

PHI BETA KAPPA 1980 BOOK AWARDS GIVEN

The Phi Beta Kappa Book Awards for 1980 were presented at the annual Senate dinner in Washington, D.C., on December 5. The three \$2500 prizes are given annually to authors of newly published books that represent significant contributions to learning in three areas of humanistic scholarship.

The Phi Beta Kappa Science Award was given to David Park, professor of physics at Williams College, for his book, *The Image of Eternity: Roots of Time in the Physical World* (University of Massachusetts Press). The intent of the award is to encourage literate and scholarly interpretations of the physical and biological sciences that emphasize the importance of science as part of our humanistic heritage.

The Ralph Waldo Emerson Award was won by Frank E. Manuel, of Brandeis University, and Fritzie P. Manuel, his collaborator, for their book, *Utopian Thought in the Western World* (Belknap Press/Harvard University Press). The award is for studies of the intellectual and cultural condition of man.

The Christian Gauss Award, for literary scholarship and criticism, went to Donald Fanger, professor of Slavic and comparative literature at Harvard University, for *The Creation of Nikolai Gogol* (Belknap Press/Harvard University Press).

The Image of Eternity: Roots of Time in the Physical World is a study of

the ways in which people, from builders of prehistoric monuments to composers of modern cosmologies, have conceptualized time. The title comes from Plato, who was among the first to discuss the nature of time in a rational way; the subtitle poses a far more recent dilemma occasioned in large part by concepts of modern physics, which, despite their sophistication, are unable to describe the temporalities of nature as we experience them.

In recommending Park's book for the Science Award, one member of the award committee said, "This book is exactly in the spirit of the award, not only using the notion of time to tie together many branches of the natural sciences, but focusing on the curious human spirit that asks the questions, seeks the answers, and modifies the theories as more and more data become available." Another member added, "David Park has thought deeply about the concept of time in the physical sciences and in the human mind, and he has a talent for exposition and an appreciation of the history of ideas that enable him to make his account easy to comprehend without glossing over subtle distinctions or contradictions."

Professor Park is the author of several books on physics, is a Fellow of the American Physical Society, and from 1973 to 1976 was the president of the

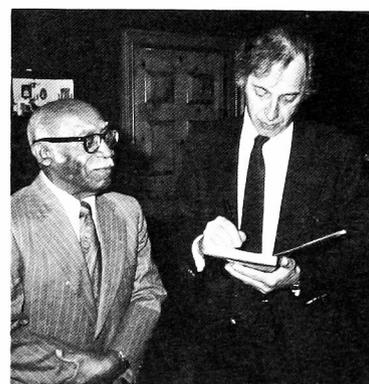
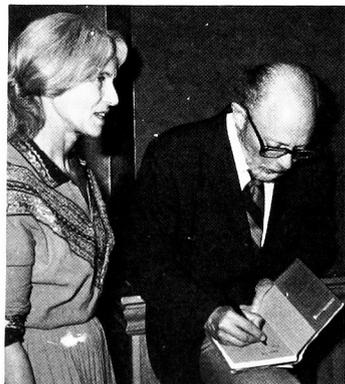
International Society for the Study of Time.

Utopian Thought in the Western World is a history of thinkers and dreamers who envisaged an ideal social order and described it persuasively, leaving a mark on their own and later times. The Manuels have structured five centuries of utopian invention by identifying successive "constellations," groups of thinkers joined by common social and moral concerns. Within this framework they analyze individual writings, in the context of the author's life and of the socio-economic, religious, and political exigencies of his time. Concentrating on innovative works, they highlight disjunctures as well as continuities in utopian thought from the Renaissance through the twentieth century.

In presenting the award, Professor Harold D. Woodman (Purdue University) noted that "Both the uniqueness of each individual utopian thinker and the relations of each to his predecessors and to the society in which he lived are lucidly and convincingly, but never mechanically, presented." A member of the committee wrote of the lengthy book, "It has taken me weeks to read this extraordinary volume, and it was worth all the time."

Frank E. Manuel is Alfred and Viola Hart University Professor at Brandeis

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(Left) Anneli Lax (Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences of New York University), chairman of the Science Award committee, stands by as winner David Park signs his book. (Center) Harold D. Woodman, chairman of the

Emerson Award committee, hands the Manuels their book. (Right) Donald Fanger signs his book while Blyden Jackson (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), chairman of the Christian Gauss Award committee, looks on.

Our society does not lack for technical competence. Our physicians, lawyers, engineers, teachers, accountants, veterinarians, bankers, and computer scientists are excellent in their professions. What we lack is excellence in the "profession" of citizenship. Not only do we lack people with the ability to lead, we lack people with the ability to follow. Our people lack perspective; we lack an understanding of our place in the history of man. We permit ourselves the luxury of being one-issue individuals in a complex, interactive society in which no issue stands alone.

The university that is quick to take credit for the accomplishments of its graduates in business, the arts, and the professions cannot turn its back on the shortcomings of these individuals in ethics, in morality, in civic leadership, and in responsibility. It has been these shortcomings that have created our major problems in recent years, and it is to the overcoming of these shortcomings that true liberal education is addressed.

Each of us in this nation may be said to have two professions—one that is our work and the other that is our life. The idea of a democracy is that each of us is an active, working citizen, and in the minds of those who framed our founding documents that role is our first responsibility. The university is to assist us in preparing for both professions, and, in many ways, Phi Beta

Kappa can be and should be the professional association that speaks in behalf of the profession of citizenship.

