

The APHA

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ASSOCIATION

Letter

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APHA ANNOUNCES BICENTENNIAL CONFERENCE. The APHA Education Committee, under the chairmanship of Dr. Morris A. Gelfand, has announced preliminary plans for the First Annual APHA Conference. The conference, which will have as its theme, "Typographic America; A Bicentennial Perspective," is scheduled for Saturday, October 2, 1976. The place will be the Harkness Theater, Columbia University (New York City). The weekend date was selected to facilitate attendance, especially by out of town members. The complete program will be announced later, but a number of prominent figures in the typographic world have already agreed to speak. Following a keynote address, other speakers during the day-long conference will discuss such special aspects as publishing history, printing and intellectual freedom, the private press in America, bookselling in America, and perspectives on the future of printing. Opportunities for meeting other APHA members will be provided by a luncheon hiatus and a cocktail reception that will follow the formal part of the conference. A moderate registration fee will be charged. Please mark your calendar now to reserve this important date.

APHA IN AUSTRALIA. Earlier this year we were pleased to welcome a visit from an Australian member, Geoffrey E. Dye, College Librarian of the Melbourne College of Printing and Graphic Arts. This technical college has been in existence nearly thirty years, drawing its student body from Australia, New Zealand, and the widespread Pacific area. The library of some 10,000 volumes contains a comprehensive collection in the fields of printing technology and graphic arts, including paper and ink technology and related subjects. In a recent letter, Mr. Dye reports that he is already "moving to establish an Australian printing history society, which will embrace the Pacific Islands, where much of interest has taken place with missionary presses."

By an interesting coincidence, another of our Australian members, Mrs. Jude Lubrano, of Armidale, New South Wales, recently wrote to APHA expressing her hope that there might some day be such a companion history organization in Australia.

Geoffrey Dye also offered a suggestion for all graphic arts librarians. He would like to see an international association of graphic arts librarians, including printing college librarians. "As I see it," he writes, "such a body could cooperate in acquisitions, formulate standards for classification schemes and abstract services in our field, exchange

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monograph and serial publications, exchange staff where practicable, and compile an international directory of graphic librarians; also to carry out any other work that may have international benefits in our special field." Comments from APHA members on this proposed organization would be much appreciated.

NATIONAL AMATEUR PRESS ASSOCIATION TO MEET. The National Amateur Press Association will celebrate its centennial (and the American Bicentennial) at its meeting on July 3-5, 1976, at the Penn Central Inn in Philadelphia. It was in 1876 in Philadelphia that this group of hobby printers and writers who publish small journals for their own amusement and pleasure was founded by some three dozen youths. Today its membership lists some 400 members, among them doctors, lawyers, businessmen, professors, some professional printers and writers -- people from all walks of life. The National Amateur, the association's quarterly publication, since 1878 has featured articles on writing and printing and critiques of current amateur journals. Its editor is selected annually at the convention, along with a president and board of officers. Annual laureate awards are also presented each year for the best material in various categories. Current president is Harold Segal, 2104 David Drive, Bristol, PA 19007, who will gladly answer all inquiries.

NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN LIBRARY. The Friends of the Library at the New York Botanical Garden are accepting applications for charter memberships. The Friends are "devoted to four centuries of printed books, particularly those in the fields of botany and horticulture, and to helping the Library preserve and enhance its collections" through their financial support. Members will be invited to join visiting scholars, horticulturists, and bibliophiles at special events offered at the Garden and elsewhere in New York. The Library's collections are considered by many to be the most comprehensive botanical library in the Western Hemisphere. The Library made news recently with its acquisition of the Circa instans, a twelfth century botanical manuscript of supreme importance; the purchase was made possible through the generosity of several Friends. Members, who contribute a minimum of \$50 a year for a single membership, enjoy a number of membership privileges, including research assistance, book preservation advice, and publications. Further information may be obtained from The Friends of the Library, The New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, NY 10458.

GREGYNOG REVIVED. The University of Wales has established a private press, Gwasg Gregynog, at Gregynog. Their first publication is Laboratories of the Spirit, a collection of new poems by R. S. Thomas. The book has been designed and printed by Michael Hutchins, first Gregynog Printing Fellow of the University, working in the studios and with much of the original equipment of the Gregynog Press, famous private press of the 1920s and 30s. In recent years Gregynog has been the University's residential educational and conference center. The pages have been hand set in 16 point Janson type and printed on an Albion press. Paper for the edition was taken from the stock of hand-made paper bought by the Gregynog Press before 1940. The edition was limited to 215 copies; the price (if any are still available) is £60. The address of the University of Wales Press is University Registry, Cathays Park, Cardiff, Wales. A prospectus, incidentally, with specimen pages printed on hand-made paper is £1.

