After we had recovered from all the excitement (we had to spend a day in bed with a protesting stomach), we inspected our portfolio of impressions and culled a few for the record. *Item:* According to reports, many MLA members have not yet learned to use a microphone properly. *Item:* The MLA is exploring audiovisual aids to scholarship, what with a Chaucer movie, a musical program in the English Drama Group, and a visit to the Planetarium to observe some stars of literary significance. *Item:* The Information Desk broke down under the strain of messages from younger members seeking jobs. *Item:* Some speakers were deeply offended by our pre-convention admonition that they not become nuisances by exceeding their carefully scheduled allotment of time, and some were again nuisances. *Item:* Except for a rainy finale, the weather was unusually kind, even unseasonably warm. *Item:* A publisher, whose reservation arrived too late to get him a booth among the 50 dif-

For Members Only—Continued

ferent exhibitors, early in January made a reservation for the 1955 meeting. *Item:* When Arthur Godfrey, on his TV program, extended a cordial welcome to the MLA, there wasn't a single MLA member in his audience to stand up. *Item:* The jointly-sponsored AAT cocktail hour on Wednesday brought the Statler a gross and convivial \$500. *Item:* Literate as usual, at least 122 members tried to register in our office, unable to find the conspicuous and clearly marked Registration area.

RESULTS OF THE BALLOT. Elected to the Executive Council for the term 1955-58 (i.e., until the end of the foundation-supported FL Program) were Margaret Gilman (Bryn Mawr), William K. Wimsatt, Jr. (Yale), and Curtis C. D. Vail (Washington). Professor Vail was runner-up in the 1953 election. Professor Wimsatt received 1,270 of the 2,801 valid votes cast. Runner-up this year was Albert H. Marckwardt (Michigan). Elected to the 1955 Nominating Committee were Albert C. Baugh, Grace Frank, Merritt Y. Hughes, Kemp Malone, and B. Q. Morgan.

EL AMOR ET L'AMOUR. Twice within a year Cupid has groped his way into MLA headquarters. Last May we witnessed the inevitable consequences of giving persons named Don and Donna adjoining desks; this summer we shall lose both our secretary for 6 years and our Associate Secretary for 2. Our other secretary, Ann Harvey, was with us but a single year before her literal application of the FL Program led her to produce a full-length Belgian from her pretty hat. We were unsuspecting even when, early in the fall, she began to brush up on her French. (Conscientious girl, we innocently thought.) Now, as of last month, she is Mrs. Jean Somerhausen, wife of the third secretary of the Belgian Embassy in New Delhi, India. On her last day in the MLA offices she joined the Association. But she will not need to read this paragraph to know that we all wish her well.

COLLEGE ENROLLMENTS. Last Nov. the U. S. Office of Education estimated them to total 2,472,000, an all-time high and 10% higher than last year's 2,251,000 students. Subsequently, the statistics compiled annually for 35 years by Raymond Walters appeared in *School and Society* (11 Dec.), showing a 7.6% increase in total attendance (6.8% in full-time students, 9.7% in part-time). Walters' survey was limited to 846 "approved"

universities and 4-year colleges (94.5% of the list of accredited institutions compiled by the AMA's Council on Medical Education).

IN PRAISE OF IGNORANCE. Aspiring merely to knowledge is to misunderstand knowledge, which is two-dimensional, at each stage acquiring depth with proportional recognition of ignorance. Single-dimension learning is misleading, dangerous; it encourages *hubris*; unrecognized ignorance can stultify recognized knowledge. Because clearly recognized ignorance is an accurate measure of education, we should teach ignorance along with knowledge, should tell the learner what he has yet to learn. But there is another reason: the finest fruit of education is wisdom, which may be defined as a progressive realization, and acceptance, of what one does not know. This is a paradox: the wise continue to learn because they continually discover their ignorance; they love learning and escape frustration because they accept the ignorance they mean in part to remove in order to discover new ignorance. There might be fewer psychiatrists if more of us gave ignorance its due.