I have always felt that Phi Beta Kappa does too little with its great store of human resources. New members soon scatter from the place of their investiture. The extent of their subsequent association with Phi Beta Kappa is too often only the receipt of an annual request for contributions, the receipt of an occasional *Key Reporter*, and an occasional glimpse of the Phi Beta Kappa key in the jewel box or drawer. This is not really the fault of the member, but is simply the pattern of the organization. No real efforts are made to involve the members in other than occasional ceremonials.

Phi Beta Kappa chapters and associations should be active groups concerned about the preservation of scholarship, of standards, and of liberal education in general and in their localities. Those who are elected to Phi Beta Kappa should be made to see their election as both an honor—which it is—and a responsibility—which it rarely becomes. Liberal education is crucial to a society that depends upon its citizens for both private work and the determination of public policy. Phi Beta Kappa should be among the most active adherents of liberal education as a living education with impact and importance in the life of our nation and of our world.

PHI BETA KAPPA IN SOCIETY: TWO VIEWS

John E. Corbally (Alpha of California Chapter, 1955), president emeritus and distinguished professor of the University of Illinois, recently returned to Ohio State University, where he had served from 1955 to 1969, to help celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Epsilon of Ohio Chapter there. The following remarks are taken from the address he delivered at the celebration.

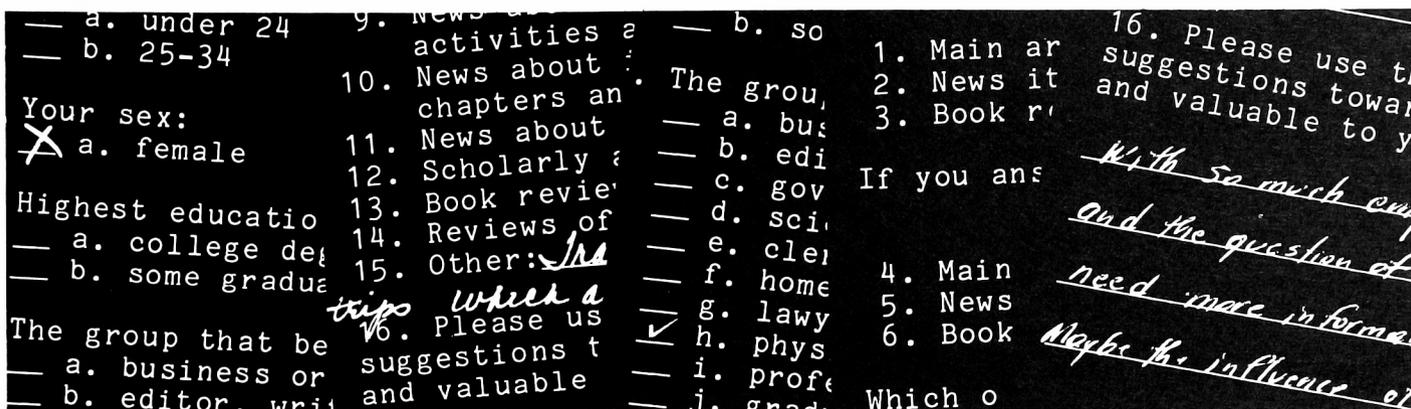
The following passages are from an address given by Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes in 1930 at the 100th anniversary celebration of the Alpha of Rhode Island Chapter at Brown University.

The unique position of Phi Beta Kappa, and its usefulness, can be safeguarded only by unremitting attention to what has become the law of its being. The prestige of the fraternity is due to the fact that it is an association of men and women of scholarly attainments who have proved their merit according to the accepted standards of college discipline. The best proof of the utility of the fraternity is the esteem in which the election is held. Whatever may be said of the value of various activities proposed for the organization, the essential thing is to hold to the theory of the fraternity as a fellowship of scholars, admission to which is an honor conferred by reason of demonstrated worth. The success of Phi Beta Kappa continues to lie in what it is, rather than in what it does.

The particular interest of Phi Beta Kappa is in liberal education. Whatever debate there may be as to its exact definition, or its prerequisites, it persists as an ideal. Intensive critical study of educational aims and methods

has found nothing to take its place. It means the development by careful training of the capacity to appreciate what has been done and thought, the ability to make worthwhile appraisals of achievements, doctrines, theories, proposals. It is liberal because it emancipates; it signifies freedom from the tyranny of ignorance, and, from what is worse, the dominion of folly. Learning is not its aim so much as intelligence served by learning.

At this time, when the world stands in need of every influence which favors intellectual discipline and achievement, as against a complacent indifference, the service of Phi Beta Kappa is of heightened value. It holds aloft the old banner of scholarship, and to the students who have turned aside from the easier paths and by their talent and fidelity have proved themselves to be worthy, it gives the fitting recognition of a special distinction. If it cannot be said that careers always fulfill the early promise, even by this test, in the main, Phi Beta Kappa has been justified of her children.



KEY REPORTER READERSHIP SURVEY RESULTS

The *Key Reporter* exists to provide a link between the United Chapters of Phi Beta Kappa and the approximately 225,000 members of the society who are on the active list. Its task is to inform the members of the activities of the organization and furnish a forum for the exchange of ideas, particularly with respect to liberal studies, which are historically the main concern of the society. Above all, the *Key Reporter* should serve its readers, providing them with information that is useful and of interest to them.

