D.H. Lawrence Society Of North America Newsletter

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Vol. 25 Winter 1996-97

Sixth International D.H. Lawrence Conference Held at University of Nottingham

he University of Nottingham was the site for the most recent conference on D. H. Lawrence, a truly international conference with approximately 160 participants from about twenty countries and five continents. Besides the expected large number of Lawrentians from the United Kingdom and the United States, there were also large delegations from faraway Japan and Korea. Iran, Israel, Morocco, Bulgaria, India, Portugal, Switzerland, Bahrain, and Portugal each contributed one representative, while France, Canada, Australia, and Italy had larger numbers, and

Paul Eggert and Mark Kinkead-Weekes.

several of those attending from Britain, moreover, were actually nationals of other countries. Thus, the international nature of Lawrence studies was clearly emphasized again by the participation in this conference.

The conference centered around 100 presentations, including about 96 short papers and several keynote addresses. A highlight of the meeting was the production of an opera written by the extremely talented Bethan Jones based on "The Rocking-Horse Winner," while another musical event was a performance of the music Lawrence sketched out to accompany David. There were visits to Eastwood and to Wingfield Manor, the latter a ruined Elizabethan manor house to which Paul Morel, Miriam, and several of their friends make an excursion that is described in considerable detail in the early unedited version of Sons and Lovers; other tourists visiting the site were bemused at the sight of numerous Lawrence scholars seated



Virginia Hyde

at the feet of John Worthen as he read relevant passages from the novel. Ongoing throughout the conference was an exhibition of paintings by Paul Hogarth of places associated with the Lawrences' travels around the world. (See the note below from Emile Delavaney on one of the pictures in this exhibit).

The papers and discussions reflected new trends in Lawrence scholarship. There was particular

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Sixth International Conference. . .

interest in Lawrence as traveler. especially in Lawrence's reflections of the non-European world; on the work of Lawrence's "leadership" period; and on Lawrence and film, either Lawrence's own attitude toward cinema or the recent numerous translations of Lawrence's works into film, as well as a new focus on Lawrence's own dramatic creations. A central theme that reappeared constantly over several days was the polyphonic nature of Lawrence's works, the many different voices that weave themselves in and out of his fiction. Conversely, works from Lawrence's earlier period, while certainly still represented at the conference, in no way dominated the presentations as has been previously the case; there were almost as many papers this time, for instance, on St Mawr as on Women in Love and only two that focused on The Rainbow.

The weather in Nottingham cooperated beautifully, providing the participants with only warm, sunny days, showing off the beautiful grounds of the University to best advantage. The opportunity to discuss Lawrentian issues and concerns in depth, to reestablish old friendships and to make new ones, and to enjoy a community of scholars committed to Lawrence's work made this conference for many a memorable experience.



Book Corner



Mark Spilka has written a long foreword to Leo Hamalian's new book, D. H. Lawrence and Nine Women Writers (Fairleigh Dickinson UP). This book discusses the influence of Lawrence on Katherine Mansfield, H. D., Rebecca West, Meridel Le Sueur, Anais Nin, Kay Boyle, Sylvia Plath, Margaret Drabble, and Joyce Carol Oates.

Ben Stolzfus' *Lacan and Literature: Purloined Pretexts* from the State University of New York Press contains essays on The Escaped Cock and "The Rocking-Horse Winner."

A book by Jack Stewart entitled *Vision and Expression: The Vital Art of D. H. Lawrence* has been accepted for publication by the Southern Illinois University Press.

Roy Spenser's book D. H. Lawrence Country has been published in Japan by Shohakusha.

The second volume of the Cambridge University Press biography of Lawrence by Mark Kincaid-Weekes, *D. H. Lawrence: Triumph to Exile, 1912-1922*, has appeared. It is 1014 pages long and is the second of three volumes of the biography.

Cambridge University Press has also published *Lawrence and Comedy*, edited by Paul Eggert and John Worthen. It has articles by Worthen, Eggert, Howard Mills, John Turner, Lydia Blanchard, Holly Laird, Paul Poplawski, Mark Kinkead-Weekes, and John Bayley.

