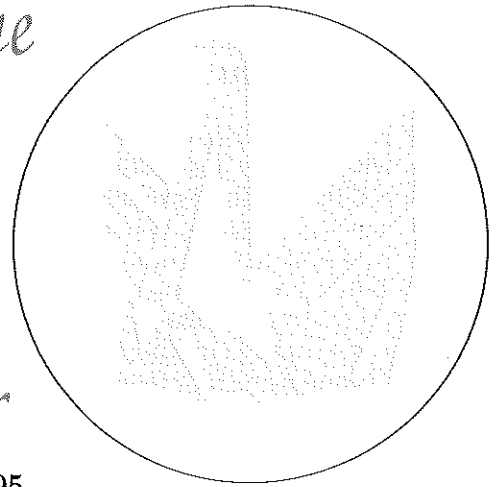

The
D.H. Lawrence Society
Of North America
Newsletter

Vol. 24 Summer 1995



A Message From the President

Ian S. MacNiven

I would like to propose a goal for each of us over the next two years: to bring at least one new member into the D. H. Lawrence Society of North America. The current Directory of Members lists only 178 names, and this includes many persons outside Canada and the United States. This tally represents only a small fraction of those who have written on Lawrence, are studying him, or have an abiding interest. Please urge all who are writing theses or dissertations on Lawrence to join the DHLSNA: tell them that society membership will help to place them in contact with other Lawrence scholars.

Encourage colleagues to join the DHLSNA, even those who are not primarily Lawrence scholars (we aren't snobs!). The \$10 annual dues entitle members to receive the newsletter and a copy of the directory. In addition, the dues help support Lawrence conferences, preserve historical sites, and subsidize publications. *D. H. Lawrence: The Cosmic Adventure*, for instance, edited by Lawrence B. Gamache in association with Phyllis Perrakis, will shortly appear from the Borealis Press. This important

collection of essays is a direct result of the Ottawa Lawrence conference of 1993.

Over the summer, Larry Gamache will be recruiting regional membership officers to function as a subcommittee of the DHLSNA Executive Committee. Please volunteer: we are especially interested in hearing from younger members of the society who would like to take active roles in building membership, planning events, and editing publications.

If you can, attend the Lawrence sessions at the Modern Language Association convention in Chicago. The coming MLA evaluation of all allied organizations makes it doubly important that we demonstrate our interest with our bodies. Without allied status, we would lose the guarantee of two sessions at each MLA meeting.

Finally, please take part in as many of the coming Lawrence conferences as possible, and help to publicize them.

Upcoming Lawrence Conferences. . .

Ginette Roy (135 rue du Mont Cenis, 75018 Paris) is directing the Paris/Nanterre conference, 6-7 July 1995.

Mara Kalnin's conference (Corpus Christi, Cambridge CB2 1RH) of 9-15 July 1995 will be followed immediately by a tour of Florence and the Etruscan places (Keith Sagar, 11 Leys Close, Wiswell, Blackburn BB6 9DA).

Peter Preston and John Worthen are running a conference at Nottingham in 1996.

Oaxaca, Mexico, will be the site of a major conference now being planned for 1998.

Secretary's Report

Wayne Templeton

The D. H. Lawrence Society's contributions to the 110th MLA Convention began with the open business meeting, held at the San Diego Marriott in sunny southern California. The president of the society, Lydia Blanchard, welcomed the 17 people in attendance, and began by asking those present to introduce themselves and identify the specific nature of their interest in Lawrence. Women in Lawrence, mysticism, Lawrence as a writer on America, Lawrence and Hardy, Lawrence's spontaneity, Lawrence and feminism, Lawrence as a nature writer, Lawrence's Modernism, and Lawrence as a subversive novelist were some of the interests conveyed.

Lydia then announced that this year's paper-reading session would not be presided over by Joan Peters, the program chair, because she was unfortunately undergoing chemotherapy, with a good likelihood of recovery. Lydia handed around a card for well-wishers to sign.

