

AMERICAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER

GRADUATE PROGRAM IN AMERICAN STUDIES

INDIANA UNIVERSITY ~ BLOOMINGTON

27 September 1968

FINE ARTS IN AMERICA TOPIC FOR FALL MEETING OF OHIO-INDIANA ASA AT BUTLER

November 1-2 is the date set for the fall meeting of the Ohio-Indiana chapter of the American Studies Association. According to Prof. Howard Baetzhold, English, Butler University, the topic of the Saturday sessions will be "Fine Arts in America." Leading the list of speakers will be David Huntington of the Department of Art History, University of Michigan. He will discuss "Frederick Church's 'Olana': Monument of American Millennialism." Huntington was almost singlehandedly responsible for the rescuing and preservation of Olana, an important artifact of American architectural and cultural history. Among others on the program will be Donald R. Haug, Chairman, Department of Arts -- Eden Central School, Eden, New York, lecturing on "Still Life Painting in America -- A Bible Tradition."

With the meeting hosted by Butler in Indianapolis, the American Studies Program here at Bloomington should be well represented. Tentative plans call for a car pool to be arranged for participation in the Saturday, Nov. 2 sessions. The Friday evening program will be social. Detailed information will be forthcoming shortly to members of the Ohio-Indiana chapter. Proposed fees include \$2.00 for a luncheon and \$1.00 voluntary registration. Further details can be obtained from the American Studies office, and last minute announcements will be published in the October edition of the newsletter. If you plan to attend, please notify Mrs. Scarola soon.

LEO LASOTA RECEIVES ASSISTANTSHIP FOR INDIANA UNIVERSITY SESQUICENTENNIAL HISTORY

Prof. Tom Clark, University of Kentucky, Emeritus, has been commissioned to write a history of Indiana University for the Sesquicentennial celebration. This year three research assistantships were awarded to aid in the preparation of the book. Two awards went to graduate students in the History Department, the other to the Program in American Studies. Leo Lasota, doctoral student in American Studies and Folklore, received the assistantship, and at present is concentrating on research in the customs and traditions of the University.

Leo brings a novel combination of academic interests to the Bloomington program. His previous study has earned him a Bachelor of Music Education at West Virginia University and an MFA at Carnegie Institute of Technology (now Carnegie-Mellon University). Whereas most students in the Indiana University American Studies program have combined work in two or more fields including English, History, Speech and Theatre and Government, as well as Folklore, Leo's background in music has prompted him to develop a new concentration in Music and American Studies. He is currently designing a new curriculum plan with Prof. Ralph T. Daniel, Director of Graduate Studies of the I.U. School of Music. As the work progresses, the American Studies Newsletter will examine the new plan in detail.

NEWSLETTER TO BE PUBLISHED MONTHLY

With the increasing size of the American Studies Program at Indiana University the task of communicating with our interdisciplinary fellows becomes more difficult each year. The monthly publication of this newsletter is an attempt to keep student and faculty participants in the Program informed of meetings, conferences, lectures, films, exhibits and all manner of academic activity of possible interest to Americanists. It will also aid in keeping track of the Program's business, and will hopefully shed light on experiments in research and teaching of American Studies on this campus.

Standard features of the letter will include the "American Calendar" for Bloomington, vignettes of faculty members who are connected with the Program, descriptions of special resource collections at I.U., news of American Studies Association (ASA) events, and reports of research in progress here. Special articles each month will examine the experimental Honors course on "The City Street" now being conducted by members of the Program, the role of American Studies in developing Afro-American studies and the Focus: Black America emphasis, and seminars-in-preparation. The October issue will bring a listing of graduate students in American Studies.

Any student or faculty member with an interest in the work of the Program may add his name to the mailing list by contacting our secretary, Mrs. Jane Scarola, at the Program office, Ballantine 421, 337-7748. The editor, Stephen Scholl, would appreciate notice of programs, research, resources, courses, awards, publications, etc. that concern either American Studies or one of our fellows. The Ballantine office is the clearing house for all information and mailing -- deadline for material is the second Monday of each month. All graduate students are urged to be sure that current address, phone, and departmental status are correctly listed in their AS file.

DRAFT TAKES FELLOWSHIP CANDIDATES

The Selective Service System has taken its toll from our local program again, and this year those new students called up included both of the recipients of fellowships. American Studies had been allotted an NDEA Title IV and a University Fellowship to begin this fall, but although highly-qualified candidates were selected and accepted, both men were drafted before they could begin their studies. Like every department in the University we have lost men in the past few years, but this is the first time that no new fellowship holder has entered the Program.

AMERICAN CALENDAR

John Barth and Max Lerner head the list of speakers on campus in the next month, and the "Focus: Black America" program has scheduled several films of interest to Americanists. Barth, author of such works as Giles Goat-Boy and The Sot-Weed Factor will present a reading and commentary on Lost in the Funhouse under the auspices of the Seventeenth Annual Conference for Junior and Senior High School Teachers of the English Arts at 7:15 p.m., October 11 in the I.U. Auditorium. Max Lerner is appearing in the Lycea Dinner Series in the Alumni Hall of IMU, 6:00 p.m., October 20. In months to come the "Focus: Black America" series will be sponsoring lectures, films, conferences and studies of immediate relevance for American Studies. This week the program helped to bring Julian Bond to campus, and it is beginning a series of films on Black history and culture with the three listed below. The American Studies Program is playing an active role in the "Focus" planning, and will have specific contributions to make as the year progresses.

CALENDAR

- Sept. 28 LeRoi Jones' play, Home on the Range, Black Arts Repertory Theatre, I.U. Auditorium, 8:00 p.m. (benefit for recruitment of black students)
- Oct. 3 Film -- "Heritage of the Negro: Negro Kingdoms of Africa's Golden Age," Fine Arts Aud., 7:30 p.m. (Focus)
- Oct. 10 Film -- "Free at Last," Fine Arts Aud., 7:30 p.m. (Focus)
- Oct. 11 John Barth, readings and commentary, I.U. Aud., 7:15 p.m.
- Oct. 17 William F. Buckley, Jr. and Michael Scriven, debate (Convocation)
- Oct. 17 Film -- "Brazil, the Vanishing Negro," Fine Arts Aud., 7:30 p.m. (Focus)
- Oct. 20 Max Lerner, "Politics '68," Alumni Hall, 6:00 p.m. (Lyceum)
- Oct. 21 Film -- "Intolerance" (U.S.A., 1916), Whittenberger Aud., 7:30 p.m. (Film Study Program)
- Oct. 23 "The Process of Protest Politics," Prof. Irving Zeitlin, Sociology (Current Issues Forum), Foster Quad, 7:00 p.m.
- EXHIBIT: Lilly Library -- "An Exhibition of American Patriotic Music in First and Early Editions" and "American Patriotic Music, 1798-1865," in the Lilly Library Lounge.

AMERICAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER

GRADUATE PROGRAM IN AMERICAN STUDIES

INDIANA UNIVERSITY — BLOOMINGTON

Volume I

23 October 1968

Number 2

OHIO-INDIANA A.S.A. FALL MEETING AT BUTLER: RESERVATION DEADLINE OCT. 25

As announced in the first issue of the American Studies Newsletter, Butler University, Indianapolis, is hosting the Ohio-Indiana American Studies Association Fall Meeting, November 1-2, 1968. A contingent of students and faculty from Bloomington is being organized by the American Studies office, Ballantine 421, 337-7748. Those wishing to make reservations must notify Jane Scarola in the Program office by 10:00 a.m., Friday, Oct. 25. If you wish to attend the conference luncheon, bring in a check for \$2.25 (tip included); \$1.00 voluntary registration fee may be included. A car pool is being arranged for the Saturday, Nov. 2 sessions (Friday evening will be social and include a meeting of the Executive Board; no transportation is being arranged for these functions). Contact the office if you need a ride or wish to drive. Drivers should expect a \$1.00 contribution per rider to cover costs. Cars will leave from the IMU Biddle Continuation Center circle drive at 8:00 A.M., returning to Bloomington about 3:00 P.M.

Arrangements at Butler are headed by George Geib, chairman, and Howard Baetzhold. The Saturday morning session includes two papers and discussion: George Geib, "Playhouses and Politics: Lewis Hallam and the Confederation Theatre," and Donald R. Haug, "Still-Life Painting in America: A Viable Tradition." The business meeting of the Association will be held at the luncheon, followed by an address by David Huntington, Department of Art History, University of Michigan, entitled "Church's Olana: Monument of Millennialist America."

The American Studies Newsletter is published monthly during the third week of each month by the Graduate Program in American Studies, Ballantine 421, 337-7748, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana. Notices and requests for subscription should be brought to the attention of the office by the second Monday of the month. Copies are sent free upon request to all interested students, faculty, staff and friends of the Program.

GRADUATE STUDENTS IN AMERICAN STUDIES: Please notify the office of any change in address, phone, academic position, department, awards, etc. A current list of Program participants is being prepared for publication now -- contact Jane Scarola as soon as possible.

A MODEL AMERICAN STUDIES COURSE -- "THE CITY" -- TRIUMPH OF THE IMPENITENTS

Many, though not all, graduate students in American Studies look forward to the day when they can burst loose the bonds of disciplinary surveys and canned courses and create their own Introduction and Study of the Real America!! In any case, from time to time they muse on the possibilities of fresh approaches to American civilization, or a portion thereof. Three graduates in the I.U. Program have not only spun their dreams, they have designed a new course, defended it before the "experts," won their spurs, and are presently riding high with an experimental study of the American city, H200 in the Honors Program.

Mary Kleinhans, Pat Allen, and Bob Scarola designed model American Studies courses for their final examination in the Urban America seminar, Spring semester, 1967. Director of the Program David Smith was pleased with their ideas and asked them to work together in formulating a more complete proposal for presentation at an American Studies area conference in Detroit in the Fall of 1967. At the meeting the students found a mixed reception. While such authorities as David Weimer (Editor, City and Country in America) were pleased with the materials selected for the course, many of the participants felt the teaching methodology was too ambitious. ("When we tried it, all we three professors did was argue among ourselves...") "Stomped by the boot of 'impossibility,'" the three impenitents kept the faith, and with the help of Prof. Smith they won the chance to offer such a course this semester as part of the undergraduate Honors Program.

The class consists of fifteen sophomores and juniors, most of whom are Honors students. The study of the city is problem oriented: how is the physical environment created? What are the human relations in the city -- black-white, bossism, social work? All students are required to complete an extensive list of readings, usually consisting of selections from a major work each week (Jacobs, The Death and Life of Great American Cities; Cox, The Secular City; Keil, Urban Blues; Riordan, Plunkitt of Tammany Hall; Mailer, Armies of the Night are a random sample), and at each class a student presents a short paper to open discussion of the reading, followed by a written critique by another student. David Smith participates in some of the sessions, but in general, Mary, Pat and Bob divide the weekly topics and counsel the students during the preparation of papers.

Such an approach assumes broadly trained teachers, eager students, and depth in the material. All those factors are at work. Mary Kleinhans reports that one problem has arisen because the students come from various departments in the College of Arts and Sciences (most from the Social Sciences and English), and as a result their backgrounds vary considerably. Several have never had a college-level survey of American history. It is impossible to present sufficient material to give all of them a firm background in several disciplines and still have time left for The City (let alone cover the city in one semester). But the problem is usually overcome by intelligent immersion in the materials at hand. In most cases the students are drawn into the subject through their papers, and their fellows quickly

develop the confidence to challenge easy generalizations and defend their own views. Intelligent reading is, after all, a major goal of such a course; whetting the appetite for more advanced studies in urbanism and American culture seems to follow naturally.

In all due respect, teaching such a course, Mary claims, is more challenging than Freshman Composition or American History discussion groups, the normal fare for teaching associates. And the experience will provide the basis for such experimental interdisciplinary work as these three graduates move out into their first full-time college positions. The reassessment of undergraduate education that is currently taking place can profit immensely from such a venture.

AMERICAN STUDIES AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY

In the coming months the Newsletter will publish a history of the origins and development of the Graduate Program in American Studies at I.U. As Part of that story we will discuss the role of several key faculty members who helped to found the Program or who are currently active in it. The first three vignettes will concern men who were in on the planning and still remain active on the American Studies Committee: Robert G. Gunderson, Edwin H. Cady, and Richard M. Dorson.

In the 1950's, under the leadership of Dean John Ashton, Indiana University began its nationally recognized interdisciplinary programs and area-studies departments: Comparative Literature, Linguistics, Folklore, and African, Asian and Latin American Studies. For years James Work, English, had tried to start an undergraduate program in American Studies. His death was a great loss to the movement. In 1960 Hennig Cohen of the American Studies Association approached the University for an institutional membership in ASA. At that time Prof. Work asked a new member of the Speech and Theatre faculty, Robert Gunderson, to carry the proposal to Dean Frank Gucker. The discussions proceeded slowly at first, but by the Spring of 1962, Dean Gucker appointed Gunderson to head a Committee on American Studies. They were to engage in designing a proposal for a new "Studies" program. The membership of that committee was broadly representative of various university departments -- Roger Buck, History and Logic of Science; Edwin Cady, English; David Derge, Government; Richard Dorson, History and Folklore; and Tracy Sonneborn, Zoology. By the end of 1962 Dean Ashton encouraged the Committee to extend its planning to a graduate program in American Studies.

Robert Gunderson, a distinguished member of the Department of Speech and Theatre and editor of the Quarterly Journal of Speech, is best known by Americanists as an historian. His work toward the M.A. at Oberlin was in History, though his Ph.D. at Wisconsin was done in Speech. His first major work, The Log Cabin Campaign (University of Kentucky Press, 1957) is widely recognized as an outstanding study of presidential campaigning and propaganda. Old Gentlemen's Convention; The Washington Peace Conference of 1861 (University of Wisconsin Press, 1961) also reflects Prof. Gunderson's interest in political rhetoric and propaganda. Professors Cady and Dorson also came to the Committee with a strong personal commitment to the interdisciplinary study of

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America. As these men pushed for the early establishment of American Studies at I.U., Carl Bode was invited to campus, and his conferences with the Committee helped to promote the work. Though the Program as such was not adopted by the Graduate Council until January, 1964 (at which time repeated applications for an NDEA Title IV grant bore fruit), the first interdisciplinary seminar was scheduled for the Fall of 1963-64.

