

WLWE NEWSLETTER

M.L.A. GROUP 12 · WORLD LITERATURE WRITTEN IN ENGLISH

No. 14

November 1968

W.L.W.E. EDITOR ON LEAVE

Professor Joseph Jones is traveling again-- to England, to Australia, and to other points east and west. His associates, Joseph Leach and Robert McDowell, are editing the Newsletter during Jones's absence. Meanwhile, all W.L.W.E. correspondence should be sent to Joseph Leach, English Department, The University of Texas, El Paso, Texas -- 79999.

AFRICAN STUDIES SCHOLARS

Bernth Lindfors reports from U.C.L.A. that he has been granted a twelve month renewal of a fellowship for dissertation research on Nigerian fiction in English (Foreign Area Fellowship Program). Lindfors, who has published a long list of articles, will be completing his PhD. within the next few months, and is looking for a teaching position for summer and/or fall, 1969. His letter to us (along with correspondence from other teachers) suggests a serious problem: how can teachers get into contact with the many universities which desperately need the few available people who are trained to teach world literature in English? What arrangements could the Newsletter make for these contacts, aside from the regular MLA Faculty Exchange machinery? Perhaps this would be a useful topic for discussion at the December Group 12 meeting in New York.

SPRING PUBLICATIONS FROM
TWAYNE'S WORLD AUTHORS SERIES

Twaynes's series this year included W.C.D. Pacey's Ethel Wilson and Edward Callan's Alan Paton. Several other volumes on world-English authors are forthcoming in the series.

RIDER HAGGARD

Macmillan (London) has just issued a revised second edition (with a new preface and addenda to the bibliography) of Morton N. Cohen's Rider Haggard: His Life and Work.

THREE FROM THE WEST INDIES -- NOVELS BY
AUSTIN C. CLARKE

In The Fiddlehead, Spring, 1968 (a quarterly published by the University of New Brunswick and St. Thomas University), Anthony Boxwill has an excellent short discussion of the novels of Austin C. Clarke, a Barbadian writer. The Survivors of the Crossing, Heinemann, 1964, is concerned with slavery; Amongst Thistles and Thorns, Heinemann, 1965, is the story of a West Indian childhood; and Clarke's most recent, The Meeting Point, Macmillan of Canada, 1967, tells of the loneliness of Barbadians living in Toronto.

RHODESIA'S FINEST WRITER -- A NEW EDITION
OF AN OLD BOOK

This year has seen the first American printing of Doris Lessing's Going Home (Ballantine). In addition, Miss Lessing has appended to the book a section called "Eleven Years Later." Going Home records the experiences, both personal and political, of the author as she returns to her home, Southern Rhodesia, after seven years' residence in London (she is now barred completely from entering Southern Rhodesia). This account of life in

Rhodesia, particularly concerned with the white power structure, also contains a bitter condemnation of the British, whom Miss Lessing finds more harmful to the blacks of Rhodesia than the Afrikaners are to the Bantus and Coloureds in South Africa.

(Judith H. McDowell)

19TH CENTURY SOUTH AFRICA

Thomas Pringle: His Life and Times by Jane Meiring, was published this year by Balkema. Pringle was a courageous Scot who, though he only lived in South Africa for six years, made a lasting impression for his philanthropy, his writing, and his championship of the free press. After returning to Britain in 1826, Pringle lived just long enough to enjoy seeing the abolition of slavery in 1883 (he had for several years been the secretary of the Anti-Slavery Society).

NEW CRITICISM ON AFRICAN WRITING

Africa in Modern Literature: A Survey of Contemporary Writing in English, by Martin Tucker (Ungar, \$7.50). This is an ideal critical book for teachers of African writing, for Martin Tucker assumes little foreknowledge on the reader's part, and discusses all English-language writers who treat Africa. (For a full-length review see Africa Today, Vol. 15, No. 3, June-July, 1968).

NEW AFRICAN LITERATURE ANTHOLOGY

Professor Austin J. Shelton, of State University College of New York at New Paltz, has published The African Assertion -- A Critical Anthology of African Literature (Odyssey Press, \$2.45). This is a splendid text for a survey course in African writing; it does indeed, as Shelton states, "contribute to a true picture of Negro Africa and the attitudes, content, and styles common to African literature and thought." Besides the

excellent collection of writings from south of the Sahara, the anthology includes explanatory notes at the end of each selection, a bibliography of related readings, and wuestions for study and writing.