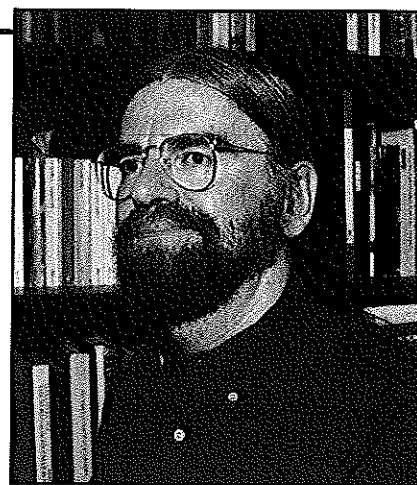
In the treasurer's report which followed, Betsy Sargent (formerly Wallace) announced a current balance of \$1881. Betsy, who is also responsible for membership directories, was complimented on the current one, which, she noted, will be updated in six months, with a new one forthcoming in 1996. Lydia announced a decision to change the society's by-laws to separate the current position of secretary-treasurer into two positions: secretary and membership treasurer. This motion carried unanimously.

Elected president was Ian MacNiven; president-elect, Larry Gamache; program chair, Earl Ingersoll; Secretary, Wayne Templeton (previously acting secretary); and membership treasurer, Betsy Sargent. Eleanor Green will continue as editor of *The D. H. Lawrence Society of North America Newsletter*. Joan Peters, Duane

Edwards, and Ginette Roy were elected new members of the executive board. Ian MacNiven, noting that Ginette would be our first officer from outside North America, added that we would like to continue a quest for offshore members, partly to encourage further cooperation among the various international Lawrence societies.

The topic for the 1995 MLA Conference, "The Feminist Case Against Lawrence," was amended to "A Reconsideration of the Feminist Case Against Lawrence," because some members worried about the original topic eliciting only anti-Lawrencean papers. Topics suggested for 1996 included "The Modernist Lawrence," "The Letters," and *Sons and Lovers*. The winner was "The Letters," with a tentative subtitle "What They Reveal and Their Literary Value" to be refined in 1995.

The winner of the Harry T. Moore Award, presented every two years to an individual identified by a distinguished and sustained contribution to Lawrencean scholarship, was Michael Squires. Michael began his study of Lawrence in 1965 and in 1975 helped launch the D. H. Lawrence Society of North America. Lydia Blanchard read excerpts from a number of letters she had received in support of Michael, identifying him a preeminent Lawrencean scholar, critic, editor, and leader, the best of his generation in North America. He has authored, edited, or co-edited six books on Lawrence, has worked with Lawrence's manuscripts and Frieda's letters, and has published numerous papers on Lawrence. He is presently professor and chair of English at Virginia Tech. Michael, who was in attendance with his wife, Lynn Talbot, and their son Andrew, accepted the letters and a plaque created by Larry Gamache, who noted that there was no money attached, as befits a Lawrencean award.



The meeting ended with Ian publicly thanking Lydia for having been our president for the past two years.

The D. H. Lawrence session, "Women in Love Reconsidered," was chaired the following morning by Larry Gamache. Michael Squires presented a paper entitled "Frieda Lawrence and the Development of *Women in Love*," in which he argued that Lawrence draws heavily on Frieda's biography. He explored three manifestations of this influence. The first was the pattern of resistance and submission in the novel, which derives from Frieda's resistance to submission and tendency to be unrestrained. The second was Lawrence's artistic reading of the Thomas Crich family as a bold "working out" of the potential within the Ernest Weekley family. The third was Lawrence's use of the relationship between Loerke and Gudrun to explore what might have happened had Frieda left Weekley not in 1912 but in 1907, when she did consider leaving him for Otto Gross. Squires noted that in later life Frieda admitted to being hardly able to bear rereading *Women in Love*, perhaps because Lawrence had captured both her actual and potential experiences in a single novel.

Carola Kaplan, professor in the English and foreign languages department of California State University at Pomona, presented a paper entitled "Totem, Taboo and Blutbruderschaft: Reconsidering the Meaning of the Primitive in D. H.

Secretary's Report. . .

Lawrence's *Women in Love*."