"Romantic Nationalism in the United States, 1820-1840" was a boldly eclectic seminar organized by Gunderson. Outstanding faculty members from several departments -- Cady and Dorson, as well as Maurice Baxter, Chase Mooney, Hubert Heffner, Wallace Williams, David Smith, Jeffery Auer and Owen Thomas -- covered topics from Transcendentalism to Melodrama. Richard N. Current and Daniel Boorstin were among the guest lecturers who contributed to the study. From that time on the American Studies seminar has been a part of the I.U. Graduate School curriculum. Prof. Gunderson has attracted many American Studies students to his courses and seminars in the History of American Public Address, and in the Fall of 1964 he led another seminar for the Program: "Crusade For Freedom: Backgrounds of the Contemporary Civil Rights Struggle." His enthusiasm for this American Studies venture has continued, and he remains a member of the Program Committee.

AMERICAN CALENDAR

- Oct. 24 *Author Alex Haley, "Black Heritage," Fine Arts Aud., 7:30 p.m.
(Haley was the collaborator for Autobiography of Malcom X)
- Oct. 28 Film -- "Civilization" (U.S.A., 1916), Whittenberger Auditorium,
7:30 p.m. (Film Study Program)
- Oct. 28 *Poet Don Lee, Myers Hall 151, 3:30 p.m.
- Oct. 31 *"Preservation Hall Jazz Band": Open seminar, afternoon,
Music School Fac. Lounge; Convocation Concert, Auditorium, 8:00 p.m.
- Nov. 1-2 Ohio-Indiana A.S.A. Conference -- Butler Univ., "The Arts
in America" (see page 1)
- Nov. 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16 Genet's "The Blacks," University Theatre, 8:00 p.m.
- Nov. 4 Film -- "The Iron Horse" (U.S.A., 1924), Fine Arts Auditorium,
7:30 p.m. (Film Study Program)
- Nov. 6 *Blyden Jackson, "An Art of Second Sight," Business 223, 3:30 p.m.
- Nov. 7 *Films -- "African Writers Today," Fine Arts Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
- Nov. 10 F. Lee Baily, "The Defense Never Rests," 6:00 p.m., Alumni Hall (Lyceum)
- Nov. 14 *Films -- "Gwendolyn Brooks," "The Novel: Ralph Ellison, On Works
in Progress," Fine Arts Aud., 7:30 p.m.
- Nov. 20 George Jeurgens, "The Role of the Black in American History,"
Foster Quad, 7:00 p.m. (Current Issues Forum)
- Nov. 21 "The Apple Tree," Auditorium Series (Musical based on stories by
Mark Twain, Jules Feiffer and Frank Stockton), 8:00 p.m.

*Programs in the Focus: Black America series.

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Graduate Program in American Studies
Indiana University, Bloomington

Vol. I no. 3
20 November, 1968

BUTLER CONFERENCE ON THE ARTS IN AMERICA A DELIGHTFUL SUCCESS

Howard Baetzhold and the officers of the Ohio-Indiana American Studies Association deserve the hearty congratulations they received for a successful conference on the Arts in America held at Butler University, Indianapolis, early this month. Nine students and faculty members from Indiana University attended the Saturday meeting. The morning coffee hour was followed by a highly polished paper presented by George Geib, Prof. of History at Butler and Secretary-Treasurer elect of the Association. He examined the political and journalistic battle in Philadelphia over Lewis Hallam's Confederation Theater. The controversy mixed rural and pietistic moralism, eighteenth-century continental ideas of the drama, and sometimes comical patriotism of the early national period. Geib provided an entertaining sketch of the social and intellectual life of our greatest of colonial cities in the 1780's, a view more often overshadowed by discussions of Federal politics. The second paper was read by Donald Haug, Chairman of the Department of Art, Eden Central School, Eden, New York. He traced the story of a "viable tradition" of American still-life painting from the reign of the Peales to his own work. Haug's still-lives show a mixture of concerns with the technical aspects of the medium (the qualities of light in collages of memorabilia, newsclippings, photographs, broadsides) and the clash of contemporary social concerns.

The high point of the program was David Huntington's luncheon slides lecture on Frederick Church's "Olana." Huntington, of the Department of Art History, University of Michigan, has been the key figure in preserving this incredible estate on the Hudson River, a monument to American millennialism and the eclectic tastes of its builder. In precise, elegantly descriptive commentary, Huntington examined the style of Church's landscapes, and then proceeded to illustrate the confluence of religious mysticism, artistic flair, and cosmopolitan interests in both paintings and the architecture of Olana. The rich store of artifacts and manuscripts now at the estate have only begun to be disclosed by Huntington and his colleagues. If this early view of the treasures is any indication of things to come, we can expect a new dimension in nineteenth-century American cultural history to emerge from Olana.

AMERICAN STUDIES SEMINAR SCHEDULED FOR SECOND SEMESTER: "REDEEMER NATION"

American Studies G751, the graduate seminar, will be offered this spring under the title "Redeemer Nation: America's Preoccupation with Millennial Hope and Apocalyptic Despair." A detailed description of the course will appear in the next issue of the Newsletter. Class meetings are scheduled for Wednesdays, 1:30 p.m. Instructor: David E. Smith.

THE HONORS CORE PROGRAM IN AMERICAN STUDIES

Interdisciplinary study begins with freshmen at Indiana University. For several years an Honors Core Program in Western Civilization has been conducted for superior Junior Division students. Last year, at the instigation of the Dean of the Honors Division, Warner Chapman, a similar Honors Core Program in American Studies was established. Dean Chapman himself taught a section of American Political Philosophy for the Government Department, G. Cullom Davis offered American History, and Edwin Cady presented his course in American Literature and Culture. In this experiment, as with the Western Civilization program, the detail of coordination between the three courses is a matter left to the discretion of the participating faculty. Perhaps the most significant factor is the time and effort invested in freshmen by the participating departments. Rather than present American history, for instance, in lecture form to several hundred students, the instructor can conduct a discussion of history with about twenty-five. The return is gratifying both for the teachers and the students.

This semester Edwin Cady continues to offer "American Literature and Culture," a course he developed through many years of American Studies interest. Unlike the other sections, his is open to non-Honors students, is therefore larger, and is presented as a conventional lecture course. American Political Thought is now taught by Prof. John Stoner, Government, with the assistance of Larry Cattell, grad. The class meets as a discussion group, reading the classics of political theory from Locke and Hobbes through the Federalist Papers and John Calhoun's Disquisition on Government. Paul Lucas, History, presents his section as "Selected Topics in American History to 1865." The students read a wide range of secondary works from Morgan's The Puritan Dilemma to Aptheker's The American Revolution and Elkins' Slavery. The class meetings begin with a formal debate between two students--"Resolved that the New England Puritans were intolerant bigots," or "Resolved that the 'free Negro'--north and south--lived far better than his slave counterpart"--and then open into discussion of the assigned topic.

All of the instructors agree that the students achieve an integration of knowledge with or without specific efforts at cross-over between the course syllabi. An almost accidental coordination results at times. For example, the American history section generally covers Puritan thought so well that Dean Chapman omitted the topic entirely. Prof. Stoner found, to his delight, that the students could go much further into Puritan political theory "with a depth of understanding you would not ordinarily find with freshmen." When two or more sections find it necessary to cover the same topic--for instance the thought of Tom Paine--the instructors can each deal with a different reading, knowing that the student will be able to draw on a wider range of primary material from his other sections.