MPHAHLELE RETURNS TO AFRICA

Ezekiel Mphahlele has returned to Africa to teach at the University of Zambia. His going is a great loss to the University of Denver, where he has been teaching highly popular courses in African literature. During his years at Denver, Mphahlele finished a novel (to be called The Wanderers) about "the comedy and agony of exile" -- we hope to see it in print soon.

CHINUA ACHEBE WRITES ON BIAFRA

In the London Sunday Times for June 9, 1968, Nigeria's outstanding novelist, Chinua Achebe, writes of the tragic events in on-going Nigerian-Biafra war. He traces briefly the history of the complex national entity called Nigeria, and argues fervently that the aim of the North is the total annihilation of the Ibo peoples of Biafra. Also, in Transition Vol. 7, No. 36, Achebe discusses plight of Biafra and explains his attitude toward the Federal Government of Nigeria.

RUTH FIRST WRITES ON NIGERIA

Also in the Sunday Times for June 9, 1968, is an article by the exiled South African, Ruth First (see her book, 117 Days). Miss First, just returned from Nigeria where she has been gathering material for a book on military events there, points to the complexity of the Nigerian struggle and suggests that the inept military regime of the North is unlikely to create or preserve Nigerian unity "with or without Biafra."

NEW COURSES IN W.L.W.E.

Professor William D. Elliott, who taught a 1968 summer course at Bemidji State College ("Literature of the British Commonwealth"), has published a brief article on the importance of teaching world literature in English in the universities. (cf. "The New Commonwealth: World Literature Written in English," Minnesota English Journal, Vol. IV, No. 2, April, 1968).

W.L.W.E. COURSES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

On July 1, 1967, United College became the University of Winnipeg. The university at present has full-year courses in Canadian literature in English at the senior level and honors level. In 1969 it will begin offering a full-year honors course in world literature written in English. Mrs. Uma Parameswaran of Winnipeg University has received a fellowship for the study of modern Indo-English fiction.

COURSES AT KENT STATE

Professor Harold Collins, of Kent State, Ohio, is teaching a commonwealth literature course, using Canadian, Australian and African texts - - an undergraduate course. He is also teaching a graduate course in African literature written in English. Dr. Collins has just completed a Twayne Series book on Amos Tutuola.

COURSES AT NEW BRUNSWICK

The University of New Brunswick has originated a course on "Indian, African, and West Indian Fiction."

CREOLE STUDIES IN THE CARIBBEAN

In January, 1968, John J. Figueroa, Professor of Education at the University of the West Indies, read a paper before the PILEI Conference in

Mexico City. In brief, Professor Figuero reported on some things which have been done in Creole Studies at his university, on the need for further study of Creole, and on the need for aid to those people who are advancing present studies. Scholars who are interested in language study and language teaching in the Caribbean could probably obtain this speech, along with appendices, and bibliography by writing Professor J. J. Figueroa, Dean of the Faculty of Education, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Kingston 7, Jamaica. W.L.W.E. has not been able to ascertain what the cost might be.

THE WEST INDIES:

The Caribbean Artists Movement has now published Newsletter No. 6 (January/March, 1968). For those of you who want to join this organization and thereby receive a most informative report on Caribbean artists' activities, write to:

Oliver Clarke
33 Roland Gardens
London S.W.7, England

The subscription cost per year is one pound sterling.

If you wish to make contributions to the CAM Newsletter write to:

Dr. Louis James
Dept. of English
University of Kent
Canterbury, England

CAM Newsletter No. 6 includes very interesting discussions of theatre in the Caribbean (by Edward Braithwaite) and Caribbean Writing in French and Spanish (by Dr. Jean Franco).

SOUTH AFRICAN BIBLIOGRAPHY:

"Today's News From South Africa" reports that, "South Africa has become the second country in the world to produce its national bibliography by means of a computer." This bibliography lists all South African publications and was compiled at the State Library, Pretoria, S.A.

SCOLMA in its "Newsletter" for Nov. 1967, reports that the Johannesburg Public Library has undertaken to index South African periodicals for the 1900-1939 period.