Lawrence attempts to find solutions to contemporary ills in primitivism, Kaplan noted, but he fails because his so-called primitivism is riddled with contradiction and his valuation of primitive cultures is undermined by ambivalence. Freud's *Totem and Taboo* provided both underlying meaning and narrative direction for the first half of the novel, but midway the vision engendered by that text is abandoned, a loss evidenced structurally in the novel's gradual diminution of power, as talk and exposition replace dramatic action and numinous revelation.

Garry Watson, professor of English at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, read his paper "The Desire for Difference and 'The Fascism in Us All.'" He recalled Foucault's two types of fascism, the historical fascism of Hitler or Mussolini, and the fascism "in us all," which needs to be recognized in order to be corrected. Lawrence dramatizes in *Women in Love* at least one variety of this particular fascism: the desire to be perceived as superior.

The last, but never the least significant of the three Lawrence events at San Diego was the traditional dinner, held this year at the Fairouz Cafe & Gallery, a restaurant renowned for its Lebanese cuisine, its \$10-per-person buffet, and its excellent Californian and Middle Eastern wine list. Just as remarkable is the owner, who is the grandson of the Prince of Jerusalem and a painter and muralist of international standing; the walls of the restaurant are covered with paintings reminiscent of Lawrence's with bright, vital splashes of color, often over backgrounds of royal blue. The experience provided a fitting ending to yet another series of Lawrencean events attended, as always, it seems, by a variety of vital Lawrence scholars both old and new. See you in Chicago!



People in the News

Langdon Elsbree (emeritus at Claremont McKenna) gave a paper entitled "D. H. Lawrence and Anthropology: Then and Now" at the University of Louisville's Conference on Twentieth-Century Literature. It was a substantially revised version of the talk he gave at the Lawrence Conference at Montpellier.

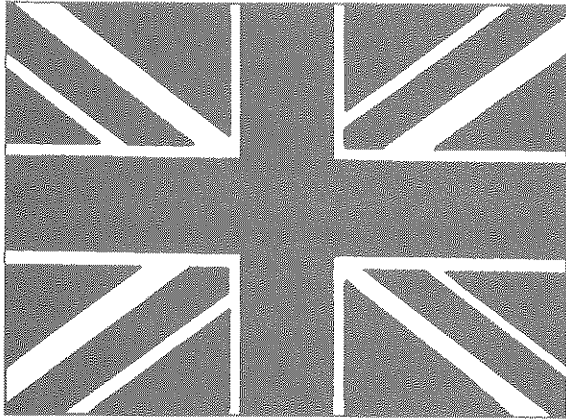
Jorgette Mauzerall (U. of Virginia) last year completed her doctoral dissertation entitled "The Body of Culture: Decadence and Gender in the Novels of D. H. Lawrence."

Michael Black did the introduction and notes for the new Penguin *The White Peacock* that came out this May. He also has an article "Visiting the Bottom on the Monstrous World": Allusion as Metaphor in Lawrence" in the *Cambridge Quarterly* and one called "Leavis on Lawrence" to appear in a volume of Leavis material edited by Ian MacKillop from the University of Sheffield.

Liu Xu-Ming (Xuzhou Teachers College) has recently published an article, "The Absurdity in the Life of Sigmund: An Evaluation of D. H. Lawrence's *The Trespasser*" in the *Journal of Xuzhou Teachers College*. Her next article will be "An Interpretation of the Lawrence Craze in China: A Reply to Xiao Zu's 'The Unliterary Effect of the Lawrence Craze in China.'" She is also working on a critical biography of Lawrence in Chinese.

Earl Ingersoll's "Lawrence's Friendship with David Eder" appeared in the most recent issue of *Etudes Lawrenciennes*. He made a start during his sabbatical last fall on a book about Lawrence's novels from a post-Freudian point of view. His book *Engendered Trope in Joyce's 'Dubliners'* has gone into production at Southern Illinois University Press.