Forthcoming in 1997 from Cambridge are Selected Letters of D. H. Lawrence, edited by James Boulton and Sea and Sardinia, which has Maria Kalnins as editor.

Joyce Wexler (Loyola, Chicago) has had a book entitled Who Paid for Modernism? Art, Money, and the Fiction of Conrad, Joyce, and Lawrence accepted by the University of Arkansas Press. In it she describes the dilemma Lawrence and other modernist writers encountered in having to reach a wide audience in order to be a professional author and yet having to scorn popularity in order to cultivate critical acclaim; Lawrence found a way out of this dilemma by combining experimental literary forms with sexually explicit content.

Terri Mester's Movement and Modernism: Yeats, Eliot, Lawrence, Williams, and Early Twentieth-Century Dance, also to be published by the University of Arkansas Press, devotes an entire chapter to Lawrence.

Rick Rylance has edited the *Sons and Lovers* volume of St. Martin's New Casebooks series.



The House Where Lawrence Did Not Live

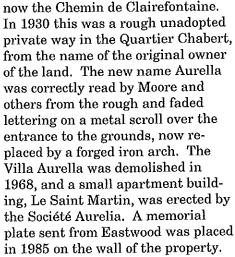
mile Delavenay has pointed out a problem with one of the pictures painted by Paul Hogarth as part of the exhibit "Escape to the Sun" that was on display at the Djanogly Art Gallery at the University of Nottingham in July and was then to travel to Hull, King's Lynn, and London; this is a collection of water-colors of places where Lawrence lived.

Emile comments as follows:

"Unfortunately his [Hogarth's] very attractive watercolour of a house in Vence, labelled 'Villa Fidelwood (formerly Villa Robermond, Vence' bears no relation to the place where Lawrence spent the last two days of his life.

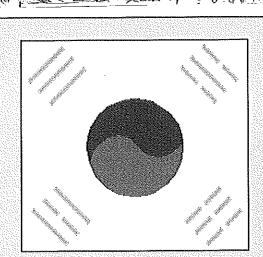
Lawrence died at the Villa Robermond, where he had moved on March 1, 1930, from three weeks at the sanatorium Ad Astra.

"Harry Moore identified the Villa Robermond under its new name Villa Aurella, at the top of what is



"How was Paul Hogarth led to the wrong house? The substantial property called Fidelwood is set back in its own grounds from what is 'Le Chemin des combattants d'Afrique du Nord,' formerly 'La vieille route de Tourrettes.' It figures under the name Fidelwood on a map of Vence dating back to between 1912 and 1920. Surprisingly enough a stone plaque is visible on the facade of Fidelwood, and also on Hogarth's watercolour, with the inscription 'ICI VECUT D H LAWRENCE 1885-1930.'

"A note obligingly published by Nice Matin at my request provoked a call from Mme Ancarani, né Valentini, who tells me her father, an Italian immigrant from Tuscany, was the keeper of the Villa Robermond when Lawrence died. She was born there in 1932, and lived in it. Frieda Lawrence, whom her mother admired, was to have been her godmother but she left Vence in October 1931. M. Valentini spoke with Lawrence during his brief sojourn in the Villa, and attended to his last toilet and dressed him for the funeral. A tenant of one of the two apartments in Fidelwood tells me that his landlord inherited the house from an aunt who thought Lawrence had lived in it. He has promised to try to obtain more information from the landlord."



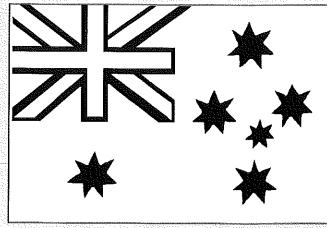
Lawrence in Korea

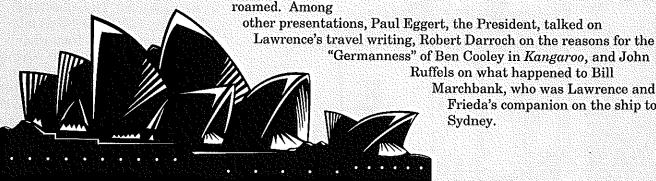
he latest Lawrence society to form is that of Korea, with Chong-Wha Chung of Korea University, Seoul, as president.