Next semester, while Cady will continue as "anchor man" in literature, Dean Walter Nugent, History, and York Willbern, Government, (who also taught in the Honors Core Program second semester last year) will teach the other sections. That the three departments of the College of Arts and Sciences are willing to continue to assign some of their best teachers to such small undergraduate classes reflects John Stoner's view that the rewards are

exceptional compared to the normal freshman class. Partly because they are Honors students, and partly because they are given a chance to approach America from several disciplinary angles simultaneously, at least a few Indiana University students each year have a rare opportunity to study an area with the depth usually reserved for graduates.

AMERICAN STUDIES AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY

The following is Part II of a history of the origins and development of the Graduate Program in American Studies at I.U. Last month we discussed the efforts to establish the Program prior to its acceptance by the Graduate Council in 1964 and the role of Robert Gunderson, Speech and Theatre, as Chairman of the early Advisory Committee.

Proposals for the American Studies program were full of idealism. Requests for NDEA support cited six areas in which the program could expand the work of the University: encourage the interdisciplinary study of American culture; train teachers of American Studies; provide an integrated course of study in American culture for foreign students; stimulate creative interdisciplinary research; establish American Studies seminars crossing the boundaries of history, literature, politics, art, drama, science and technology; and publish interdisciplinary studies in American culture. Except indirectly the Program has done little in concentrating on foreign students or publication; but the other goals are seeing fulfillment. With the emphasis on interdisciplinary work it was to be expected that Edwin Cady would be a major figure in the development.

Long before American Studies had been recognized as an established field of academic endeavor, in fact before the first graduate program in American Civilization was inaugurated at Harvard, Cady was doing honors work in intellectual history and literature at Ohio Wesleyan. Upon graduating in 1939 he went on to earn his Masters Degree at Cincinnati the next year. At Wisconsin he continued in intellectual history and comparative literature, receiving his Ph.D. in 1943. His first teaching position after the war was at Ohio State, where his final work on his dissertation, to be published as The Gentleman in America, was done while in contact with other young scholars: Roy Harvey Pearce who was finishing his thesis on The Savage in America and Frederick Hoffman who was examining Freudianism in the literary mind. Later at Syracuse Cady recalls that he "discovered" cultural anthropology and found a new depth in literary and intellectual history that went beyond the Lovejoyan methodology of his earlier work. There he was a member of the founding committee for an undergraduate program in American Studies. When he was recruited as Rudy Professor of English for Indiana University by the late James Work he came partly to explore the opportunities for starting another American Studies program. Cady was an obvious choice for membership on the Advisory Committee headed by Gunderson.

With or without a formal interdisciplinary program his involvement in American Studies has been frequent and forceful: the course he developed over twenty years ago--American Literature and Culture--has been regularly offered, both at Syracuse and at Indiana. When the graduate program began, Cady offered the fourth seminar, "The Strenuous Life," and was Acting Director of the Program during the Spring of 1965. His publications, which are many and varied, include the two-volume study of William Dean Howells. Another of his projects is the Howells Edition now in progress at I.U. Edwin Cady remains a member of the Advisory Committee and a participant in the Honors Division Core Program in American Studies.

AMERICAN CALANDAR

- Nov. 21 *Poet Samuel Allen, Tuskegee Institute, reading from his works, Fine Arts Aud., 7:30 p.m.
- Dec. 3 *Elizabeth Koontz, President of N.E.A., "Educating Toward an Open Society," Business 223, 7:30 p.m.
- Dec. 4 David Baker, Music, "The History of Jazz," Foster Quad, 7:00 p.m. (Current Issues Forum)
- Dec. 5 *Myron Lieberman, Prof. of Education at Rhode Island College, "The Negro at the Policy Level in Education," Fine Arts Aud., 7:30 p.m.
- Dec. 9 Film -- "Greed" (U.S.A. 1924, dir. by Erick von Stroheim), Whittenberger Aud., 7:30 p.m. (Film Study)
- Dec. 11 Robert Klawitter, English, "Negro Poetry," Foster Quad, 7:00 p.m. (Current Issues Forum)
- Dec. 12 *Film -- "The Way It Is," school life in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Fine Arts Aud., 7:30 p.m.
- Dec. 13 Film -- "Patch of Blue," Whittenberger Aud., 7:30 p.m. (Film Study)
- Dec. 17 *Alex Poinsett, Senior editor, Johnson Publications, "Black Focus on Instructional Materials," Business 223, 7:30 p.m.
- Dec. 18 Max Dixon, grad., "Negro Drama," Foster Quad, 7:00 p.m. (Current Issues Forum)
- Dec. 19 *Donald Henderson, Southern Illinois University, "New Approaches to the Education of the Disadvantaged," Fine Arts Aud., 7:30 p.m.

*Indicates Focus: Black America programs.

DOCTORAL STUDENT GRANTS-IN-AID

Students interested in applying for a Doctoral Student Grant-in-Aid for the Dec. 1 deadline should contact the American Studies office no later than November 22. The grants are awarded four times a year for funding extraordinary expenses arising from the research for the dissertation. Maximum grant per student is \$400. Next award date is Dec. 15, and applications are available at the Office of Research and Advanced Studies, Bryan 310.

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AMERICAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER

Graduate Program in American Studies
Indiana University, Bloomington

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17 December 1968

AMERICAN STUDIES AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY

The following is Part III of a history of the origins and development of the Graduate Program in American Studies at I.U. Robert Gunderson, Chairman of the first Advisory Committee, and Edwin Cady, an organizer of interdisciplinary teaching first at Syracuse and then at I.U., are joined by Richard M. Dorson, Director of the Folklore Institute and Professor of History, as members of the present Committee who were active in establishing the Graduate Program.

Funding of the Program in American Studies was abetted by initial grant of four National Defense Education Act Title IV Fellowships for the year 1964-65, followed by another four new fellowships in 1965, two in 1966, and one in 1967. The grants not only provided support for doctoral students for three years each, but established an operating fund, a substantial portion of which has paid for a Director of the Program and enabled the participating Departments to share faculty members for American Studies seminars. With this boost the Graduate Council felt confident in backing the new course of studies. The application for NDEA funds was a direct outgrowth of similar applications filed by Richard Dorson for a doctoral program in Folklore that stressed training in American Civilization.

Like Gunderson and Cady, Dorson brought to Indiana a background in interdisciplinary scholarship and training that proved catalytic in the early 1960's. At Harvard in the late Thirties, Dorson found his greatest intellectual inspiration in Perry Miller. Miller, along with Howard Mumford Jones, F.O. Matthiessen and others began the first doctoral program in American Civilization. The first four Ph.D.'s earned there were by Henry Nash Smith, Daniel Aaron, Frederick Tolles and Edmund Morgan; Dorson earned the fifth. His academic career has combined teaching and writing in the field of American intellectual history with pioneering efforts on behalf of the new discipline of Folklore. By 1957 he had developed a "Theory of American Folklore," a theory subsequently exhibited in practice in his American Folklore (Chicago: 1959).