Recognizing that the readership is diverse and that it would be impossible to please everyone, we nevertheless undertook to survey the readers' attitudes in the hope that some general patterns might emerge that would suggest ways to improve the *Key Reporter*. In August we sent out 7000 readership surveys to a random sample of the membership. To date, we have received about 2250 back, for a 32 percent return rate, which is unusually high for this sort of survey.

Why did we receive such an overwhelming response? Perhaps it is because members feel out of touch with the organization and were glad to have a chance to be heard. One person wrote, "I appreciate the chance to respond to the survey. . . . I am a writer, and am troubled by the monastic tendencies of intellectuals now in this country. Your survey meant a lot; you struck a nerve, like a letter from home. I wonder if other respondents felt the same."

The questions on page one of the two-page survey were designed to measure reader satisfaction with the *Key Reporter*. The questions on page two were designed to collect demographic data, or provide a "readership profile."

The last question on page one was open-ended (all the rest required that boxes be checked), asking for "comments and suggestions toward making

the *Key Reporter* more interesting and valuable to you." Perhaps one fifth of those responding to the survey wrote something here.

We read all the comments, searching for good ideas and watching for recurring opinions. The comments ranged from "uniformly excellent" and "have saved many in my library" to "don't read it" and "the dullest publication I receive, bar none, in my overflowing, country-size mailbox."

A common theme in the comments was that the *Key Reporter* is "too elitist," "too scholarly," and "too stodgy." "Esoterica need not be disregarded. But neither should it predominate, as in the book review section." Another person had this to say, though, on the book reviews: "Keep your standards high and give all of us a continuing challenge."

Many readers called for the *Key Reporter* to become more relevant. One person wrote, "The *Key Reporter* is too small to contain scholarly articles numerous and diverse enough to be representative of its readership's interests. Don't try to make it an intellectual journal. . . . Please expand coverage of issues related to the status (economic, political, legislative) of education, scholarship, and science in contemporary American culture. Become more concrete and current."

This concern with the status of education was echoed by many readers. One wrote, "With the diversity of your readership, I suspect that it is difficult to find common ground. One concern of most readers would be quality in education. This should be the cohesive theme of the *Key*." Another wrote, "The one clear commitment of Phi Beta Kappa members is to education. I'd like to see some articles on how to maintain quality education in the face of skyrocketing costs and declining enrollment. How do we preserve the competitive public/private system?

How do we prevent private institutions from being available only to the very rich and the very poor?" But then there was also this: "If many or most of us are assumed to be professional and intelligent, why can't we have a broader range of topics? Why do you assume everyone is in education?"

Among the suggestions were several requests for an article on how members can get involved locally. (See page 4 of the autumn 1980 issue for a list of contact people for local associations.) One reader wrote, "Need 'how to' section on getting an association started, news releases, activities an association could tackle, and all the functional aspects of recruiting and maintaining active members on the local level." Other readers requested "personality profiles" of members "in the news" or "in high places." One person suggested that we solicit editorials.

The results for the rest of the questionnaire are being tabulated by computer. Only 200 of the surveys have been entered so far, and so the results that follow are tentative.

Some 60 percent of the readers who responded read the main article "always" or "often," 53 percent read the news items, and 57 percent read the book reviews. Of the readers who indicated that they regularly read book reviews in other periodicals, 70 percent expressed satisfaction with the *Key Reporter* book reviews (as indicated by an "always" or "often" response).

Among other interesting results are the following: 51.7 percent of the readers responding would like to see more news on events in education ("same," 30; "fewer," 5.6; "don't care," 12.8), and 46.3 percent would like to see more scholarly articles ("same," 32.8; "fewer," 10.7; "don't care," 10.2). We plan to cross-correlate these answers with occupation.

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reading recommended by the book committee

humanities

social sciences

natural sciences

ROBERT B. HEILMAN, LAWRENCE WILLSON
FREDERICK J. CROSSON
EARL W. COUNT, RICHARD BEALE DAVIS,
LEONARD W. DOOB, ANDREW GYORGY,
MADELINE R. ROBINTON, VICTORIA SCHUCK,
JAMES C. STONE, ELLIOT ZUPNICK
RUSSELL B. STEVENS, RONALD GEBALLE

ELLIOT ZUPNICK

Rational Expectations and Economic Policy. Ed., Stanley Fischer. Univ. Chicago. 1980. \$22.

The theory of rational expectations is the most revolutionary development in economics in recent years. The essence of this theory is that economic agents react to all the information available to them at any particular point of time. One important implication is that since *anticipated* events are fully and instantaneously discounted, the scope of stabilization policies is severely limited. *Rational Expectations and Economic Policy* is a collection of papers presented at a conference organized by the National Bureau of Economic Research. These papers, written by scholars who have made important contributions to the theory, are indispensable for anyone interested in the present state of economics.

Asset Accumulation and Economic Activity. James Tobin. Univ. Chicago. 1980. \$13.

This volume should be read in conjunction with *Rational Expectations and Economic Policy*. It is the most brilliant, cogent, and incisive critique of the theory of rational expectations that has yet appeared. Tobin, Sterling Professor of Economics at Yale University, carefully reviews the theory and argues that it is a defective guide to policy.

New Developments in Productivity Measurement and Analysis. J. W. Kendrick and B. N. Vaccara. Univ. Chicago. 1980. \$52.

Productivity has become a buzz word. By now everyone is aware that productivity has declined in the United States in recent years and that this has had serious consequences for the American economy. The reasons for this decline, however, are not well-known. The papers in this volume, delivered at a conference organized by the National Bureau of Economic Research, may not tell us all we would like to know about this important area. They do, however, tell us as much as economists presently know, and, surprisingly, this is a good deal.