JOURNALS IN JEOPARDY. A member writes: "The scathing comment and the even more alarming figures in your 'Facts of Journal Publishing' (Dec. *PMLA*) are matters of much concern to all MLA members. I am sure that few of us realized the situation is so difficult, though we are all familiar with the problem of increased printing costs. . . . My preference for reading scholarly journals in the Library rather than in my own copies stems from the fact that I feel obliged to look at them all and must therefore go to the Library anyway unless I feel sufficiently wealthy to subscribe to them all. I cannot know in advance which journals will contain matters of most interest to me. I seldom read all of the articles in any journal, and I usually read something in every journal, sometimes only a book review. Yet I am sure that, if the journals came directly to me, I should be more faithful in keeping up with contemporary scholarship. Is not this the situation of most of us in the teaching profession?" Having said this, the member went on to make what we regard as an admirable suggestion (see below).

RECIPE FOR RESCUE. Let each department (or the English and FL departments in collaboration) form one or more Readers' Ex-

change Clubs to support the learned journals which are not organs of associations. Assume 20 participants. At a cost of no more than \$5 to each, 20 journals could be subscribed to (each participant getting to see first, and eventually to keep, one of his choice). With the aid of a route-slip (or large Manila envelope) containing the participants' names in alphabetical order, the journal would circulate. Each reader might put after his name the date on which he hands the journal on to the next reader. Anyone wishing a journal back for further study after it has made the rounds could so indicate. If the journals do not circulate fast enough to please the participants, a club of 20 could divide into 2 clubs of 10 each, with each person subscribing to 2 journals. The scheme has flexibility and requires a minimum of organization. But it does require that someone at each college and university take the initiative. *We urge this professionally-minded person to inform us as soon as the club has started.* We shall publish in this section news of departments which have thus come to the rescue of our learned journals.

MEMBERS' WIVES. Mrs. William R. Quynn wrote us on 30 Oct.: "In trespassing in my husband's copy of *PMLA*, I saw your note about photocopies of destroyed MSS of European libraries. *Speculum* knows about it, but you might be interested in the fact that one of your members beat the committee to this in 1947, with a gift to the archives at Orléans of some 5,500 frames of positives made from our negatives *d'avant-guerre*. As the originals and the field were mine, I got the citation, but my husband shared the idea, paid the bill, and deserves at least half the credit. Since that time, we have received many appeals for help in locating other scholars who have film. The most urgent of these comes from Chartres, where it is known that an American copied one of their most valuable MSS., the *Liber Nationis Normannie* (Parisiensis), a MS. of great beauty which was almost completely burned up in the American bombardment. We have written to people in the field without result . . ."

REJECTED AUTHORS. One wrote us in Nov.: "You recently returned to me my article . . . If you can now remember the names of the two readers, will you please thank them for me. The comments of one were especially

helpful since he pointed out an article I ought to have known but which I am ashamed to say I did not know existed. The rejection of my article has kept me from being writ down an ass, and I am duly grateful to the MLA system for saving me from that ignominy." Actually, this author had *three* readers: the second was a member of the Editorial Committee, who accepted the article for *PMLA*; the third was called in by the Editor, who had a hunch that all was not well.

GRANTS IN AID. The following were made during 1954 by the MLA's Committee on Research Activities: to Daniel C. Boughner (Evansville), \$200, for work on Ben Jonson; David C. Cabeen, \$402.69, bibliography; Norman Friedman (Connecticut), \$35, E. E. Cummings; Charles Kaplan (Roosevelt), \$153.42, Frank Norris; Richard D. Lane (Columbia), \$150, Japanese literature; Edgar Lohner (Harvard), \$300, Gottfried Benn; Robert G. Mead, Jr. (Connecticut), \$100, Spanish American literature; Marcos A. Morinigo (Southern California), \$350, literature of Paraguay; Ruth Mulhauser (Western Reserve), \$125, Philippe de Mézières; Nadine Webb Overall (Missouri Valley), \$300, translators of the Bible; Rossell Hope Robbins, \$400, ME literature; Kenneth A. Spaulding (Connecticut), \$200, Poe. Applications for grants must be made on forms obtainable from the Secretary of the Association. We especially invite applications for small sums from younger scholars at institutions where adequate research funds are not available.