Dorson maintained that the American folklorist must "begin with American conditions and evolve a folkloristic perspective." He saw the peculiar American experiences of colonization, westward movement, Negro slavery, regionalism, immigration, democracy and mass culture as an historical framework which should provide the basis for field collections and research. The special skills of the folklorist could then provide new data and broader understanding of the experience. His theory was aimed at countering the practitioners of folklore based on established genres -- ballad theory, universal motifs, etc. -- who seemed to care little for coming to a new, deeper, understanding of American civilization. In November, 1968, Dorson delivered his presidential address to the American Folklore Society,

and he took the opportunity to review his theory. His own view of method in folklore has "shifted somewhat from established genres to unofficial culture." He called attention to such brilliant recent studies as Abrahams' Deep Down in the Jungle and Keil's Urban Blues. He noted his own work and that of others in the lore of industrialism and technological revolution. But through all the criticism and the fresh scholarship, he has persisted in calling for "true American folklorists who perceive the intimate bonds between the culture of the folk and the history of the American experience."

The short-lived NEA fellowships in Folklore (granted in 1960) were aimed at providing folklorists with a firm background in American history and literature. The combined work produced dissertations such as George Cary's "Folklore in the Writings of John G. Whittier" and Lynwood Montell's "A Folk History of the Coe Ridge Negro Colony." When Congress decided that there could be no viable connection between folklore and national defense the support was terminated, but Dorson continued his efforts to combine fields. He aided in drafting the application for NEA fellowships for the new American Studies Program, and he has continued to encourage his students to train themselves both as folklorists and Americanists.

Dorson's teaching and publishing have kept his feet in the camps of folklore and history. Each year, along with his folklore offerings, he conducts a survey course in The History of Ideas in America, and he has directed graduate history seminars such as Immigrant Thought in America: an exploration of acculturation. The Program in American Studies will continue to benefit from his influence as students plan and complete their degrees in Folklore and American Studies.

DECEMBER CONVENTION MEETINGS FEATURE AMERICAN STUDIES TOPICS

American Historical Association (New York City)

"Modes of Thought in Recent American Historiography," 9:30 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 28, Georgian Room, Statler Hilton Hotel, NYC. Chairman, Robert A. Skotheim, University of Colorado. Papers:

"Paradigm Formulation in Recent American Studies," Gene Wise, Raymond College, University of the Pacific

"A Paradigm for the Study of Political History," J. Roger Hollingsworth, University of Wisconsin

"The Metaphysics of Conservative and Radical Historiography Since World War II," David Noble, University of Minnesota

Commentator: Cushing Strout, Cornell University

Modern Language Association (New York City)

"Student Dissent in the American Academy: A Panel," 8:45 a.m., Friday, Dec. 27, Imperial Ballroom B., Americana Hotel, NYC. Chairman, John G. Cawelti, University of Chicago. Panel members: Quentin Anderson, Columbia University, Leslie A. Fiedler, SUNY at Buffalo, and three student leaders from American campuses.

"The Sorbonne: Spring, 1968," Joint luncheon with the American Literature Group, 12:45 p.m., Friday, Dec. 27, Imperial Ballroom B. Speaker: Laurence Wiley, Harvard University. Tickets \$7.50, available at the door.

The second morning session and the long afternoon session of December 27 are devoted to American literature and American Studies subjects.

Speech Association of America (Chicago)

"Academic Freedom and the First Amendment," Staughton Lynd, Roosevelt Free School, Chicago, speaker; Robert G. Gunderson, Indiana University, chairman. 2:30 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 29, East Room, 9th floor, Sheraton-Chicago Hotel, Chicago. Audience Reaction Panel: Franklin S. Haiman, Northwestern University; J. Jeffery Auer, Indiana University; H.L. Ewbank, Jr., Purdue University.

(Thanks to Robert F. Lucid, Executive Secretary of the American Studies Association, for these notices.)

DEERFIELD SUMMER FELLOWSHIPS IN EARLY AMERICAN HISTORY AND THE DECORATIVE ARTS

The Heritage Foundation of Deerfield, Massachusetts, has announced seven Summer Fellowships for single men who have completed two or more years of college, and were of undergraduate status as of January 1, 1969. The purpose of the program is to encourage young men to consider careers in the museum field, in historic preservation, and in teaching and scholarship in American Studies. Information is available in the American Studies office, B 421.

REDEEMER NATION

Students interested in the American Studies seminar, G751, to be offered this spring, may obtain a tentative syllabus from the Program office. "Redeemer Nation: America's Preoccupation with Millennial Hope and Apocalyptic Despair," will be taught by David E. Smith, Director of the Program. David H. Smith, Religion, will also participate, and Stephen Scholl, grad., will assist. Outstanding scholars from several fields are being scheduled to visit the sessions and present public lectures. Class meetings are scheduled for Wednesdays, 1:30 p.m.

AMERICAN CALENDAR

- Dec. 19 *Prof. Donald Henderson, Southern Illinois University, "New Approaches to the Education of the Disadvantaged," Fine Arts Aud., 7:30 p.m.
- Jan. 6 Film -- "Sunrise," (U.S.A., 1927, dir. F. W. Murnau), Whittenberger Aud., 7:30 p.m. (Film Study Program)
- Jan. 8 *David Barrett, Columbia University, "African Responses to Christianity," Ballantine 008, 8:00 p.m.
- Jan. 9 *Film -- "The Messenger from Violet Drive," Fine Arts Aud., 7:30 p.m.
- Jan. 10 Film -- "Raintree County," Whittenberger Aud., 7:30 p.m. (I.M.U. Film Series)
- Jan. 13 *Louis Farrakhan (tentative), topic on Black Power, watch for notices.

(American Calendar, Cont.)

- Jan. 13 Film -- "Gold-Diggers of 1935," (U.S.A., 1935, dir. Busby Berkeley), Whittenberger Aud., 7:30 p.m. (Film Study Program)
- Jan. 14 *Norman E. Whitten, Jr., "Religious Aspects of Black Culture in Western Equador and Eastern Canada," time and place to be announced.

* Indicates "Focus: Black America" programs.

The American Studies Newsletter is published monthly during the third week of each month by the Graduate Program in American Studies, Ballantine 421, 337-7748, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana. Notices and requests for subscription should be brought to the attention of the office by the second Monday of the month. Copies are sent free upon request to all interested students, faculty, staff and friends of the Program.

AMERICAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER

Graduate Program in American Studies
Indiana University, Bloomington

Vol. I no. 5
19 February 1969

AMERICAN STUDIES SUMMER 1969: "THE NEW LEFT"

Although not listed in the Summer Sessions Catalog, the American Studies Seminar, (G751) and Independent Readings (G753) will be offered. They will appear in the Summer Session "Schedule of Classes."

For three years now the Graduate Program in American Studies has offered summer work at I.U. In 1967 Don Cook, English, led a seminar on "The Emergence of a National Style, 1789-1820." In 1968 Prof. Cook continued to act as summer director of the Program, offering G603, Introduction to American Studies, while Dennis Wellend, visiting professor from the University of Manchester, led a seminar on "The American 1920's." This year Robert Merideth of Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, will be summer director of the Program. He will offer both the Independent Readings course and a seminar on "The New Left."

Merideth is Associate Professor and Director of American Studies at Miami. His doctoral work was in American Studies at the University of Minnesota. As Director of the Miami program he has encouraged several of his students to continue graduate study in the Indiana University Program. He has edited several works and contributed a variety of articles and reviews to such publications as the Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism, The New England Quarterly, the Journal of Presbyterian History and The Nation. He is best known among graduate students at I.U. for his collection American Studies: Essays on Theory and Method (Charles Merrill, 1968). His latest work, published three months ago, is The Politics of the Universe: Edward Beecher, Orthodoxy, and Abolition (Vanderbilt University Press, 1968). At Miami his teaching specialties have been American Studies methodology and the American Renaissance. A number of his journal articles deal with the New Left.