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viduals in U.S.A., \$13.00 overseas. Address orders to Graphic Crafts, Inc., 300 Beaver Valley Pike, Lancaster, PA 17602. Also still available is Mr. Huss' earlier book, The Development of Printers' Mechanical Typesetting Methods, 1822-1925, published for the Bibliographical Society of the University of Virginia by the University Press of Virginia. The greater part of this book consists of technical descriptions of some 294 machines directly concerned with mechanical typesetting, arranged in chronological order. Most of the machines described are illustrated. Casters and other machines are included as well as typesetting machines. This is a most useful book for an overview of machine typesetting and especially for descriptions of the less known models. The price is \$17.50.

ALAN WOFSY PUBLICATIONS. William Nicholson's An Alphabet has been reprinted by Alan Wofsy Fine Arts (150 Green St., San Francisco, CA 94111) at \$12.50. This facsimile of the original 1898 edition has been excellently done, with good reproductions of the original color plates. Nicholson and James Pryde together were known as the "Beggerstaff Brothers." They did much to foster the revival of the woodcut in modern English art, and strongly influenced poster and commercial design. The 26 lithographs (one for each letter of the alphabet) are based on Nicholson's woodcuts. Their simplified strong designs brought a new note to English illustration.

Also from Alan Wofsy is Notes on the Merrymount Press and Its Work by Daniel Berkley Updike; with a Bibliographical List of Books Printed at the Press, 1893-1933, by Julian Pearce Smith; to which Has Been Added A Supplementary Bibliography of Books Printed at the Press, 1934-1949, by Daniel Berkeley Bianchi. The first part of the Bibliography, 1893-1933, was printed in an edition of 500 copies in 1934. This edition adds the new Supplementary Bibliography, which increases the number of works catalogued from 726 to 1037. The Bibliography is now complete in one volume. The price is \$30.00. Other valuable bibliographical reprints from Alan Wofsy include the Bibliography of the Grabhorn Press, 1915-1956 (\$75.00) and the Bibliography of the Ashendene Press, 1895-1935 (\$75.00)

MAILING ADDRESSES FOR APHA

NEWSLETTER ONLY: Send news items, announcements, and comments for APHA Letter directly to the Editor, Prof. Catherine T. Brody, Livingston Library, NYCCC, 250 Livingston St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201.

DUES AND CONTRIBUTIONS: Send these (along with membership applications if available) directly to the Treasurer, Stuart C. Dobson, 215 Harriman Rd., Irvington, N.Y. 10533. Make checks payable to APHA, either abbreviated or written out.

ALL OTHER CORRESPONDENCE: To APHA, Post Office Box 4922, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y. 10017, unless you are requested to do otherwise.

Members are advised that it will save time if they direct inquiries to the proper addresses as shown above.

Pierpont Morgan Library (29 E. 36th St., NYC). "The Illustrator and the Book in England, 1790-1914," from the collection of Gordon N. Ray. Through May 2. Anglo-Saxon manuscripts in America. Through May 9. Tues.-Sat., 10:30-5; Sun., 1-5. A comprehensive book by Gordon N. Ray surveying English book illustration between 1790 and 1914, with more than 375 pages and over 300 illustrations, will be published by the Morgan Library in May. A paperbound edition, at \$22.50, will be available only at the Morgan Library; a hardbound edition, at \$59.95, is to be issued by the Oxford University Press.

COLONIAL PRINTING PRESS NIGHT LIGHT. Pursuing an amusing idea, Barbara Stuhlmuller, formerly publisher of The Newspaper Collector's Gazette, has designed a little electronic night light bearing a pictorial depiction of a colonial printing press, which did, after all, enlighten colonial civilization. The lights, \$1.50 each, plus \$.35 for orders under \$6.00, will glow for 50,000 hours -- well past the Bicentennial. Order from Barbara Stuhlmuller at her home address: 2719 N.W. 39th Terrace, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33311. Her accompanying verse begins: "Our Common Press imprint, black on white,/Glows by Daye and shines through night..."