The Collected Papers of Franco Modigliani. Vols. 1, 2, and 3. Ed., A. Abel. MIT. 1980. \$25.

There are few economists whose papers warrant being collected. Franco Modigliani is one of them. Over a long and fruitful career, Modigliani has made seminal contributions to the areas of

international finance, stabilization policy, and finance, and this collection makes his work more accessible to students. The collection would have served this purpose better, however, had the editor been somewhat more discriminating. A number of papers included in this collection are dated. Had they been excluded, the price of the collection could have been reduced and accessibility increased.

FREDERICK J. CROSSON

History of the Idea of Progress. Robert Nisbet. Basic. 1980. \$16.95.

The argument is that progress is not only a modern idea, but integral to the *élan* of Western civilization since Hesiod and problematic today because religious belief, on which it has always depended, is spent. The thesis is capacious in scope, and I find the establishing of it in the ancient authors unconvincing. But it stands with Bury as a conspicuous assessment of a theme with pervasive import for our world.

Structuralism and Since. Ed. John Sturrock. Oxford. 1979. \$15.95.

Keeping abreast of the intellectual ferment in France can be a full-time occupation. For those who need an orienting overview, this volume of monographs on Levi-Strauss, Barthes, Foucault, Lacan, and Derrida can be recommended for its clarity and reliability. Structuralism and its metamorphoses have diffused through the human sciences, and a synoptic tracing of its adaptations is helpful.

Against the Current. Isaiah Berlin. Viking. 1980. \$16.95.

This third volume to be published (of four) of the collected essays of Sir Isaiah deserves noting not only for the intrinsic felicity and erudition of the contents—none of which has lost its interest and value—but also because it contains a virtually complete bibliography of his works. Manifesting their author's catholic learning, the essays deal not only with Machiavelli and Hume, but with Herzen, Sorel, and Verdi.

MADELINE R. ROBINTON

Iran: From Religious Dispute to Revolution. Michael M. J. Fischer. Harvard. 1980. \$17.50.

"One of the great puzzles for anthropologists and philosophers is how and why culture and common sense are differently constituted in different historical times

and in different societies." Thus Fischer opens his book. To the TV viewer and the reader of newspapers, to the politicians and the statesmen, what is basic to understanding is the awareness that people in different times and different societies respond so differently from what our own conceptions of common sense would dictate. History, the matrix of the social sciences, provides us with the "how" of the workings of these different societies as well as the source material for the "why" of their conditioning. Fischer, an anthropologist at Harvard, does a superb job of explaining the complexities of Iranian culture. Concentrating on the centrality of religion with its base in the internecine struggles of seventh- and eighth-century Muhammadanism, the establishment of Shi'ism, and its role in education and Iranian culture, Fischer brings the story up to date with its impact on the revolutionary movement of 1977–1979 and the passion that Khomeini was able to arouse.

The History of Egypt: From Muhammad Ali to Sadat. P. J. Vatikiotis. Johns Hopkins. 1980. \$25; paper, \$9.50.

This is a second edition of a scholarly book for the lay reader first published in 1969 and widely acclaimed. Vatikiotis, of the School of Oriental and African Studies of the University of London, has revised several chapters on nineteenth-century Egypt and added a section to bring the narrative to 1979. Although it is essentially a history of nineteenth- and twentieth-century Egypt, there is a brilliant first section on background—the land, the people, the establishment of Islam and the Arabic language, the rule of the Mamluks—and an equally valuable final chapter on contemporary culture.

The Transformation of England: Essays in the Economic and Social History of England in the Eighteenth Century. Peter Mathias. Columbia. 1980. \$18.50.

This volume, a collection of essays previously published in scholarly journals by the Chichele Professor of Economic History at Oxford, provides a beautifully and simply written study of some of the aspects of the dynamics of industrialization. Concerned primarily with the conditions in eighteenth-century Britain that led to its being the first country in Europe and the world to industrialize, this book compares the conditions of that society with those of its contemporaries.

Work, Society and Politics: The Culture of the Factory in Later Victorian England. Patrick Joyce. Rutgers. 1980. \$25.

The Logic of Solidarity: Artisans and Industrial Workers in Three French Towns, 1871–1914. Michael P. Hanagan. Illinois. 1980. \$15.

Both studies are concerned with the sociology of the factory and in particular the differences that resulted from mechanization that utilized artisans and industrial workers in differing relations and combinations. Joyce studies the

differences in the industrial development of West Riding and of Lancashire and the differing roles of the artisan and machine operator in the textile factories, the scope of "paternalism" and "deference," and the thinking, religious orientation, and political activities of both employers and employees in their differing relationships. Hanagan in his study of the working classes and in particular strike activities in three towns near St. Etienne also stresses the variety of factory organization and emphasizes the differences in the mix of artisans and industrial workers in these three towns that resulted in different emerging patterns of protest, trade union organization, and strike militancy.

Decision on Palestine: How the U.S. Came to Recognize Israel. Evan M. Wilson. Hoover Institution. 1979. \$14.95. This book on the American recognition of Israel was written by a State Department career officer who was attached to the Division of Near Eastern Affairs from 1943 to 1947; in 1945 he acted as staff officer and secretary to the Anglo-American Commission of Inquiry. Based mainly on his personal experience and contacts and supplemented by official records, memoirs, and reports, this is an interesting and well-written account of "how it came about" from the point of view of one of the insiders.