INDEXING YOUR BOOK. It's the title of a 40-page "practical guide for authors," by Sina Spiker, published last year by the University of Wisconsin Press.

EUROPE NEXT SUMMER. The Cooperative Bureau for Teachers (1776 Broadway, New York 19) will again operate special flights for its members at charter rates. Visitors to Paris can purchase for 1,250 francs (\$3.57) from the Régie Autonome des Transports Parisiens (or from its New York or San Francisco offices) a special 7-day tourist ticket entitling the holder to unlimited travel on the rail and road services in Paris and its suburbs.

RENAISSANCE CONFERENCE. The first to be held in the Central States area is scheduled on 13-14 May at the University of Missouri, with special music, an art

Meetings of the Executive Council

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL met in five sessions at the headquarters of the Association in New York City on Saturday and Sunday, 13 and 14 November 1954. Present were the President (Kimball), the two Vice Presidents (Parmenter and Starck), Professors Lange, Schreiber, Simmons (Sunday only), Loomis, O'Brien, Woodhouse, Bishop (Saturday only), Lyons, Miller, French, Peyre, and Thorp, and the Executive Officers. Also present at some sessions were staff members Walsh, Mildenerger, Taylor, Dilkey, Mrs. MacMillan, and Mrs. Walsh.

I. *The Foreign Language Program.*

1. *Reports.* Reports of the Director, the Treasurer, and other members of the staff were received and discussed.
2. *Continuity.* The Council declared the essential elements of the current Foreign Language Program to be a permanent concern of the Association, eventually to be included in the annual budget. The Council also recognized that the Association may soon wish to undertake a program in the English field.
3. *Steering Committee.* It was voted that each of the five "AAT" organizations be invited to appoint an official representative to membership on this committee for the academic years 1954-56. The current appointees of the Council were reappointed for this same period.
4. *Summer workshops.* The Director was given discretionary power to seek funds from foundations for the support of summer workshops.
5. *Elementary schools.* Plans for production of a model syllabus, with accompanying materials, were approved.

II. *Financial.*

1. *Reports.* Reports of the Managing Trustee and the Treasurer were received.
2. *Managing Trustee.* Mr. Kimball stated his intention to resign at the end of 1954.
3. *Emergency Fund.* The Treasurer was instructed to credit to the Fund 5 percent of dues received.
4. *Budget.* The budget submitted by the Treasurer was approved.

III. *Appointments.*

1. *Treasurer.* The incumbent was reappointed for the term 1955-58. [Mr. Fisher has since declined the appointment.]
2. *Delegate to the International Federation.* Professor Margaret Gilman was appointed.
3. *FL Program.* Kenneth W. Mildenerger was appointed Assistant Director.
4. *Executive Secretary.* In executive session, the report of the subcommittee (Victor Lange, chairman) was received, and the problem of a successor to the incumbent was discussed.

IV. *Miscellaneous.*

1. *Annual meeting.* A plan for experimenting with placement services in connection with the 1955 meeting was approved.
2. *Council.* The spring meeting of the Council was appointed for Saturday and Sunday, 26-27 March 1955. [This was later changed to 18-20 February.]

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL met in two sessions at the Hotel Statler in New York City on Sunday, 26 December 1954. Present were all members except Professor Loomis; present also were the Executive Officers and Mr. and Mrs. Walsh.

I. *Financial.*

1. *Trustees.* The resignation of George Nettleton was regretfully accepted.
2. *Treasurer.* The Treasurer's report was accepted, and he was authorized to double the amount of fire insurance carried (to \$10,000).

II. *Appointments.*

1. *New Variorum Shakespeare Committee.* Fredson T. Bowers, 1955-58.
2. *FL Program.* The Director was empowered to appoint ad hoc committees at his discretion.
3. *Advisory Committee, 1955.* Professors French, Torrey, and Vail.
4. *Council Subcommittee on Personnel.* Professors Bishop (chairman), French, Lyons, Peyre, and Thorp.

III. *Miscellaneous.*

1. *1959 Meeting.* It was decided to hold this in Chicago.
2. *Executive Secretary.* There was lengthy discussion of possible candidates for the post.