SOUTHERN BOOKS COMPETITION AWARDS. The 1975 Southern Books Competition winners have been announced. The competition attracted more than 100 entries, with books entered by trade publishers, university presses, specialist publishers, and private presses located in the South. Awards were made to fifteen publishers, including nine university presses, three private presses and three trade publishers. Dwight Agner is represented in two winning categories. His own Press of the Nightowl won with The Nightowl at Ten, which was designed, hand printed and hand bound by Mr. Agner. Louisiana Images, by J.R. Kemp and L.O. King, a winning entry published by the Louisiana State University Press, was designed by Mr. Agner. William G. Haynes, Jr. designed, printed and bound at his Ashantilly Press a couple of prize winning entries -- one for the Richmond County Historical Society and the second for Emory University of Atlanta.

HUNTINGTON LIBRARY GRANT. The Huntington Library of San Marino, CA will use its \$94,385 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to prepare guidebooks to its literary and historical manuscripts, documents, letters, diaries and other materials, which number over three and a half million.

PRINTING IN AMERICA. The Eastman Kodak Company has issued a special Bicentennial publication commemorating the accomplishments and role of the American printer in the development of our country. The illustrated 12-page booklet features high points of printing history up through modern technological developments. Single copies of "Printing in America" can be obtained without charge by writing to Eastman Kodak Co., Dept. 412-L, 343 State St., Rochester, NY 14650.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO PRINTING HISTORY BY RICHARD E. HUSS. A new book by Richard E. Huss, Dr. Church;s "Hoax," has recently been published. The volume is about Dr. William Church, the American inventor and mechanical genius, who never received the recognition he deserves for his accomplishments. Church, who died in 1863, invented in many areas. His typographical inventions include the first typesetting machine and a new form of printing press. The book may be obtained for \$12.65 postpaid to indi-

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"Footnotes to American History." Both exhibits will run through the summer. Miss Sabine adds, "Members of APHA might be glad to see some of these items and we would be happy to see APHA members."

THE ULSTER COUNTY GAZETTE AND ITS ILLEGITIMATE OFFSPRING. The recent exhibition at the Library of Congress in Washington of the original January 4, 1800 issue of the newspaper reporting the death of George Washington, along with selected reprints of this newspaper, calls to mind this shady tale from the files of printing history. At least one hundred reprint editions of the Ulster County Gazette for this date have been identified. Some are honest reprints; some no doubt are deliberate forgeries. The reprints differ from each other only in slight details but can be distinguished from the original. The Library of Congress received so many inquiries from people who thought they owned the rare original that it put out a publication describing tests to use in identifying an original through paper and typographical evidence. The New York Public Library also published a booklet describing the spurious reprints. To date, however, there are only three copies of the original known to exist. These are in the Library of Congress and the American Antiquarian Society.

LINDNER COLLECTION PRESS AT SMITHSONIAN. The Bicentennial Exhibition of the Smithsonian Institution, opened by President Ford on May 10th, features in full operation the C.W. Potter 24x36 single revolution press, circa 1865, which the museum borrowed from the Ernest A. Lindner Collection of Antique Printing Machinery for a period of three years. This press was shipped in June of 1975 to the state of Georgia to be restored as new and then re-shipped to the Smithsonian where during the Bicentennial it will be displayed as though it were for sale as a new press by the Potter Company. It is the center piece of the Smithsonian display and will be producing an appropriate newspaper each day. Harriet and Ernest A. Lindner, owners of the press, attended the opening ceremonies on May 10th, as well as the costume ball given on the evening of May 9th, at which everyone present dressed in the costume of the 1870s. The Lindner Collection (Los Angeles, CA) is the largest collection of antique printing machinery in private hands, and is surpassed in importance only by the Ford and Smithsonian institutional collections. A catalog of the collection is available from book dealers -- Dawson's (535 N. Larchmont Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90004), for example.

EXHIBITS.

Grolier Club (47 E. 60th St., NYC). Autograph manuscripts, first editions, printed music, stage designs and photos tracing the sources of over twenty operas. Among the highlights are a page of Goethe's manuscript of "Faust," with Gounod's score for the opera, Oscar Wilde's manuscript of "Salome," a first edition of Buchner's "Woyzeck," with part of Alban Berg's autographed score of his operatic version, and Maeterlinck's manuscript of "Pelleas and Melisande," along with Debussy's corrected proofs of his operatic score. Through June 12th. Mon.-Fri., 10-5; Sat., 10-3.

New York Public Library (Fifth Ave. at 42nd St., NYC). "Independence: A Literary Panorama, 1770-1850," rare printed editions and manuscripts of American literature, Through September 17th. "The American Idea: Discovery and Settlement, Revolution and Independence." An impressive show drawn from NYPL's remarkable collection of rare books and documents of American history. Through July 9th. Hours vary, please check.

increased rent with the expiration of his lease, and another source of collector's treasures will have disappeared. Until July first, all remaining stock is being sold at substantial discounts.