On Stalin and Stalinism. Roy A. Medvedev. Trans., Ellen de Kadt. Oxford. 1979. \$13.95. Although this bitter critique of Stalin and Stalinism is written by a Soviet historian residing in the Soviet Union, it is personal rather than historical in its approach. Supplementing his monumental *Let History Judge* published in New York in 1971, Medvedev, because of his personal connections with many of the people involved or their families and with access to many unpublished manuscripts, has produced a book of reflections on the way the system operates, replete with anecdotal material. Castigating the horrors and barbarities of the police state, he holds on to the illusion of the development of the society into a "harmonious combination of democracy and socialism." He does not say how.

Comrade and Lover: Rosa Luxemburg's Letters to Leo Jogiches. Ed. and trans., Elzbieta Ettinger. MIT. 1979. \$12.50. This too is a very personal book. These are the letters to her lover written by the brilliant leader of the Spartacists in Germany, who was murdered in 1919. They give a new dimension to her personality and a fascinating picture of the womanly aspects of her life with incidental reference to the revolutionary struggle in which they both were so passionately involved.

Less Than Slaves: Jewish Forced Labor and the Quest for Compensation. Benjamin B. Ferencz. Harvard. 1979. \$15. A thoroughly documented book about the use and abuse of forced labor from the

concentration camps of Germany by the leading industrialists, I. G. Farben, Krupp, AEG, Siemens, and Rheinmetall, among others, during World War II. On the basis of evidence gathered for the trials of their executives and attempts to recover civil damages for the survivors, Ferencz, director of the restitution efforts and a former prosecutor at the Nuremberg trials, has written an absorbing book that needs to be read to understand the immensity of the horror and the unwillingness of those implicated to accept any financial or moral responsibility. The reporting of the postwar deal for purchase of cannons from Rheinmetall by the Pentagon brilliantly highlights the complexity of the struggle for restitution.

The History of the German Resistance: 1933-1945. Peter Hoffmann. Trans., Richard Barry. MIT. 1979. \$9.95. A fascinating and totally absorbing account of the German resistance to Hitler in all its complexities and variants. Widely researched and documented, this book by Hoffmann, of McGill, with over 200 pages of notes and appendixes yet succeeds in reading like a cloak-and-dagger story. A definitive account of the opposition that failed.

LAWRENCE WILLSON

Straw for the Fire: From the Notebooks of Theodore Roethke, 1943-1963. Reprint of 1974 ed. Selected and Arranged by David Wagoner. Washington. 1980. Paper, \$7.95. The seasoned reader of Roethke (but not the beginner) will find much of entertainment and instruction in this lumber-room of fragments, temporarily rejected lines of verse and prose (the distinction between them not always very clear), epigrams, images, gnomic utterances, and incidental remarks, ranging from the wise and witty to the occasionally fatuous. Roethke's devotion to his craft is clear. Clear also is the sense of his devotion to teaching. This is a handbook for teachers, especially teachers of poetry, as well as a handbook for young writers generally, the distilled good sense of a humane man.

Lion in the Garden: Interviews with William Faulkner, 1926-1962. Reprint of 1968 ed. Eds., James B. Meriwether and Michael Millgate. Nebraska. 1980. \$17.50; paper, \$5.95. It is matter for wonder that a man who hated being interviewed as vigorously as William Faulkner did should have allowed himself, however rudely and grouchy, to submit so often to the questioning of those he obviously classed among the unwashed. It is matter for greater wonder, since his responses were frequently brief and surly, his moods ranging from the coldly polite through the remote to the obviously hostile, that twenty-eight of his interviews (and a

twenty-ninth with his wife) should have been gathered into a book. But all the words of a master are sacred to the faithful, and occasionally he says something worth pondering, as when, in 1931, he predicted the breakdown of the novel form because "there are too many written these days." It is somehow refreshing that he delighted in (or at least was indifferent to) misrepresentation. "I have no purpose to present the truth," he said, "but only a story."

The Practice of Fiction in America: Writers from Hawthorne to the Present. Jerome Klinkowitz. Iowa State. 1980. \$8.95.

The theory on which this book is based is that "in a sense, all American fiction is experimental"; that is, from Hawthorne onward, through Howells, Fitzgerald, and Faulkner, to Updike, Vonnegut, and Barthelme, the American "fictionist" has had to find his individual method of dealing with reality and at the same time maintaining aesthetic order. The materials of American life are unyielding and cannot be forced into "foreign stereotypes of form." Most useful to the serious but often baffled reader of the strictly contemporary fiction of America will be the concluding chapter, "Donald Barthelme's Art of Collage," and the epilogue, "Avant-garde and After," in which the author offers, or describes, an "aesthetic of deconceptualized fiction," following the precedents of music, poetry, and painting for a flight into abstraction.

Conrad: "Almayer's Folly" to "Under Western Eyes." Daniel R. Schwarz. Cornell. 1980. \$23.50. As an earnest of the burgeoning interest in Conrad, this is the first of two volumes of reappraisal of the entire body of Conrad's work. The point of view is adequately defined by Schwarz's contention that Conrad is "one of the greatest novelists who wrote in English" and that he is "a pivotal figure for understanding the evolution of British literature and culture" between 1885 and 1925. Emerging from the work is "a strikingly different Conrad from the one we have known," not a pessimist or a nihilist but "essentially a humanist deeply concerned with the search for meaning in an amoral world." The emphasis is not on a single theme but on each individual work "as a unique imagined world with its own aesthetic and moral geography."