An earlier SCOLMA "Newsletter" (July, 1967) reported on several bibliographies in the process of compilation. Among those which might interest WLWE Newsletter readers are the following:

Civin, L. Iris Murdoch

Hadassin, C.H. Herman Charles Bosman

Nankin, H. Daphne Rook

Slabe, M.S. A List of Theatre Performances in Johannesburg, 1912-1922

AFRICAN MATERIALS IN BRITAIN:

In the WLWE NEWSLETTER for April, 1968, we printed a list of university libraries participating in SCOLMA's scheme for better coverage of African materials in British libraries. We can add to that list the following South Eastern Regional Library System organizations (SERLS) and the specialities they have elected to cover:

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| African history, geography
and topography (excluding
Egypt and South Africa) | -- Gravesend Public
Library |
| Egypt history, geography
and topography | -- West Sussex County
Library |
| South, Central and South
Africa History, geography,
and topography | -- Bromley Public
Library |
| Anthropology | -- Newham Public |

Architecture	-- Harrow Public Library
Language	-- Kent County Library
Literature	-- Kent County Library
Painting	-- Essex County Library
Religion	-- Surrey County Library
Sculpture	-- Croydon Public Library

BOOK DEALERS FOR WORLD LITERATURE
WRITTEN IN ENGLISH

It has been the experience of scholars that only a small portion of the world literature in English is available in bookshops in the United States. To aid those who are having difficulty in procuring the materials they want, WLWE editors have collected the following selected list of publishers and book dealers.

AFRICAN MATERIALS

AFRICA

C. Struik
P.O. Box 1144
Cape Town, South Africa

Frank R. Thorold (Pty.) Ltd.
Raines Bldgs.
54 Eloff St.
Johannesburg, S.A.

University Bookshop
Makerere College
Kampala, Uganda

University Bookshop
University of Ibadan
Ibadan, Nigeria

UNITED KINGDOM

B. H. Blackwell Ltd.
Broad St.
Oxford, England

Francis Edwards Ltd.
83 Marylebone High St.
London, W. 1, England

W. Heffner and Sons Ltd.
Petty Curry
Cambridge, England

Paul Koston
42 Newman St.
London, W.1, England

Kegan Paul
Trench, Trubner, and Co.
43 Great Russel St.
London, W.C. 1, England

UNITED STATES

Academic Library Service
6489 South Land Park Dr.
Sacramento, Calif. 95831

Cellar Bookshop
1890 Wyoming
Detroit 21, Mich.

University Place
Bookshop
69 University Place
New York, New York
10003

Humanities Press, Inc.
303 Park Ave. So.
New York, N.Y.

Northwestern University Press
1840 Sheridan Road
Evanston, Illinois

CONTINENTAL EUROPE

Librairie Africaine Hubaut
10 rue Stevin
Bruxelles 4, Belgium

Librairie Orient
17 rue de l'Odeon
Paris VI, France

Presence Africaine
42 rue Descartes
Paris V, France

Livre Africaine
40 rue du Champ du Mars
Bruxelles 5, Belgium

WEST INDIES MATERIALS

Bolivar Bookshop and
Gallery
1d Grove Road (10)
Kingston, Jamaica, W.I.

School and General Supplies
49 Beeston Street
Kingston, Jamaica, W.I.

Heron's Book Store
Harbour Street
Kingston, Jamaica, W.I.

Teacher's Book Centre Ltd.
97 Church Street
Kingston, Jamaica, W.I.

The Reader's Book Shop
87-1/4 Harbour Street
Kingston, Jamaica, W.I.

Sangster's Bookstore
97 Harbour Street
Kingston, Jamaica, W.I.

SOUTH ASIA MATERIALS

Asia Publishing House
Contractor Bldg.
Nicol Road, Ballard Estate
Bombay 1, India

K.K. Roy Ltd.
P. O. Box 10210
55 Garishat Road
Calcutta 19, India

Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan
Mehta Sadan, Curzon Rd.
New Delhi 1, India

New Order Book Co.
Ellis Bridge
Almedabad 6, India

H. Bhattacharya
2 Ramanath Mazunder St.
Calcutta 9, India

Jain Book Agency
C-9 Prem House
Connaught Place
P. O. Box 113
New Delhi 1, India
(for India Govt. publica-
tions)

Bhawnani and Sons
8-F Con. Place
New Delhi, India

Crown Agents
Chowk Ram Nagar
Lahore 4, Pakistan

M. Seshachalam and Co.
14 Sunkurama Chetty St.
Madras 1, India

East and West Center Press
1777 East-West Road
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

Ad Orientem
2 Cumberland Gardens
St. Leonard's-on-Sea
Sussex, England

Orientalia, Inc.
11 East 12th St.
New York, N.Y.

E. J. Brill
Leiden, Netherlands

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Your editors think WLWE might be a convenient meeting place for parties interested in exchanging foreign teaching positions temporarily. To our knowledge, there is no real exchange in operation that serves this purpose specifically. Readers who wish to consider a possible switch may give us the details for publishing in the April, 1969, issue.