ZENGER LANDMARK TO BE RESTORED. St. Paul's Church in Eastchester, Mount Vernon, NY, the site of the sedition trial of pioneer journalist John Peter Zenger in 1735, is to be restored, according to the National Trust for Historical Preservation. At this famous trial Zenger was acquitted and the trial is generally credited with establishing freedom of the press in this country. The restoration is funded in part by the National Park Service through the New York State Division of Historic Preservation.

EARLY WESTERN PRINTING. An excessively rare example of pioneer American printing was recently donated to the University of Idaho Library. It is a small book of Nez Perce Indian hymns, transliterated from that language and printed by missionary Henry Spalding in 1842. Rev. Spalding and his wife, the first missionaries to settle in Idaho, lived at Lapwai among the Nez Perce from 1836. The hymnal is from the first press in that part of the country and the third in the entire West. Only three other copies are known to exist. The book was intended for use by the Indians who were learning to read their language in the roman alphabet. The press was sent west at Spalding's request by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions to help him in instructing the Indians. It was brought by ship from Honolulu to Ft. Vancouver, Washington. From there it was loaded into a canoe and shipped by the Columbia River to Fort Walla Walla, and then up the Snake River to Lapwai Mission, arriving in May 1839.

MEMBERS' INQUIRIES.

S.M. Russell (105 McIver St., Greensboro, NC 27403) is looking for the names and addresses of makers of handmade paper now working in this country. He is already familiar with the work of Henry Morris, Walter Hamady and the Colophon Workshop in Rhode Island, but would appreciate additional information.

Gilliam Haven (38 West Pomeroy Lane, Amherst, MA 01002) owns an 1854 Imperial press which has a flat bed and is operated with a crank and a lever. She needs to find out about getting parts or improvising them. Specifically, she needs a frisket. Miss Haven is also interested in finding out more about the history of her press.

Frederica Postman (The Printers' Shop, 4047 Transport St., Palo Alto, CA 94303) is helping a friend reconstruct the grippers on a Perfected Prouty Press #3, 10x15, built about 1905 by the Boston Printing Press & Machinery Co. She has a copy of a 1906 advertising booklet showing photographs of the press, but has not been able to find a parts book or manual. If any APHA member has such a book for sale, rent, loan, or knows where one is available, this help would be very much appreciated.

PRINTING IN UTICA. The Munson-Williams-Proctor Institute (Utica, NY) in its Bicentennial exhibition, entitled "Made in Utica," features a section on "Printing In Utica," according to information supplied by APHA member, Julia Sabine. The exhibit shows the work of William Williams, Howard Coggeshall and others. Beginning May 30 there will also be a small exhibit of autographs and interesting books, some in handsome bindings, mostly from the Proctor collections. This second exhibit is entitled

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several antique printing presses, including three Columbian presses and an Albion which are set up and are for sale. Interested persons are welcome to come by and see them.

WORKING PAPERS ON WEST INDIAN PRINTING. The splendid project directed by Roderick Cave of the University of the West Indies, tracing the development of printing and the book trade in the West Indies, has resulted in the publication and distribution of 15 papers reporting various aspects of the research done to date. These were sent without charge to anyone requesting them. The rising costs of postage and materials has made it necessary to impose an annual charge of five Jamaican dollars. To stay on the mailing list, send a check for J\$5, made payable to the Department of Library Studies, to Prof. Cave at P.O. Box 181, Mona, Kingston, Jamaica. Among the papers either already ready or now in progress are studies of printing in South Trinidad in the 19th century, official printing in Barbadoes, the early history of printing in Tobago, and a revised and augmented version of Prof. Cave's survey of West Indian printing history.

WHERE TO STUDY BOOKBINDING. The Guild of Bookworkers has recently published Opportunities for Study in Hand Bookbinding and Calligraphy. The listing includes 129 binders in the U.S. and abroad with whom amateurs can study. The arrangement is geographical and includes brief information about the instructor and the scope of the instruction. Where information relating to calligraphy instruction was furnished, this is also supplied, but admittedly is very sketchy. Although incomplete, the booklet is a valuable source of information. Copies of the list may be ordered from the Guild of Bookworkers, 1059 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10021. For good will, requests should include a dollar to cover costs.