Students interested in the summer Seminar should contact Mr. Smith as soon as possible. Independent Readings proposals should also be prepared early, as only a limited number of students may take G753 under Professor Merideth's direction.

GRADUATE STUDENTS: MARCH 14 DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IN ABSENTIA

The office of Records and Admissions has notified all departments that a date for terminating registration in absentia for second semester, 1968-69, has been set as March 14, 1969. This new policy will affect particularly those doctoral candidates who are not in residence, but any graduate student wishing to register in absentia should note the deadline.

AMERICAN STUDIES AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY

The following is Part IV of a history of the origins and development of the Graduate Program in American Studies at I.U. Earlier installments related how the Program was planned and initiated, especially through the efforts of Robert Gunderson, Edwin Cady and Richard Dorson. The core of the graduate program has been the Interdisciplinary Seminar in American Studies. Gunderson offered two of the first three seminars: "Romantic Nationalism in America, 1820-1840," and "Crusade for Freedom: Backgrounds of the Contemporary Civil Rights Struggle." The fourth seminar, "The Strenuous Life," was led by Mr. Cady in the Spring of 1965.

Dean Walter T. K. Nugent presented "The 1870's" in the Fall of 1965. At that time he had just completed the draft of his recently published Money and American Society, 1865-1880 (Free Press, 1968). Using Nugent's method of rhetorical analysis for getting at social and intellectual history, students representing History, English, Folklore, and Speech and Theatre explored the 1870's from the perspective of such diverse data fields as popular religion, fiction, and theatre, to the labor movement, the folklore of the robber baron, the management of the Treasury Department, and utopian community experiments.

In the Spring of 1966 two seminars were offered. Sigmund Skard, Visiting NATO Professor in English and American Studies from Oslo, examined "The American Image in Europe." Skard came as an authority in the field, having led both in Norway and the Continent in the post-war development of American Studies programs, and having published American Studies in Europe (1958) and The American Myth and the European Mind (1961). At the same time David Smith, Director of the Program, led a seminar in "Methodological Problems in American Studies." The direct outcome of this second seminar was the designing of a new course, "Introduction to American Studies," which now forms a part of the core curriculum for the I.U. doctoral program. Smith's class had recognized the need for an early initiation into the problems and possibilities of interdisciplinary study.

"Success and Failure in American Life," offered jointly in the Fall of 1966 by Smith and Irene Neu (History), was the first of a series of cooperative seminars. The complementary effect of instructors from disparate fields worked well enough that in the Spring of 1968 Smith joined with Michael Wolff (Victorian Studies) and Scott Gordon (Economics) to present "England and America: The Gilded Age" for credit in either American or Victorian Studies. In addition to supplying students from different disciplines with instructors of varied background, the combined resources of the programs made possible visits by several distinguished scholars.

Participation by visiting firemen from other departments at I.U. and from institutions outside the University has become a hallmark of G751. Taking advantage of the University-wide "Urban Seminar" in the Spring of 1967, Smith presented an experimental study of "The American City." Besides attending the almost weekly lectures offered to the campus community, the seminar hosted Norman Podhoretz, David Wiemer, William G. McCloughlin, and Milton Schwartz (a Chicago architect). One highlight of the course was a tour of Louisville conducted by Douglas Nunn, Urban Affairs Editor of

(A.S. at I.U. Cont.)

the Courier-Journal. The experimental honors course on the American City for undergraduates offered last semester by Mary Kleinhans, Pat Allen and Bob Scarola had its origins in this seminar.

Since 1967 the seminar has also been offered in the summer. Don Cook (English) directed "The Emergence of an American Style" the first year. Though the participating students represented only History and English, their topics of investigation ranged into painting and architecture, religion, scientific and medical developments, the role of the early city, and the contributions to an American language by Noah Webster. In 1968 Dennis Wellend, a visiting professor in English and American Studies and present editor of the British Journal of American Studies, offered two seminars. "The American 1920's" was the regular G751 course, but several A.S. students participated in his English seminar on Twain and Howells. In 1969 Robert Merideth will continue the summer offerings with his course, "The New Left."

When he first became involved with the Program, David E. Smith prepared the second seminar (Spring, 1964) on "Millennium and Utopia." It is an indication of his continuing interest in Millenarian scholarship, and of the recent work on American millennialism by such writers as Alan Heimert and Ernest Lee Tuveson, that he is now teaching a new version of that first seminar, "Redeemer Nation: America's Preoccupation with Millennial Hope and Apocalyptic Despair." David H. Smith (Religion) and Stephen Scholl (grad.) are assisting. It is notable that the participating students represent English, History, Folklore, Speech and Theatre, Fine Arts and Government. In the tradition of past seminars scholars from other universities are being invited to meet with the class this Spring.

JACOBUS OFFERS CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAM ON MODERN ARCHITECTURE

John Jacobus, Jr., (Fine Arts), member of last year's Advisory Committee, is offering a series of programs entitled "The Present Shape: Architecture's Modern Tradition and Contemporary Situation" at the North Christian Church, Tipton Lane, Columbus, Indiana. Some of the sessions yet to be offered will be of special interest to American Studies people. On February 20 he will deal with "The Heroic Era of Twentieth Century Architecture: the 1920's," and on March 20 he is discussing "American Architecture since 1945." The programs, sponsored by the Bureau of Public Discussion at I.U., are scheduled every week, and a complete listing and information may be obtained from the Bureau in Owen Hall 301.

GAYE BOWMAN NEW AMERICAN STUDIES SECRETARY

Our new secretary in the American Studies office is Mrs. Gaye Bowman. She has moved down the hall from her position with the English Department. Her husband, Mr. Fred Bowman, is pursuing his A.B. in pre-law. Our former secretary, Mrs. Jane Scarola, has retired to private life.

AMERICAN CALENDAR

- Feb. 19 *Film and discussion led by Mark Erenburg, "Harvest of Shame" and "What Harvest the Reaper," 7:30 p.m. IMU Rm. M44-46.
- Feb. 20 Art Buchwald, "Have I Ever Lied to You," 7:15 p.m., Auditorium (Convocation).
- Feb. 20 *"Approaches to Improving the Economic Position of Black Americans," 7:30 p.m., IMU Solarium.
- Feb. 21 Eugene Genovese (Sir George Williams College), "Comparative Slave Systems," 2-5:00 p.m., Ballantine 003 (Sponsored by Latin American Studies).
- Feb. 21 "East of Eden," 7:30 p.m., Whittenburger Aud., (IMU Film Series).
- Feb. 25 Films -- "Grass Roots," "Now -- The Peace," "End of the Trail-- The American Plains Indian Parts I & II," 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall 124 (Anthropology Documentary Film Series).
- Feb. 26 *"Urban Ghettos and Black Americans," Roger Prear (Chairman, Model Cities Planning Council, Dayton, Ohio) and Anthony Downs (Senior V.P., Real Estate Research Corp., Chicago), 8:00 p.m., Whittenberger Aud.
- March 5 *William L. Percy (Cleveland NAACP) "Interracial Living and Black Separatism: A Very Compatible Duo," (plus film), 8:00 p.m., Fine Arts Aud.
- March 6 *Marvin Olsen (Sociology) and Richard L. Pfister (Institute of Applied Urban Economics), discussion and three American Friends Service Committee films on racial integration, 8:00 p.m., Woodburn 101.
- March 17 Film - "Film History No. 6" (clips of Chaplin and D. W. Griffith), on program with French film, 7:30 p.m., Fine Arts Aud. (Film Study Program).