Carol Sklenicka and Mark Spilka have co-authored an article entitled "A Womb of His Own: Lawrence's Passional/Parental View of Childhood" that appeared last year in *Infant Tongues: The Voice of the Child in Literature*, edited by Elizabeth Goodenough, Mark Heberle, and Naomi Sokoloff (Wayne State University Press).



Lawrence in England

The Haggs Farm Preservation Society had an outing to the new Visitors' Centre at Portland Park in Kirkby-in-Ashfield. This conservation area was given to the local Urban District Council by the Duke of Portland in 1914 and has numerous winding paths along the old railway tracks and the infant Erewash stream.

Ruth Williams. In February Roger Mitchell, a resident of Ilkeston, gave a lecture on "Lawrence and Ilkeston," while in March Brian Rigby of Hull University spoke on the influence of French literature on Lawrence during his early years.

The D. H. Lawrence Society hosted a one-day conference on "Lawrence and Sex," addressed by John Turner and

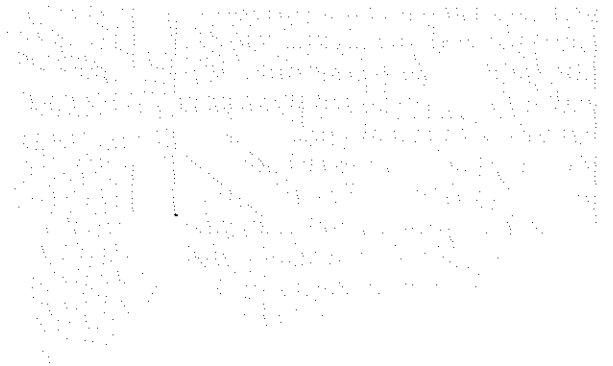
The Royal Society of Literature held a celebration in Hyde Park Gardens in September to mark the publication of Brenda Maddox's *"The Married Man": A Life of D. H. Lawrence*, at which many Lawrenceans mingled with many famous members of the publishing world.

Dr. Paul Poplawski from the University of Swansea spoke to the D. H. Lawrence Society in October on Lawrence's style, especially his style in *St. Mawr*, pointing out that Lawrence uses three styles in that work: the satirical, the mythical, and the comic.

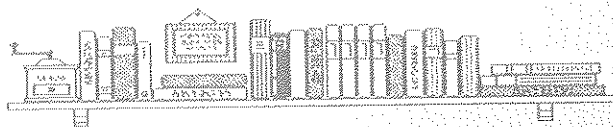
Garry Shead's paintings on Lawrence and Frieda in Thirroul, usually accompanied or watched over by the iconic figure of a kangaroo, appeared on exhibit in London, and *The Times Literary Supplement* featured a full-color Shead painting on the cover of one of its issues. Garry also attended the Lawrence Society's day conference at Nottingham and then visited Eastwood.

Lawrence in Australia

The D. H. Lawrence Society of Australia, now in its third year, began its 1995 series of activities with a cruise on the Lady Hopetoun in February. It retraced the route of some of the ferry trips Lawrence and Frieda (and Richard Lovatt and Harriett Somers) took in 1922.



Book News



The Cambridge *Kangaroo*, edited by Bruce Steele, has now finally appeared. It is controversial because of questions over the correct ending of the novel. This edition includes in the apparatus the longer ending present in the typescript and in the first English edition of Martin Secker but deleted from the American edition and the later English edition.



Louis Martz (Yale) reports that the long-delayed edition of *Quezalcoatl* (the early version of *The Plumed Serpent*) is being published by Black Swan Books. He prepared the edition by collating the manuscript at Texas with the one at Harvard and has provided an introduction that stresses the differences from the final version, differences that are immensely significant with regard to the character of Kate. (Black Swan Books, Box 327, Redding Ridge, CT, 06876; cost \$30).



Charles L. Ross and Dennis Jackson have edited a book called *Editing D. H. Lawrence: New Versions of a Modern Author* (University of Michigan Press). This is one in Michigan's series on Editorial Theory and Literary Criticism, and it takes the Cambridge edition of Lawrence's works, the first complete re-editing of a major modern writer, as a test case in the intersection of textual theory, editorial praxis, and publishing history.