For Members Only—Continued

v

exhibit, and 2 paper-reading sessions. Persons wishing to submit papers should send them to Charles F. Mullett (Univ. of Missouri, Columbia, Mo.) before 15 April.

HISPANIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA. It was founded in 1904 by Archer Milton Huntington to establish a library and museum for the presentation of the Hispanic peoples' culture. The Society has since published more than 650 works on Spanish art, history, and literature; its library contains more than 100,000 volumes. Located in New York City on Audubon Terrace west of Broadway between 155th and 156th Streets, the Society's 2 buildings have as neighbors the American Geographical Society, the Museum of the American Indian, the American Numismatic Society, and the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

COLUMBIA'S DEUTSCHES HAUS. It was established in 1911 as an information center for Americans, an information bureau for German academic visitors, and an up-to-date library on *modern Germany*. The gift to Columbia of Edward D. Adams, then president of the Germanistic Society of America (1905), it naturally became and has continued to be the home of the Society (Frederick W. J. Heuser, *corresp. sec.*). Located at 423 W. 117th St., New York 27, N.Y., the Deutsches Haus opens its library to the public Monday through Friday from 9 to 5; its books may also be borrowed through interlibrary loan. From 1947 to the present, aided by Rockefeller Foundation grants totalling \$78,000 and by gifts from other sources, the Germanistic Society has spent \$277,083.28 on American books and periodicals for West-German and Austrian libraries.

GRADUATE STUDENT. One wrote us recently: "After several years devoted to wishing I were a member of the MLA and, equally, to scrounging your publication from my colleagues, guiltily reading FMO when I was certain no one was looking, I have finally arranged to have the inclination and the necessary capital simultaneously. This, as you must know, is no inconsiderable achievement for a graduate student, and it was my feeling that in so doing I had mastered the requisite hurdles. However, after a careful perusal and reperusal of your inside front cover, I found myself, despite my lengthy

experience in leaping the lacunae of freshman themes, quite baffled as to the proper procedure for attaining membership." We have printed invitation forms, giving information about the MLA, which we send (in any quantity requested) to members with colleagues interested or likely to be interested in becoming members. But any person in academic life, and in the MLA field, may join with no more formality than sending us \$7 and the usual information about himself to go in our published List of Members.

1954-55 **FULBRIGHT FELLOWS.** We can now come closer to giving a complete list in the MLA field. The grantees are in English unless otherwise indicated; an asterisk before a name indicates a renewal grant: Harold B. Allen, Minnesota to Egypt; Katherine O. Aston, Syracuse to the Philippines; Elmer B. Atwood, Texas to Belgium; Robert A. Aubin, Rutgers to Malta; Joseph E. Baker, Iowa to France; Joseph Warren Beach, Minnesota to Austria; Dorothy Bethurum, Connecticut to England; Richard Beym (Spanish), Wisconsin to Egypt; Elizabeth Bowman, Chicago to Egypt; William Braswell, Purdue to Greece; Harold E. Briggs, Southern California to New Zealand; W. Norman Brown (Sanskrit), Pennsylvania to India; Everett Carter, California to Denmark; *Claude R. Colvin, Massillon, Ohio, to Egypt; Lester G. Crocker (French), Goucher to France; Robert W. Daniel, Tennessee to Greece; Robert G. Davis, Smith to Austria; Sara W. de Ford, Goucher to Japan; Charles Duffy, Akron to Germany; *David Edgell, to Egypt; Ernest E. Ellert (German), Hope to Germany; Seymour L. Flaxman, NYU to Netherlands; Horst Frenz, Indiana to Germany; Kimon Friar, Minnesota to Greece; Charles C. Fries, Michigan to Germany; *Hugh M. Gloster, Hampton to Japan; Robert M. Gorrell, Nevada to Australia; Ernest F. Haden (Rom. Langs.), Texas to Italy; Richard S. Harrell (Rom. Langs.), Clark to Egypt; Hubert C. Heffner, Stanford to England; Peter Heller (German), Harvard to Germany; Dorothy G. M. Howard, Teachers College, Frostburg, Md., to Australia; Howard E. Hugo (Comp. Lit.), Harvard to Austria; Sears R. Jayne, California to England; *Robert Jelliffe, Oberlin to Japan; John T. Krumpelmann (German), Louisiana State to Germany; *Joseph J. Kwiat, Minnesota to Germany; *Cynthia Larry, Florida to Greece; John D. Logan,