*Indicates "Focus: Black America" programs.

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AMERICAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER

Graduate Program in American Studies
Indiana University, Bloomington

Vol. I no. 6
19 March 1969

SEMINAR VISITED BY DAVID HUNTINGTON

David Huntington, of the Department of Art History, University of Michigan, presented a discussion of apocalyptic themes in the art of Frederick Church for the American Studies spring seminar, "Redeemer Nation." At the meeting March 12 Huntington showed part of his collection of slides of Church's landscapes, sketches, and incredible estate "Olana." An authority on Church, Huntington was a key figure in the fight to preserve Olana as a New York state monument. The house and its thousands of curious artifacts gathered from many parts of the world is now being catalogued in preparation for further research.

The seminar members and Huntington joined in an attempt to analyze the possible apocalyptic allegories depicted by Church in his magnificent landscapes of North and South American wilderness. The conception of the paintings is often so grand as to defy precise interpretation, but the relationships with nineteenth-century American thought about the symbolic in nature and natural forces are inescapable. The very arrangement of furniture and art work in Olana is definitely programmatic, combining symbols of Eastern and Western religions and a multitude of aesthetic styles. It is perhaps too early to claim Church as a Millenarian, but this most prominent of landscape artists of the mid-nineteenth century may provide an important new dimension to the understanding of religious typology and the American mind.

AMERICAN STUDIES GRADUATE STUDENTS TEACH EXPERIMENTAL COURSES AT I.U.

Recent unrest on American campuses has often centered on demands for a curriculum responsive to the needs of the student. Faculty members respond with mixed feelings, and administrators often balk at major changes. At Indiana University one response to the demand for change is to allow the creation of experimental courses (listed as "J" courses) not limited to honors students. Graduate students in the American Studies Program have led the way in developing and teaching several of these new courses, and their interest has often emerged from a fresh evaluation of the entire curriculum and its relation to scholarship.

David Smith, director of the Program, says that "In American Studies we have introduced discussion of curriculum into our courses as a dynamic means of forcing our graduate students to confront basic assumptions about theory and method in interdisciplinary studies and to challenge them to examine relationships between scholarship and teaching implicit in most parts of a curriculum or even in single courses in a curriculum. The results have been encouraging thus far." Some of the experiments in teaching now being tried in the classroom, or still in the planning stages, have grown out of G603

"Introduction to American Studies." Last fall students designed such new approaches to undergraduate courses as Mel Groth's "The Anti-Humanist Tradition in America," and Mary Lou Meyer's "The Woman in America." "When the courses are sound," says Smith, "we try to take them out of the seminar room and into the actual curriculum."

Last semester's honors course H200, "The American City Street," taught by Mary Kleinhans, Bob Scarola and Pat Allen was originally conceived as a response to the A.S. seminar for Spring, 1966, on urban America (see the Newsletter for October, 1968). The instructors presented material from several disciplines in order to focus on the background of the contemporary city, and the students responded by producing short papers taking their keynotes from the assigned reading and synthesizing the ideas in their own way. The course was as much an experiment in teaching method as in the organization of new subject matter.

"Slavery and its Impact on American Culture" (J101) is an example of a course first outlined as part of a comprehensive curriculum for studying Black culture in the United States. Lorenz Boehm (English and American Studies) is now teaching the course for the Junior Division with two regular faculty members, David Smith and Cullom Davis (History) acting as his teaching assistants in leading discussion groups. "I suppose the easiest way to understand what we are doing or trying to do in the course," says Boehm, "is to picture one black man standing on a dark city street getting ready to throw a brick through the nearest window, and then ask why. Answering that question is what the course is all about."

Boehm's personal involvement with black culture goes back at least to his undergraduate days when he spent some time working with the civil rights movement in the South. "In order to at least partially understand the Negro's role and status in contemporary American culture it is necessary to step back and try to come to terms with how that role and status have been determined. And in order to do this," Boehm claims, "an interdisciplinary approach is necessary." In J101 he surveys slavery in whatever form it existed, and especially the black man's reaction to that oppression. The goal is not to understand black culture, but to "come to see how black-white interaction has produced traits presently characteristic of American culture." To say that such a course is ambitious is to define it as a notable example of these new approaches to curriculum.

Not all of the experiments in graduate student teaching have grown directly out of American Studies classes. Tom Arthur (Theatre and American Studies) has combined his scholarly interest in American theatre history and his experience with the theatre in the teaching of acting. This semester he is conducting a J200 section, "Experiment in Ensemble Acting" for the Department of Speech and Theatre. Working with a group of nineteen students, most of whom were enrolled in his acting course last semester, he is applying games "theory" as a technique for teaching.

Arthur believes that there is a connection between games theory and Jane Addams' ideal of social reconstruction as applied in teaching at Hull House in Chicago. Hull House had a somewhat famous theatre troupe in the early decades of this century which toured Europe. Tom interviewed one of the members of that early group shortly before she died, and he is interested

in exploring the relation of teaching methods and acting.

Viola Spolin, author of Improvisation for the Theatre, the text for J200, developed a series of ingenious games for training actors. The connections between the early Hull House troupe and Spolin's theories are only tentative, but she taught at Hull House for a time. Spolin's son, Paul Sills, made use of the games. He and his classmates at the University of Chicago in the late forties and early fifties formed a company after leaving the University. Sills, Zorah Lamphert, Barbara Harris, Mike Nichols, Elaine May, and others (later joined by Shelly Berman) produced the "Second City" in Chicago, and Sills' influence in many now-famous actors is quite strong.

As a student at Northwestern Arthur met Robert Benedetti who was working with readers' theatre and chamber theatre techniques. Arthur and Benedetti (who spent some time working at Second City) came to Bloomington in 1964. In Chicago Tom was drawn back into the theatre by working for Benedetti at the Court Theatre at the University of Chicago. There and at I.U. they continued their discussions of games as a way into ensemble experience for actors. Arthur's primary interest in the games is their application to the teaching of acting. His J200 class is not limited to students who plan a career in acting, but the entire class is responding to the experimental atmosphere and many of them are acting in student-directed plays such as the "Theatre of Cruelty Hamlet" that was presented last weekend.

Another example of a combination of participation in art and an interest in the study of American Culture is an American Music course planned by Leo LaSota (Folklore and American Studies). LaSota's background in applied music and music education provided the basic resource for his work. Dennis Welland's seminar on "America in the 1920's" (offered last summer) provided an opportunity to study one aspect of a cultural stereotype, the "Jazz Age," and convinced LaSota of the value of a more comprehensive project. With the encouragement of Ralph Daniel of the I.U. School of Music, he has prepared outlines for separate courses on popular music and music education in America, abbreviated forms of which appear in the basic American Music course.

"If American music is divorced from its cultural context," LaSota points out, "the resultant materials are artifacts which, depending largely on one's biases, are either 'good' or 'bad.' The study of early American music, if predicated on such critical expectations, becomes a talent hunt for American musicians who compare favorably with the established musical giants of Europe." Instead, he attempts to discover and evaluate the broad range of music in America--the musical life of the Puritans, frontiersmen, immigrants and soldiers--and examine cultural stereotypes such as rugged individualism and racism reflected in the music of the land.