CAMBRIDGE CONGRESS CELEBRATING CAXTON'S QUINCENTENARY. The Caxton Congress to be held this coming September in London has already been mentioned in the APHA LETTER. In June, under the auspices of the Wynken de Worde Society, another Congress celebrating the 500th anniversary of Caxton's introduction of printing into England will be held at Cambridge University. The theme is "Communications -- From Serifs to the Stars." The emphasis will be on the enormous changes in communications since William Caxton's time and what we can expect in the future. The Congress, to be held June 28 through July 2, will offer lectures, discussions, demonstrations, and visits to points of special interest. Those attending will be housed in single rooms at the University, with all meals and activities included, for the total cost of \$200. Reservations and further information may be obtained from the U.S. coordinator, Dr. Merald Wrolstad, Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, OH 44106.

SCHATZKI BOOK AND PRINT STORE IS CLOSING. Collectors of prints and lovely books recently learned the sad news that Walter Schatzki will close his shop at 153 E. 57th St., NYC on July first. Mr. Schatzki has been in the business over fifty years, from the time he was a young man in Germany. He has sold some of the finest drawings, Old Master prints, and musical manuscripts, but he has also made it possible for the young and impecunious collector to educate himself and enjoy the satisfactions of collecting the reasonably priced prints Mr. Schatzki had available. The shop was notable for its selection of leaves from incunabula and other early printed books. For a couple of dollars one could obtain a leaf from a book printed by Peter Schoeffer himself, Gutenberg's colleague and helper. Now the shop must close because of the prospect of vastly

THE BANTAM STORY. Bantam Books has recently published a revised and updated edition of its company history: The Bantam Story; Thirty Years of Paperback Publishing by Clarence Petersen. In lively style, Petersen tells the story not only of Bantam, the leading paperback publisher, but of mass-market paperback publishing itself. Nor is history neglected. He tells, for example, how as early as 1777 the reading public of Colonial America was deluged with 190 volumes of a paperback series of Bell's British Poets. "The last volume didn't go into print until 1782," Petersen continues, "and no one knows for sure how many copies were produced -- presumably not many because no one had yet devised the linotype machine, the rotary press, the wholesaler distribution system, or the drugstore display rack." The book covers all aspects of production and marketing. An interesting chapter describes the work of W.F. Hall Co., which handles the printing for half the mass-market paperback houses, including Bantam. Hall prints more than 350 million books a year, as well as millions of issues of various magazines and catalogs. A free copy of The Bantam Story is available upon request to Bantam Books, 666 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10019.

ASHLING HANDMADE PAPERS AND THE ASHLING PRESS. From Ireland, Ian V. O'Casey writes to join APHA and to tell us about his activities. "I have been making various papers by hand both in the U.K. and in County Clare for about ten years," he writes. "Also, some papyrus, specialized vellums, tapa, etc. Some months ago, with help from the Irish Development Authority, we removed our craft papermaking from Yorkshire to a 'new' two-vat mill located very near Shannon Airport, where we are now felting 8-12 reams of various handmades each week. About 20% of our paper production is sold to established customers in many parts of the world, with a large quantity going to our friends in the U.S. We retain the rest of our output and convert these handmades into fine press books in signed and limited editions." The latest publication of the Ashling Press is The Art of Paper-making, appropriately enough. This is the first English language version of a 1761 French work on papermaking. The book was printed in Dublin (in 12 pt. Baskerville), with the text on Wookey Hole paper; the decorative paper for the illustrations and endpapers was made by Mr. O'Casey. The price in half-leather is \$95; \$125, full leather. The address of the Ashling Press and Ashling Handmade Papers Ltd. is Mountcashel Castle, Lilmurry-Sixmilebridge, Co. Clare, Ireland. Incidentally, Mr. O'Casey invites APHA members traveling in Ireland to visit him at Mountcashel Castle, which is "quite a pleasant fifteenth century Irish castle," he says.

ART BOOK AWARD. ARLIS/NA, the Art Libraries Society of North America, has announced the winners of its publishing awards for 1975. First prize went to the University of Chicago Press for The Prints of Rockwell Kent by Dan Burne Jones, which sells for \$32.50. Abrams won an honorable mention for "their efforts in 1975 toward improving the physical format and design of their art book trade" through such important titles as Brancusi: The Sculpture and Drawings by Sidney Geist (\$37.50).

AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL GALLERIES, INC. Q. David Bowers, Director of the American International Galleries and an APHA member, writes that they are now located in new premises at 1802 Kettering St., Irvine, CA -- about a fifteen minute automobile drive from Disneyland. They have just acquired