For Members Only—Continued

Michigan to Greece; Angeline H. Lograsso (Italian), Bryn Mawr to Italy; Fred W. Lorch, Iowa State College to Germany; Leonard Lutwack, Maryland to Norway; Dougald MacMillan, North Carolina to England; Allen Mandelbaum (Italian), Harvard to Italy; Charles F. McKinley, Iowa to Iraq; Howard M. Munford, Middlebury to Finland; Charles H. Nichols, Hampton to Denmark; *Lillian O'Connor, New York City to the Philippines; James E. Phillips, UCLA to Italy; Katherine Anne Porter, Michigan to Belgium; Thomas A. Riley (German), Bowdoin to Austria; Joseph Rossi (Italian), Wisconsin to Italy; *Gordon F. Schmader (Ling.), Cornell to Burma; William Schwab, Michigan State to the Philippines; *Gloria Scott, Puerto Rico to Egypt; Charles S. Singleton (Italian), Harvard to Italy; Paul M. Spurlin (French), Michigan to France; Travis Summersgill, William and Mary to Japan; Howard W. Troyer, Lawrence to Germany, W. Freeman Twaddell (Ling.), Brown to Egypt; Francis L. Utley, Ohio State to Italy; Charlotte Vaughn (German), Stetson to Pakistan; Fernand L. Vial (French), Fordham to France; and Howard P. Vincent, Illinois Tech. to France.

AMERICAN JESUIT COLLEGES. With the founding of Wheeling College (W.Va.) last year, they totalled 28. The oldest is Georgetown University (1789). The others, in order of founding: Saint Louis (Mo., 1818), Spring Hill (Mo., 1830), Xavier (Ohio, 1831), Fordham (1841), Holy Cross (Mass., 1843), Santa Clara (Calif., 1851), Saint Joseph's (Pa., 1851), Loyola (Md., 1852), San Francisco (1855), Boston College (1863), Marquette (Wis., 1864), Loyola (Calif., 1865), Loyola (Ill., 1870), Canisius (N.Y., 1870), Saint Peter's (N.J., 1872), Detroit (1877), Creighton (Neb., 1878), John Carroll (Ohio, 1886), Gonzaga (Wash., 1887), Regis (Colo., 1888), Scranton (Pa., 1888), Seattle (1891), Rockhurst (Mo., 1910), Loyola (La., 1911), Fairfield (Conn., 1945), and Le Moyne (N.Y., 1946). There is a Jesuit Educational Association, 49 E. 84th St., New York 28 (Rev. Edward B. Rooney, exec. dir.).

CATHOLIC RENASCENCE SOCIETY. Its annual symposium (topic: literary criticism today) will be held in Milwaukee on 11-12

April. For details write the Executive Director, CRS, Mount Mary College, Milwaukee 10, Wis.

SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING. The "Yale Edition" of Milton's *Complete Prose* has received, in subvention of publication, 5 grants totalling \$25,000 from the Littauer and Bollingen foundations. . . . The Rutgers University Press offers publication and an annual prize of \$1,000 for the best book-length MS on Lincoln or in the Lincoln field (deadline 1 Oct.). . . . *Transitions in American Literary History* (Duke Univ. Press, 1954) is based on the MLA's American Literature Group program of 1948. . . . Dying, Leopold II said, "I am hot," and Lepelletier said, "I am cold"—according to Edward S. Le Comte's *Dictionary of Last Words* (Philosophical Library, 1954). . . . Yale University Press's first printing of its facsimile edition of Shakespeare's First Folio was sold out before publication day ("It always pays to publish an established author," commented Yale's promotion manager). . . . Stanford's *Leaves of Grass One Hundred Years After* (published 3 Jan.) sells for \$5 instead of \$3.50 (as noted in the AAUP "forthcoming" list in the Dec. *PMLA*). . . . Harvard University Press's *Eleanor of Aquitaine and the Four Kings*, by Amy Kelly, sold 24,225 copies in 3 years, and is still selling. . . .