In trying to find the answers to questions of how music reflects--reinforcing, modifying, or negating--such cultural concepts, LaSota developed a complete course: syllabus, lecture notes, listening and reading assignments, discography, bibliography, tentative student examinations and projects. It

(Experimental Courses Cont.)

only remains to try the course on live students.

In American universities and colleges the pattern of student acceptance of traditional courses is changing rapidly. It is David Smith's belief that the experimental courses now being led by graduate students in the Program are models of what can be achieved when basic assumptions about curriculum are debated within a framework of scholarly involvement. For the graduate students involved, whether their courses grew out of intense personal experience or as part of a study of interdisciplinary method, the rewards are far greater than is normally the case with graduate teaching assignments.

AMERICAN CALENDAR

- March 19 Charles Kleinhans (Grad., Comp. Lit.), "Radical Theatre: Visious, Divisions, Diversions," 12:00 p.m., IMU 300C (NUC Discussion Group).
- March 19 Dr. A. F. Bartsch (Director of Federal Water Pollution Control Lab.), "Research to Save America's Lakes," 7:30 p.m., Jordan 239 (Ecology Seminar).
- March 19 Professor Benjamin De Mott (Amherst), "The Undergraduate and Society," Panel and discussion, 8:00 p.m., Ballantine 013 (English Department Centennial).
- March 20 Film--"Anatomy of Violence" (Marcuse, Goodman, Carmichael, Ginsberg, et al.), 8:00 p.m., Business 109 (Focus: Black America).
- March 25 Professor Frank Kermode (University of London), "The Survival of the Classics," 8:00 p.m., Ballantine 013 (Addison Locke Roache Lectures; English Department Centennial).
- March 26-27 Black Theatre Workshop, "Soul on Ice," (Dramatic adaptation with choreography and music by Dave Baker), University School Aud., time to be announced.
- April 8 William Worthy, "Black Power and World Revolution," 7:15 p.m., I.U. Aud. (Convocation).

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AMERICAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER

Graduate Program in American Studies
Indiana University, Bloomington

Vol. I no. 7
21 May 1969

LORENZ BOEHM RECEIVES LIEBER AWARD

Congratulations are in order for Lorenz Boehm, English and American Studies, who received the Lieber Teaching Associate Award at the 1969 Founders Day Ceremonies. Boehm compiled an impressive record of teaching commendations for Junior Division advisors while working as an instructor in W131 (English Composition) during the 1967-68 academic year. This year he designed and taught the special J101 course, "Slavery and its Impact on American Culture." According to his "assistants" in the course, David E. Smith and G. Cullom Davis, Boehm's lecturing in this experimental class has been most stimulating, his administration thorough, and the student response enthusiastic. The design of the course has been so well received that the Afro-Afro-American Students Association selected it as a prototype for future Afro-American courses, and that recommendation has been passed on to the College of Arts and Sciences in its planning of Black studies courses.

ROBERT MERIDETH IS SUMMER DIRECTOR OF AMERICAN STUDIES

Robert Merideth, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, will take over duties as summer director of the Program in American Studies on June 16. During the regular summer session he will offer G751, the Seminar in American Studies, on "The New Left," on Tuesdays and Fridays from 3:00 to 5:30 p.m. He will be available for directing a limited number of Independent Readings (G753).

David E. Smith, whose term as Director ends this June, will be on sabbatical leave during the Fall semester. His address will be Star Route, Damariscotta, Maine 04543. Gaye Bowman will be in the office during the interim.

THE DIASPORA

As a service to participants in the Program we are providing a list of forwarding addresses for students who have notified the office of their plans for this fall. See page 4.

DISSERTATIONS IN AMERICAN STUDIES

One of the best profiles of any graduate program is its list of doctoral dissertations completed and in progress. The Indiana University Graduate Program in American Studies, completing the fifth year of full-scale operation, now lists sixteen dissertations completed or in progress, and several others pending approval from cooperating Departments. The titles indicate a wide range of interests within the social and intellectual history of America, and point to a trend from more students in Speech and Theatre to a larger number from the English Department, with History and Folklore represented in smaller numbers. With one exception, all of the candidates listed are working toward the combined degree (e.g., History and American Studies), and the Department listed after the name is the cooperating Department. The thesis chairmen are also listed.

Completed, 1968:

Nancy Woloch (History), "The Image of the Reformer in America, 1830-60,"
Maurice Baxter.

Henry Hawken (Speech and Theatre), "The Speaking of Henry Smith Lane,"
Robert Gunderson.

Expected Completion 1969:

Donald Hines (Folklore), "Dust Devils in the Desert, A Study of the Impress
of the Frontier in Traditional Anecdotes of Humor and Exaggeration, in
Folk Beliefs, and in Traditional Speech Gleaned from some Old-Time
Weekly Newspapers from the Inland Empire of the Pacific Northwest,"
Richard Dorson.

Gordon Warren (History), "The Trent Affair: A Study of Anglo-American
Public Opinion, 1861-62," Robert Ferrell.

Richard Weaver (Speech and Theatre--American Studies minor), "The Lyceum
Movement in Michigan", Robert Gunderson.

In Progress:

Judith Anderson (Speech and Theatre), "Thomas Jefferson and the American
City: A Rhetorical Dilemma," Robert Gunderson.

Larry Danielson (Folklore), "Midwest Swedish Pioneer Community," Richard
Dorson.

Michael Dues (Speech and Theatre), "Neither North nor South: The Rhetoric
of Confrontation, Compromise and Reaction in Kentucky, 1832-1867,"
Robert Gunderson.

Judith Everson (Speech and Theatre), "The Remnant of Abolitionist Rhetoric,
1870-77," Robert Gunderson.

(Dissertations, cont.)

Michael Owen Jones (Folklore), "Style and Creative Imagination in American Folk Art with Special Reference to the Effects of Urbanization," Warren Roberts.

Mary P. Kleinhans (English), "Affluence and Potential Morality in American Fiction, 1873-1888," David E. Smith.

Stephen C. Scholl (History), "Protestant Eschatology and Gilded Age Social Thought," Walter T. K. Nugent.

Frederick M. Schultz (History and Philosophy of Education), "The Concept of Community in the Philosophy of John Dewey," Stanley Ballinger.

John L. Sullivan (Speech and Theatre), "The Development of the Counter-Image of Andrew Jackson, 1824-1840," Robert Gunderson.

David L. Thaxton (History), "David Wark Griffith's 'Birth of a Nation' and Its Impact on American Society," George Juergens.

Franklin R. Thomas (English), "The Literary Admirers of Alfred Stieglitz, Photographer," David E. Smith.

Tentative, May, 1969:

Patrick F. Allen (English), "Through the 'Eye' of Self: American Travel Literature, 1820-1860," Edwin Cady.

Thomas H. Arthur (Speech and Theatre), "The Businessman as a Character in American Theatre," Richard Moody.

James W. Brogan (English), "Crevecoeur and the Idea of America," David E. Smith.

Dean Hartley (English), "Provincial Hero in American Fiction, 1880-1900," Wallace Williams.

Michael Marks (English), "Revolutionary Pamphlet Literature as a Genre," David E. Smith.

Allan G. Smith (English), "Mind and Motive in Nineteenth-Century American Fiction," David E. Smith.