Keith Sagar has edited a book entitled *D. H. Lawrence in New Mexico*, which contains all Lawrence's major writing on New Mexico and the American Southwest, illustrated with photographs, sketches and paintings (Alyscamps Press). Society members can purchase it directly from the publisher at the reduced price of \$15; make checks out to C. Sawyer-Laucanno, 35 Rue de l'Esperence, 57813 Paris.



Daniel Schwarz (Cornell) has had his book *The Transformation of the English Novel 1890-1930: Studies in Hardy, Conrad, Lawrence, Forster, and Woolf* reissued in a second edition by St. Martin's. It has two chapters totally devoted to Lawrence.



Carla Cornellini has a book in English, *D. H. Lawrence: A Study on Mutual and Cross Reference and Influences* being published in Bologna.



In Memoriam

George H. Ford

George H. Ford died in December at the age of 79. He was the former chair of the English department at the University of Rochester; a scholar in Dickens, Keats, and Lawrence; and a founding editor of the *Norton Anthology of English Literature*. His groundbreaking book *Double Measure: A Study of the Novels and Stories of D. H. Lawrence* appeared in 1965.

Koichi Fujiwara

Koichi Fujiwara, an ardent Lawrencean, died in Osaka at age 80 in February 1994, having finished looking over the examination papers of two classes the day before his death. He had visited Eastwood every summer for 17 years since 1977 and was a walking dictionary on Lawrence. He was also a great second-hand book collector who sent about 30 parcels of books back to Japan each time he visited London or Nottingham. Yashushi Sugiyama reports that there was no place in his house to sit down because of the overflow of books, which even crowded into the kitchen. The Kyoto Tachibana Woman's University, which already has a Lawrence collection, will soon open its new Koichi Fujiwara Collection, thanks to the kindness of his widow.

Conferences

There will be a session on Lawrence at the Central New York Conference on Literature and Language, October 15-17, at the State University College at Cortland. Papers of about 15 minutes may be submitted to Del Janik, English department, SUNY Cortland, Box 2000, Cortland, NY 13045, with a deadline of July 1.

The MLA program for Chicago, "Reconsiderations of the Feminist Case against Lawrence" consists of the following papers:

Sheila Contreras (Texas at Austin), "*Journey into the Cave: Lawrence's 'The Woman Who Rode Away'*"

Alan Williamson (California at Davis), "*Lawrence and the 'Oedipal Riddle'*"

Carol Siegel (Washington State), "*Inventory of the Lost: Female Sexuality in Lawrence's The Lost Girl and Feminism's Unspeakable*"

Monika Elbert (Montclair State), "*Recovering the Lost Mother in Lawrence's Fiction*"



"Novel in a Nutshell" Competition

The London Daily Telegraph has a regular section called "Novel in a Nutshell." Each week it gives a bottle of champagne to the reader who submits the cleverest outline of a well-known novel in no more than 100 words. The winner of Competition No. 31 in August last year was Patricia Griffiths, who submitted the following encapsulation of *Sons and Lovers*.

"Paul Morel, oedipal son of toffy-nosed mother and opted-out son of castigated collier, seeks 'oneness' with both spiritual spinster and sexual suffragette. But his apron-string sexuality ensures that the two cannot give him enough 'oneness.' Idolising his husband-hating mother and reviling his family-damned father, Paul consistently plants vampirish kisses on the maternal throat until the game little woman, assisted by a son-administered drug overdose, finally expires. Abandoning spiritual spinster and sexual suffragette, our hero manfully rejects apron-string tugs from the grave and puckily opts for the challenge of life without mother."

(Taken from Rananim, the newsletter of the D. H. Lawrence Society of Australia).

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Lawrence on the Rails

Now that Channel Tunnel freight services have begun, high-tech Class 92 locomotives, held in storage while type testing took place, are being reintroduced to traffic. On March 13, it was the turn of No. 92015 D. H. Lawrence to appear, dragged by Army No. 265 (Thomas Hill). (*Rail*, March 19-April 11, 1995, p. 42).