EXPERIMENT. To test the value of advertising in *PMLA*, we gave the University of Minnesota Press a free ad last March, and from March through Oct. the Press did no further advertising anywhere of Daniel C. Boughner's *The Braggart in Renaissance Comedy* (\$5.00). The book, published 16 April, sold 50 copies in April, 174 copies in the 7-months experimental period. We did not repeat the ad, but a few reviews and notices appeared before Nov. (Do you always remember to mention *PMLA* when you write for a book advertised in these pages?)

O MORES! In a postscript to his report on a paper, a member of the *PMLA* Editorial Committee asked us: "Have you noticed that young scholars nowadays always assume that nothing has been done on any subject? Have graduate schools given up bibliography?" This was not a plea for more footnotes—rather, a plea for more background in would-be authors.

AMERICAN TOURISTS WOOED. At least 43 official government information and tourist offices operated by 30 nations outside the Soviet bloc spent an estimated \$6,000,000 last year in a concentrated effort to gain more American friends and dollars. The offices place radio scripts, films, and speakers, and issue countless folders, pamphlets, press releases, and other publications, some very elaborate. All are registered with the Department of Justice, as required by the 1938 Foreign Agents Registration Act. Some foreign governments also employ American public relations firms. The biggest spenders are reportedly Great Britain, France, and Switzerland.

HELPFUL GESTURE. With sympathy for the work of the 43 foreign information and tourist offices that are trying to lure American tourists (see above), we offer the following statement to all with permission to reprint: Don't worry about languages while traveling abroad; there is always someone who speaks English. This advice assumes, of course, that you will limit your travels to the large cities and to high-priced hotels and restaurants, and that you will be able to pay for the English-speaking guides who await you in museums and famous castles or cathedrals. It assumes also that you have no interest in attending the theatre, in listening to the radio or reading newspapers and magazines, in understanding billboards and names of stores. Finally, it perhaps goes without saying that, while you will see in reality a thousand things you already know from photographs, you will come home as ignorant as before about what people like yourself in the lands you visited are actually thinking and feeling. Don't worry about languages while traveling abroad; language is necessary only for understanding human beings.

LP LITERATURE. In 1888, 5 years after the founding of the MLA, a spinning disk recited, in the recognizable accents of its inventor, Emile Berliner: "Tvinkle, tvinkle, liddle shtar, How I vonder vot you are. . . ." There followed a brief period in which men spoke wonderingly of a "talking machine"—then a longer period in which the sole purpose of the phonograph seemed to be the reproduction of music. Today, more and more records are talking again, bringing into

homes and classrooms the voices of poets and actors, the delights of *heard* literature. From time to time we have noticed in this section the small firms (e.g., Caedmon Publishers) which are doing laudable work in this field. Has any interested member compiled a full bibliography of literature on LP records which he might be willing to make available to the profession through the MLA?

HONORS. Merritt Y. Hughes (Wisconsin) was awarded an honorary Litt.D. by Boston University last June. . . . The first Jo Stafford Fellowship in American Folklore (\$300) was awarded by the AFS to Ray B. Browne (UCLA). . . . Sister Mary St. Irene (Mundelein) was named last year an Officer d'Académie (*Palmes Académiques*). . . . Stanley K. Coffman (Oklahoma) was last fall given an award for teaching excellence: \$500 plus \$250 to distribute among deserving students. . . . Leslie Hutson holds a newly-founded research fellowship at King's College, Cambridge. . . . The 1954 Christian Gauss Prize (\$1,000) went to M. H. Abrams (Cornell) for his *The Mirror and the Lamp: Romantic Theory and the Critical Tradition*. . . .

ADOLF BUSSE. Aged 80, he died in Germany on 8 July 1954. A life member of the MLA (joined 1905), he was a founder of the National Federation of Modern Language Teachers Associations (1915) and was the first Business Manager of the *Modern Language Journal* (1916-19, eastern representative 1919-22). Born in Berlin, he came to the U. S. in 1892, taught at Northwestern, Harvard, Wisconsin, Ohio State, and Hunter. He organized and directed the School of General Studies at Hunter in 1917, and was head of the German department there from 1923 until his retirement in 1941.