The Craft of Ralph Ellison. Robert G. O'Meally. Harvard. 1980. \$14. Ralph Ellison is a distinguished black American writer. More than that, he is simply a distinguished writer. "Art," he says, "is fundamentally a celebration of human life; it is not a wailing complaint about social wrongs." He consequently stood aside from the extremists and ideologues of the black arts movement a few years ago, when it seemed mandatory for people of his race to be activists in the battle for civil rights, earning the disdain of many but protecting his integrity as an artist. Ellison is by no

Lawrence Willson, of the University of California at Santa Barbara, will recommend books in American literature.

means indifferent to the problems that beset young black people of promise in search of self-knowledge "and a place to stand in a world filled with contradictions." The solution to their problems, he tells them, is to contemplate their own tradition—not their black African tradition, but their black American tradition, because they are Americans first. The central theme of his work is that "the more conscious a person is of his personal, cultural, and national history, the freer he becomes." In his work we find the convergence of the symbolist tradition in American literature and the vernacular—the black vernacular with its blend of sermons, blues, spirituals, folktales, and barbershop jive. O'Meally tells his story well.

American Hieroglyphics: The Symbol of the Egyptian Hieroglyphics in the American Renaissance. John T. Irwin. Yale. 1980.

To some members of the cognoscenti of the current literary establishment, this work represents a "brilliant new interpretation of major nineteenth-century American writers." Traditional historical scholars will react with calm interest to the first 60-odd pages (of 353), in which Irwin writes informatively about the excited interest of Emerson, Thoreau, and Whitman, shared by most literate Americans of their time, in the Egyptian pictographs and their implication with regard to the discovery of an original language of nature. The rest of the book will appeal to a more fashionably up-to-date coterie of scholars, who will find it indeed "brilliant," not to say "dazzling" or even "blinding." They are prepared to think of *The Scarlet Letter* as "the phallic shadow/child, the partial object of the imagination," to understand that Hawthorne's expulsion from "the womb-tomb" of the Custom-House is (by Hawthorne's own "figuring") "a symbolic decapitation/castration," to entertain the possibility that "the written character . . . on Hester's garment represents the phallic linking power of the symbol," and that therefore Pearl—poor little Pearl!—the "living hieroglyphic," is "an equation of phallus and child." Even easier to see is that "what leaps up from the spray" of the "ocean perishing" of Melville's Bulkington "is the phallic coffin/life preserver/book—the part/whole relation of the phallic six-inch chapter to the body of the text prefiguring the symbolic relationship of the book to the self." Surely this is destined to stand as a classic text of the phallic school of criticism.

LEONARD W. DOOB

Eyewitness Testimony. Elizabeth F. Loftus. Harvard. 1980. \$15.
A definitive summary of the voluminous evidence from actual cases in courts and controlled experiments that demonstrates, as one used to say in evaluating reports on war atrocities, that no one lies like an eyewitness because "people's memories are fragile things." The

author herself has conducted a host of relevant investigations and has testified during trials as an expert on the reliability of testimony. Within a theoretical frame of reference, the analysis skillfully isolates many of the factors that undoubtedly produce errors in perception, storing, and recall. Ways are suggested by which the law may possibly be able to avoid convicting innocent persons on the basis of mistaken identification while viewing a defendant, a lineup, or photographs.

VICTORIA SCHUCK

Eleanor Lansing Dulles: Chances of a Lifetime, A Memoir. Prentice-Hall. 1980. \$14.95.

An engaging autobiography of a remarkable person—monetary economist whose theories hold today, public servant in organizing the Social Security System, and diplomat as financial attaché in Austria and later as head of the "German Desk" in the reconstruction of Germany. All this despite sex roadblocks in advancement and without the assistance of her famous brothers. Marriage, children, and ventures with world leaders are cast against a backdrop of fast-changing American history.

Independent Journey: The Life of William O. Douglas. James F. Simon. Harper and Row. 1980. \$16.95.

An enormously researched, excellently written biography of the late justice, who had thirty-six years on the U.S. Supreme Court. Simon reveals a man of disadvantaged youth, a relentless achiever. Publicly, he was a "people's judge," a protector of civil liberties, and an advocate of environmental protection; privately, he was a mean, authoritarian figure. A balanced portrait.

Catholics and American Politics. Mary T. Hanna. Harvard. 1979. \$15.

A comprehensive analysis of Catholic values and influence on public policy. Data drawn from interviews with the clergy, working-class leaders, Catholic members of Congress, and national surveys dispel the stereotypical image of Catholic conservatism.

From Ballot to Bench: Judicial Elections and the Quest for Accountability. Philip L. Dubois. Texas. 1980. \$22.50.

This empirical study of statewide elections for appellate judges in twenty-five nonsouthern states (1948–1975) and judicial behavior in eight state courts leads the author to conclude that partisan elections are superior to nonpartisan methods as instruments for obtaining judicial accountability.

The Neoconservatives: The Men Who Are Changing America's Politics. Peter Steinfels. Simon and Schuster. 1979. \$11.95.

A monograph illuminating the origin and philosophy of a group of intellectuals, a number of whom are now vocal and influential advisers of Ronald Reagan. The author profiles the leading represen-

tatives and critiques their tenets and style. A new conservative force, the "Neocons," according to the author, may be the most enduring legacy of the turmoil of the 1960s.

Notable American Women: The Modern Period. A Biographical Dictionary. Eds., Barbara Sicherman and Carol Hurd Green, with Ilene Kantrov and Harriet Walker. Harvard. 1980. \$35.

