

THE RENAISSANCE CONFERENCE OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA, at its meeting on April 26, elected Alfred Neumeyer (Mills) as President and Jonas Barish (California) as Vice-President. Professors Neumeyer and Barish are also representatives of the Conference on the Advisory Council of the Renaissance Society of America.

THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST RENAISSANCE CONFERENCE met at the University of British Columbia April 18–19, 1958, and elected Reverend William T. Costello, s.J. (Gonzaga), President for the year 1958–59.

THE RENAISSANCE CONFERENCE OF THE MIDDLE ATLANTIC STATES will meet at Villanova University on November 1 [see RN XI, 39].

News and Notes

The American Council of Learned Societies awarded grants in aid for 1958–59 to the following members of the Renaissance Society: D. C. Allen, *The continuity of symbolic metaphor in Renaissance poetry*; Klaus Berger, *Critical study of the art of Odilon Redon*; Morton W. Bloomfield, *Piers Plowman and the fourteenth century*; F. Edward Crazz, *Renaissance Aristotelianism*; W. T. H. Jackson, *A study of the medieval florilegia and of their significance for the literary background and education of the Middle Ages*; Alexander L. Ringer, *Music and ideology in revolutionary France*; Craig Hugh Smyth, *A history of Italian drawing of the sixteenth century*.

The Foundation for International Cultural Integration has secured and the Library of Congress now has on deposit a microfilm copy of the complete inventory of Western manuscripts in the Library of the State University of Leiden.

The Foundation, established in 1956, is a non-profit, non-political, and non-sectarian educational corporation, formed in order (1) to provide photographic archives of manuscript materials—both codices

and historical sources—on the development of European Civilization in the period 500 to 1700 A.D., (2) to catalogue and index accurately the entirety of such materials, as well as to effect the completion of inventories and catalogues now in preparation for individual collections, and (3) to compile and index a list of all completed studies and current research topics, as well as of all published inventories, catalogues, indices, and source and manuscript collections, which are concerned with the period 500–1700.

The Foundation proposes to co-ordinate and support the existing programs of microfilming, cataloguing, and indexing sources and codices, and to undertake programs on its own initiative. The Foundation is now undertaking a survey of manuscript materials in the Netherlands and Germany, since information indicates that Dutch and German materials, especially for the period before 1500, have not been assigned an adequate position within extant American microfilm programs.

Professor William L. Winter is President of the Foundation, and the General Advisory Board of seventeen includes such other well-known members of our Society as Hajo Holborn, Ernest H. Wilkins, Waldemar Westergaard, George G. Arnakis, Archer Taylor, and Ernst Ekman. Other members of the board are: Samuel E. Thorne (Harvard), Henri Brugmans (Bruges), Glanville Downey (Dumbarton Oaks), Engel Sluiter (California), Robert B. Eckles (Purdue), Daphne Hereward (Caterham, Surrey), Sigmund Neumann (Wesleyan), S. W. Little (Oregon), Margaret W. Pepperdene (Agnes Scott), Jack Wilkinson (Oregon), and Geraldine Meroney (Decatur, Georgia).

A publishing venture important for medieval and Renaissance scholars is the monograph and reference reprint program recently undertaken by Burt Franklin of New York, book dealer and publisher specializing in the medieval and Renaissance periods.

Already published are such well-known reference works as: S. Berger, *Histoire de la Vulgate pendant les premiers siècles*; A. G. Little's *Initia Operum Latinorum*, a standard compendium of some 6000 incipits of the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth centuries; John W. Bradley's *Dictionary of Miniaturists, Illuminators, Calligraphers and Cop-*

yists, 3 volumes, originally published in 1887–89 and containing some 5000 accounts of medieval, Renaissance, and early modern artists; John A. Herbert's *Illuminated Manuscripts*; William S. McKechnie's *Magna Carta: a commentary of the Great Charter of King John*; Karl Krumbacher's monumental *Geschichte der Byzantinischen Literatur*; and the so-called 'Berlin Catalogue', i.e., *Katalog der Ornamentstichsammlung der Staatlichen Kunstbibliothek Berlin*, 2 volumes, published originally before the war and regarded as indispensable by those interested in early ornament and ornamentation.

Eleven titles have been announced for 1958, all originally published between 1887 and 1939. The reprints, all monumental, include: J. B. Bury, *The Imperial Administrative System of the Ninth Century*; R. H. Fletcher, *The Arthurian Material in the Chronicles*, with analysis of over 200 chronicles; F. W. Chandler, *The Literature of Roguery*, an historical survey and 'bibliographie raisonnée' of the entire literature of rascality.

It is to be hoped that the response to these reprints (six on the *Colorado List of Indispensable Monographs*, the others cited in Paetow, Dutcher, Besterman, Case, Gross, Winchell, Malclès) will justify not only the continuation, but a further expansion of this important publishing program—one of the unsubsidized few of this kind in the United States. Mr. Franklin says that he would appreciate suggestions for future reprints and that a program is being studied which would publish original works and important dissertations.

Abstracts of English Studies, a monthly publication begun in January 1958, is an effort to assist scholars and teachers of English and American literature and the English language to keep abreast of the current periodical literature in the field. About 175 journals are to be covered, including scholarly, critical, and some of the better popular magazines.

The abstracts are intended to give readers enough information so that they can tell whether the article abstracted is of importance to them. The undertaking is a much-needed one and we earnestly hope that the publication finds supporters promptly. All correspondence should be directed to the Editor, Lewis Sawin, 123 W. Hellems, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado. Subscription price, \$4 per year. 50 cents a single copy.