DID YOU KNOW? *Winemaking at Home* (Wilfred Funk, Inc., 1954) was written by an MLA member, though you won't find "Homer Hardwick" (the pseudonymous author) in our List of Members. . . . We have a young (wealthy?) Life Member who has asked us not to designate him in our List of Members. . . . Some 30,000,000 U. S. citizens live in 404 counties without any local libraries (to say nothing of others who lack adequate library facilities). . . . The 3 Germanists on the current Executive Council

For Members Only—Continued

(Loomis, Price, and Vail) are all teaching on the Pacific Coast. . . . It is estimated that during 1953 more than 259 million copies (1,061 titles) of pocket-sized books were published in the U. S. . . . There are more than 2,000 community symphony orchestras in the U.S. and more Americans go to symphony concerts than to baseball games. . . . The Fulbright Program is currently operating in 24 countries and executive agreements have been signed by the U. S. and 4 additional countries. . . . A stone dropped from the top of the Tower of Pisa falls a full 14 feet from the base, and since 1918 the Tower has increased its lean by 1¼ inches. . . . You may receive copies of *The Italian Scene* (in which we read the preceding item) by writing to the Cultural Division, Italian Embassy, 690 Park Ave., New York 21. . . . According to the U. S. Office of Education, 1953-54 enrollments were 26,265,000 in elementary schools (including kindergarten), 7,203,000 in high schools, 2,444,000 in colleges, and it was predicted that college enrollments would top 3,000,000 by 1959-60. . . . The UN Secretariat *News* quoted on 3 July from a preliminary economic survey which said: "There was a substantial lack of upswing, followed by a downturn of the upswing." . . . The U. S. Information agency has sent nearly 350,000 paperbacked books (99 titles) and 1,800 sets of clothbound books, all representative of American life and thought, to its posts in Asia. . . . To restore the humanities to their original place at the center of academic life, Princeton (with a \$250,000 Carnegie grant) has established a Council of the Humanities. . . . A reader of Hansard's reports that Sir Winston, in his parliamentary speeches, quotes Pope and Tennyson more often than he does other authors. . . . The editorial office of *Interim*, the literary magazine described in the Directory issue (p. ii), has moved (with the editor) to Idaho State College, Pocatello, Idaho. . . . George H. Nettleton (Yale), MLA Trustee since 1922. (when he succeeded Alexander Hohlfeld), has resigned. . . .

IL NUOVO CORRIERE. It's 1 of 3 daily newspapers published in Florence, and the 15 June 1954 issue contained a long (2 full columns) article by Lanfranco Caretti (Pavia) on recent American scholarship and,

in particular, the April *PMLA*. Professor Caretti scolds his Italian colleagues for not cooperating in the MLA compilation of *Research in Progress*: "Mentre negli altri paesi non si disdegna accogliere certi inviti di collaborazione culturale, da noi lettere del genere finiscono subito nel cestino (tanto siamo superbi del nostro provincialismo!). . . . Per la mancata collaborazione italiana, dunque, questa nostra sezione è poverissima e pressochè inutile (quella francese è dieci volte la nostra)."

WE APPLAUD. Deploring "the extraordinary amount of time-consuming negotiation, red-tape, and even pedantry which is involved in the matter of securing permission from copyright owners for quotations" in scholarly and critical books and articles of limited (or no) sale, Dean Moody E. Prior (Northwestern) in September proposed to the American Book Publishers Council (2 W. 46th St., New York 36) that the major publishers "establish a set of ground rules" for scholarly quoting. "They could agree, for one thing, to exempt Ph.D. quotations which will be published only on microfilm. They could also exempt quotations which form a part of articles in learned journals of restricted and specialized circulation. . . . It is not too difficult to decide on certain categories of scholarly and critical books which would normally be granted the privilege of making the necessary quotations. It would also be possible to establish certain categories which would normally be denied permission or be granted permission only upon the payment of a fee. These various categories could be described in a code agreed upon by the major publishers. It would be the responsibility of the press undertaking the publication of a book to decide whether the book qualifies under the code for the privilege of quoting within certain limits, whether the acknowledgments were satisfactory, or whether the author must write for permission. Since the common interest of all publishers is involved, and since the copyright laws could be invoked as protection against serious violations of the code, there is no likelihood that the arrangement would result in gross violations of rules commonly subscribed to. Such an arrangement would save the publishers a good deal of nuisance activity. It would certainly be a great boon to scholars and critics who are not exploiters."