The biographies of 442 American women whose deaths had to have occurred between January 1, 1951, and December 31, 1975. The informative preface and introduction describe the method of selection and the contributors associated with the project. A helpful classification is placed at the back of the volume. The biographies make fascinating reading and reveal the shifting roles of women in professions and new personal styles. A significant addition to the knowledge of women.

The Politics of Regulation. Ed., James Q. Wilson. Basic. 1980. \$18.95.

A timely collection of nine essays by political scientists who explore the origin and political behavior of varied state and national regulatory agencies. The analyses invite attention to the familiar question of agency domination by its clientele. Despite omission of some obvious influences on agency decisions, the writers provide useful background in Washington's new era of deregulation.

Decade of Decision: The Crisis of the American System. Michael Harrington. Simon and Schuster. 1980. \$11.95.

This substantial critique from the Democratic Left presents "the domestic economic basis of the structural crisis of the seventies and eighties." Corporate power, both economic and political, and the structural underpinnings of stagflation, unemployment, maldistribution of income, the deterioration of cities, poverty, and the panaceas in education are examined. Dozens of solutions for the eighties and nineties are offered for a program of "socialistic liberalism." To bring about a transformation of corporate power, Harrington cautiously suggests how a new political majority might be mobilized.

Congress and Money: Budgeting, Spending and Taxing. Allen Schick. Urban Institute. 1980. \$27.50.

Setting National Priorities: Agenda for the 1980s. Ed., Joseph A. Pechman. Brookings. 1980. \$18.95; paper, \$8.95. Schick, one of the most knowledgeable has-lived-through-it-all persons, assesses the manner in which Congress has dealt with the President's budget, appropriations, and tax measures during the five years since the passage of the 1974 Budget Act. He describes the actors, their pulling and hauling, and the outcomes and contends that the act has been successfully implemented. The book is indispensable to an understanding of the budget process. The Brookings volume of sixteen essays focuses on such major problems of domestic and foreign policy

as the economy, energy, health and education, defense, the Middle East, China, Japan, and the USSR.

The Practice of Political Authority: Authority and the Authoritative. Richard E. Flathman. Univ. Chicago. 1980. \$20. In a compelling redefinition of authority, a political theorist examines contradictory philosophical positions that he groups into two categories, the formal-procedural and the substantive-purposive. He examines long-held distinctions between being in a position of authority in an organization and being an authority on a subject, and considers such issues as power, "the authoritative," "surrender of judgment," anarchy, and civil disobedience. Synthesizing the formal and substantive approaches permits Flathman to restate the liberal-constitutionalist position.

ANDREW GYORGY

Soviet Intervention in Czechoslovakia, 1968, Anatomy of a Decision. Jiri Valenta. Johns Hopkins. 1979. \$12.95. The timeliness of this scholarly book increased tremendously in view of the 1979 Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the recent Polish disturbances leading to the ouster of Gierek. The author ably dissects the complex political process leading to the Soviet-Warsaw Pact decision to invade Czechoslovakia in August 1968. The book is not only superbly documented but also reveals a great deal of hitherto unpublished and unused materials from both Soviet and Czech sources. The author, a native of Czechoslovakia, and the publisher should be congratulated for making this analytical study available.

ROBERT B. HEILMAN

A Literary Gazetteer of England. Lois H. Fisher. McGraw-Hill. 1980. \$39.95. Entries for over 1200 places describe local literary connections of some 500 authors and their works from medieval times to 1950. Good for both reference and browsing. Over 200 illustrations.

Dickens: A Life. Norman and Jeanne Mackenzie. Oxford. 1979. \$16.95.
Albert Camus: A Biography. Herbert R. Lottman. Doubleday. 1979. \$16.95.
The Brothers Mann: The Lives of Heinrich and Thomas Mann, 1871-1950 and 1875-1955. Nigel Hamilton. Yale. 1979. \$16.95. These biographies of major English, French, and German writers are in different modes. The Mackenzies, experienced biographers, make a fluent and well-organized narrative out of materials largely in the public domain. Lottman fills 700 pages with the products of great research that document concretely and fully all the aspects of Camus's personal and literary life, more than half of it spent in an Algiers thoroughly depicted. Hamilton innovates by his joint biography of the Mann brothers, giving some account of all their major works in the context of their lives, and paying espe-

cial attention to their early hostility as they emerged in quite different ways from the commercial background of their family, and to their growing compatibility and affection in opposition to Nazism.

RONALD GEBALLE

Advice to a Young Scientist. P. B. Medewar. Harper and Row. 1979. \$8.95. In a dozen, mostly quite brief, chapters, this distinguished biologist and practicing humanist writes about the conditions and mores of scientific life, his style being simple, direct, and often wry. He deflates myths and deals with both the bright and the dark sides of collaboration, mistakes, the claim of priority, youth and age, and prizes and rewards. As well as by prospective and mature scientists, he should be read by those suspicious of any variety.

Electricity in the 17th and 18th Centuries. A Study of Early Modern Physics. J. L. Heilbron. California. 1979. \$40. The transformation of "physics" from a term designating a received, qualitative, passive study of nature, organic as well as inorganic, into one meaning a quantitative, experimental science that had set aside the search for ultimate causes and focused on basic laws governing the interactions of inorganic matter took place during the two centuries that Heilbron treats in this informative work. Electricity—fascinating, lending itself to experimentation, forcing the curious to cope with the mysterious nature of repulsion as well as with attraction—was one of the crucial grounds on which the struggle for definition took place. The search for useful concepts on which a quantitative science could be built is laid out in considerable detail, neither overlooking the contributions of the many lesser figures nor ignoring the many false leads and confusing pronouncements that surrounded the brilliant insights and clever experiments. Such a rounded treatment has special interest during a time when we too are struggling to find the right concepts in terms of which to present our version of fundamental observations so they can be quantified.