The Library of the University of Kansas, thanks to the generosity of the Solon E. Summerfield Foundation, is creating the Summerfield Collection of Renaissance and Early Modern Books. Although the principal strength will be in the numerous editions used during the centuries by scholars, students, and readers, Mr. Joseph Rubinstein, the scout sent abroad by the library, has been able to acquire many precious early editions of important Renaissance works. On the University of Kansas' annual Cervantes Day in Lawrence, Professor Walter Starkie, visiting at the University, was able to announce to the Spanish teachers and students invited for the occasion that the Cervantes collection of about 250 volumes from the library of Sir William Stirling-Maxwell had been purchased for the library. In addition to the Cervantes over 1500 other volumes, chiefly French, Italian, Austrian, and Dutch, of great interest to Renaissance students and scholars were acquired from the Stirling-Maxwell collection.

The Renaissance Society has just achieved another first—a member, G. R. Elliott, Professor Emeritus of English, Amherst, has dedicated his *Dramatic Providence in 'Macbeth', a Study of Shakespeare's Tragic Theme of Humanity and Grace*, 'To my colleagues in the recently established Renaissance Society of America whose researches are throwing fresh light upon many great works of literature and art including Shakespearean Tragedy'. Professor Elliott's latest book has just been published by the Princeton University Press, aided by the Ford Foundation program to support publication, through university presses, of works in the humanities and social sciences.

La Maison Française of New York University presented a concert of sixteenth- and twentieth-century music set to the poems of Pierre de Ronsard on April 18, 1958, under the direction of Professor Victor Yellin of New York University, with commentary by David Noakes of Queens College. 'Errant par les champs de la grâce', music by Claude Goudimel; 'Las! je n'eusse jamais pensé', music by Guillaume Costeley; 'Je ne veux plus que chanter de tristesse', music by Roussel; and 'Bonjour, mon cœur', music by Orlande de Lassus, were the Renaissance songs transcribed by Charles Fassett and Professor Yellin

and sung by a quartet. The concerts of this series at the Maison Française are open to the public. Those interested in next season's schedule should inquire of Professor William Tegg Cheswell, director of the Maison Française.

The Saturday Consort of the University of Pittsburgh, which gives concerts of baroque and Renaissance music using appropriate instruments, has made a series of ten films on 'Music and the Renaissance' for the National Educational Television Center at Ann Arbor, Michigan. Scholars in relevant fields have co-operated in the following: three films on Music and Art of Italy, Germany, and the Netherlands; three on Music and the Court: that of Elizabeth I, the German court of Maximilian I, and the Burgundian court of Philip the Good; two on Music and the Church: Roman Catholic, and Music and the Reformation; two on Music and Literature.

The Institute of Renaissance Studies of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival presented a series of three lectures on 'Elizabethan Spelling' by Dr. Ralph Lane, Professor of the Year, in the Public Library, Ashland, Oregon, August 18-20, 1958.

The 350th anniversary of the arrival of the first Poles in the New World was celebrated at Jamestown and Williamsburg, Virginia, September 19 and 20.

These Polish immigrants had been recruited by the Virginia Company on the advice of Captain John Smith because they were specialists in the manufacture of glass, pitch, tar, soap, and wood products. Captain Smith wrote the first authentic description of the Poles in Jamestown, and further references to them are contained in the records of the Company.

Polish Ambassador Romuald Spasowski opened the exhibition on September 20 which depicted Poland in the early seventeenth century, and the links between Poland and the United States to the present time. Musicians from Poland gave a concert, and the Ambassador gave a reception for state and federal officials.

The third annual Francis Parkman prize of \$500 will be awarded for a book published within the calendar year 1958. The award will be made during the winter of 1959. A book submitted may deal with any aspect of the colonial or national history of what is now the United States. Colonial history would admit of a treatment of the English, French, or Spanish background if definitely connected with the colonies. Literary, religious, economic, political, scientific and technological, legal and constitutional history, and the history of foreign relations would fall within the field.

The Society of American Historians has appointed a Committee of Award: Chairman, Willard Thorp (Princeton); Merle Curti (Wisconsin); Michael Kraus (City College of New York). For further information, address: Rudolf A. Clemen, Executive Vice-President, Society of American Historians, Princeton University Library.

Renaissance Books

This list was compiled from various national bibliographies as follows: Austria, February 15–April 15, 1958; Belgium, December 1957–May 1958; France, March and April 1958; Germany, January 4–March 29, 1958; Great Britain, March, April, and May 1958; Italy, June–November 1957; Spain, December 1957; Switzerland, March 15–May 15, 1958; United States, March, April, and May 1958. Books received are starred. Prices and abbreviations are explained in RN XI, 50–51. [Please mention *Renaissance News* when ordering books. Such a mention encourages advertisers.]

FINE ARTS

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| <p>Argan, Giulio Carlo. <i>L'architettura barocca in Italia</i>. Milano: A. Garzanti, 1957. p. 118 con ventiquattro tavole. L. 350.</p> <p>Becherucci, Luisa. <i>Tesori della Galleria degli Uffizi</i>. Milano: A. Martello, 1957. p. 68. L. 1000.</p> <p>Chastel, André. <i>Botticelli</i>. 57 riproduzioni di cui 53 in colore. Milano: Ed. Silvana,</p> | <p>1957. p. 42 con quarantadue tavole.</p> <p>Cohn, Werner, ed. <i>Hans Holbein</i>. Milano: Ed. Electa, 1957. p. 28 con trentadue tavole. L. 500.</p> <p>Coulton, George G. <i>Fate of medieval art in the Renaissance and Reformation</i>. New York: Harper, 1958. Pap. \$1.35.</p> <p>*Diringer, David. <i>The illuminated book: its history and production</i>. New York: Philosophical Library, 1958. 524 p. 260</p> |
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