The FL Program

FLP STEERING COMMITTEE. Its membership has been enlarged to include representatives of each of the five AATs. Continuing members of the Committee are Theodore Andersson, Stephen A. Freeman, Albert H. Marckwardt, B. Q. Morgan, and Howard L. Nostrand. The new members are Josephine R. Bruno (AATI), Renée Fulton (AATF), Claude Lemieux (AATSEEL), Werner Neuse (AATG), and Donald D. Walsh (AATSP). The enlarged Committee held its first meeting at MLA headquarters on 12-13 Feb.

IN THE OINTMENT. Alas, there's a FLY. No one told us until last December, but American University (Washington, D.C.) dropped its FL requirement for the B.A. degree in Sept. 1953. The requirement had been in force in the College of Arts and Sciences but not in the School of Social Science and Public Affairs; when for administrative reasons these 2 divisions were merged into an Undergraduate School, guess what had to give way.

U. S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY. Temporarily established at Lowry Air Force Base, Denver, Colo., and expecting its first class of 300 cadets on 11 July, it will eventually move to its permanent location near Colorado Springs. According to its proposed curriculum—"the result of 5 years of continuous study" with the aid of "some 60 selected civilian educators"—FL study will *not* be required of all cadets but "will be offered to only those cadets who demonstrate aptitude or a strong personal desire for such study. For the remainder of the class a course in aircraft design is contemplated. It may later prove desirable to set aside this time in the Senior year for a number of elective subjects appropriate to the mission of the Academy." The cadets with the "strong personal desire" to communicate with some of the people they will later be flying to encounter in foreign lands will be offered, in their senior year, 7 hours of classroom work per week. We find these facts in the 1954-55 catalogue of the Academy, pages 27 and 31. If you are prompted to call them to the attention of your senator and congressman and the editor of your local newspaper, you will of course mention the additional fact that every cadet at West Point and every mid-

shipman at Annapolis is *required* to study an FL. The intensive course proposed for the Air Force Academy actually involves more hours (221) than do the 2 years of work required at the other academies, and we think the new institution has the right idea in putting the FL study in the final year; but can it be that our future air commanders have less need of FLs than their army and navy counterparts? They will be grounded, linguistically speaking, unless they are well grounded linguistically.

HIGH SCHOOL CERTIFICATION. Until last December the requirement in Ohio for teachers of English was 15 college semester hours; for teachers of FLs, 15 hours with 2 units of high school credit as a prerequisite. Now the requirement for English teachers is 24 hours; for FL teachers, 20 hours, plus the 2 high school units. The case for FLs was admirably presented by James B. Tharp (College of Education, Ohio State University). Among the 20 hours that must after this year be presented for certification, 6 to 8 should be in the civilization and literature of the foreign country, 12 to 14 in "language command." Behind these simple facts are untold hours of committee work and individual effort by professionally-minded people, to whom go our sincere congratulations on a mission accomplished.

APPLE A DAY. Which doctor's column do you turn to daily in your newspaper for medical advice? On the one hand there is Dr. James W. Barton ("That Body of Yours"), who on 12 Oct. devoted his entire space to Dr. Wilder Penfield's conviction that FL study should begin in the grades. On the other hand there is Dr. George W. Crane ("The Worry Clinic"), who on 10 Nov., lamenting the failures of our public schools to teach useful knowledge, asked, "If in 12 years with the English language, they still can't use it with even moderate efficiency, how much good do they obtain from 2 years of Spanish or French or German?"

TEACHERS TAUGHT. After a full day in their own overcrowded classrooms, more than 100 teachers in the Seattle public schools were studying beginning Spanish last fall in 2-hour