Robert Oppenheimer: Letters and Recollections. Eds., Alice Kimball Smith and Charles Weiner. Harvard. 1980. \$20. Oppenheimer's personality impressed itself indelibly on those who knew him, whether intimately or merely as students in his classes. Until this book, there has been almost no way for others to sense his nature except through the testimony he gave during the 1954 hearings, the mostly polarized recollections of friends and opponents, and the two thin volumes that gather his statements prepared for formal occasions. The letters collected here, dating from his youth through 1945, together with the connective text, will be a boon to all who try to assemble a likeness of this multidimensional being by piecing together the fragments with which we have been left.

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PHI BETA KAPPA ASSOCIATES MEET IN NEW YORK CITY

The fortieth annual meeting and dinner of the Phi Beta Kappa Associates was held on October 17, 1980, at the Institute of Fine Arts of New York University in New York City. Herbert P. Shyer, president of the Associates, presided during the evening's events, which were attended by over 100 members and their guests.

The Associates are a group of some 480 members of Phi Beta Kappa who, since their formation in 1940, have contributed over \$800,000 to the Phi Beta Kappa Foundation. They underwrite the Associates Lectureship Program, which was established in 1942 to help the campus-based chapters and the alumni associations obtain outstanding speakers for their meetings. They also provide some of the funding for the Visiting Scholar Program, which was begun in 1956 to enable undergraduates to meet and talk with established scholars in diverse disciplines.

A. Richard Turner, director of the Institute of Fine Arts, welcomed the Associates to the headquarters of the institute. Formerly the James B. Duke House on Fifth Avenue at 78th Street, it was built in 1909 and given to the institute in 1958. The Duke House was modeled on an eighteenth-century residence in Bordeaux and is listed in the National Landmarks Register.

The speaker for the evening was Joshua C. Taylor, educator, art historian, and, since 1970, director of the National Museum of American Art of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. Taylor, who has served as

a fellow, director, and adviser to many federations, institutes, and societies in the arts, spoke on the place of art in our society.

The formal dinner at the institute was preceded by a noontime luncheon meeting of the board of directors at the Equitable Life Assurance Society. At this time, the Associates elected national officers for 1980-1981: Herbert P. Shyer, president; Richard W. Couper, vice-president; Madeline McWhinney Dale, vice-president; Gerard Piel, vice-president; and Samuel R. Pierce, Jr. (who was just appointed secretary of housing and urban development for the new administration), secretary-treasurer.

SURVEY RESULTS (continued)

According to the results tabulated so far, almost half of the respondents were in the 25-34 age group (of six groups). Females responding outnumbered males 56.2 to 43.8 percent. Some graduate work had been done by 18.7 percent of the respondents, 35.4 percent had a master's degree, and 29.7 percent had a Ph.D. or equivalent degree. The occupational breakdown was as follows: graduate student, 14.3 percent; business or association executive, 11.4; professor, 10.5; physician/nurse, 10.0; other, 10.0; homemaker, 9.5; lawyer, 9.0; scientist/engineer/technician, 6.2; elementary or high school teacher, 5.2; writer/editor/journalist, 4.8; government official, 4.8; and clerical/office worker, 4.3.

The editors would like to thank everyone who took the time to respond to the survey. Armed with the information you supplied, we will work toward making the *Key Reporter* meet the needs and expectations of the membership.

BOOK AWARDS (continued)

University. His wife, Fritzie, has collaborated with him on many of his previous books.

In *The Creation of Nikolai Gogol*, Fanger presents a framework for understanding the work of Gogol, Russia's greatest comic writer. Gogol's works have attracted contradictory labels over the years, even as the originality of his achievement continues to defy explanation. Fanger's book begins by considering why this should be so, and goes on to survey what Gogol created, step by step: an extraordinary body of writing, a model for the writer in Russian society, a textual identity that eclipses his scanty biography, and a kind of fiction unique in its time. He explains Gogol's *eccentric genius and makes clear how* it opened the way to the great age of Russian fiction.

In recommending Fanger's book for the prize, one judge said, "It has made an important writer fully accessible to an audience that has largely overlooked or misunderstood him, and has done so with imagination, zest, and grace."

Professor Fanger is a member of the Modern Language Association and the International Comparative Literature Association and is the author of *Dostoevsky and Romantic Realism*.

The 1981 Book Awards will be open to qualified books published between June 1, 1980, and May 31, 1981. Entries must be submitted by May 31, 1981. Inquiries and entries should be addressed to the appropriate award committee at 1811 Q Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009.



volume XLVI • number two • winter 1980-1981

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The *Key Reporter* (ISSN 0023-0804) is published quarterly by the United Chapters of Phi Beta Kappa at the Caramond/Pridemark Press, Baltimore, Maryland. Send all change-of-address notices to *The Key Reporter*, Phi Beta Kappa Editorial and Executive offices, 1811 Q Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009. No responsibility is assumed for views expressed in articles published.

Single copies 20¢, ten or more copies 10¢ each. Second class postage paid at Washington, D.C.

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THE KEY REPORTER
PHI BETA KAPPA
1811 Q Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009

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