Lawrence in Australia

he D. H. Lawrence Society of Australia in August sponsored a trip to Lodden Falls above Thirroul, where Lawrence and Frieda went in August 1922. They re-enacted the day trip, picnicking at the Sublime Point lookout, which looks down on Thirroul and Wyework and the coast to the south.

In October the Society held its second conference and annual meeting on the grounds of a former mental institution, now an arts center, played Lawrence's music to David and had a barbecue in the now deserted grounds, where former





madmen had

Ruffels on what happened to Bill Marchbank, who was Lawrence and Frieda's companion on the ship to Sydney.

Seventh International D. H. Lawrence Conference

arl Ingersoll is directing the next international Lawrence conference, scheduled for July 1998 in Taos, new Mexico. It is sponsored by the DHLSNA in conjunction with the Phoenix Rising Society. Send suggestions or topic proposal to Earl at SUNY-Brockport.

The D. H. Lawrence Review

A special triple issue, volume 23 (numbers 1-3), of 276 pages has gone to press and should be appearing at any time.

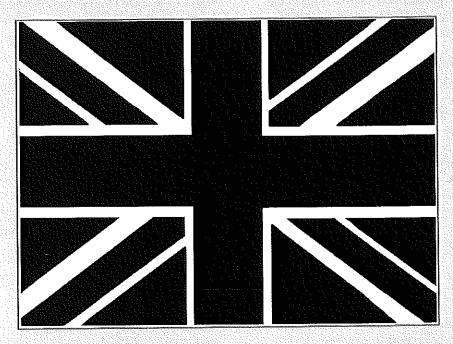
A special issue of the Review devoted to "Bakhtin, Narrative Theory, and D. H. Lawrence," is now being planned. Send all correspondence and articles to the Guest-Editor of this special issue: Dr. John Elliot, Universität Konstanz, Kapplerbergstrasse 61, 78976 Allensbach, Germany.

Lawrence in England

he D. H. Lawrence Centre is now housed within a larger body at the University of Nottingham, the Humanities Research Centre, a kind of "umbrella" body to bring together a group of centers and institutes whose work is within the broad field of the humanities. The new premises for the HRC will include an office for each of the member centers, rooms for visiting scholars, and some limited library facilities and seminar rooms. Peter Preston will be the Deputy Director, as well as continuing to function as

Associate Director of the DHL Centre.

The generosity of George Lazarus in presenting the library of the



University of Nottingham with his impressive collection of Lawrence books and manuscripts has extended the University's collection considerably and will make these materials more readily available to the scholars who wish to use them.

The D. H. Lawrence Centre sponsored a paper by Victoria Reid of the University of Sydney, who has been a visiting scholar at the Centre since June; she spoke on Lawrence's Study of Thomas Hardy. Helen Dunmore, first winner of the recently instituted Orange Prize for fiction by women gave a talk and reading in November; her first novel, Zennor in Darkness (1993) features Lawrence and Frieda as characters. The mini-conference on "Lawrence and the Psychoanalytic" organized by Fiona Becket, Howard Booth, and Betsy Fox will take place November 30-December 1. The Daily Telegraph for July 10 ran an article by Chris Partridge on the West Country and literary folk, discussing the problems William and Dorothy Wordsworth had in 1797 when they stayed with the Coleridges in Somerset and were suspected of being French spies because of their unfamiliar northern accent and Dorothy's dark complexion as well as the suspicious night walks they conducted carrying camp stools and notebooks. Someone was eventually sent down from Whitehall to investigate and concluded they were simply "harmless eccentrics." The article continues with a description of the Lawrences' similar problems in Cornwall and includes a picture of Lawrence and of Lower Tregerthen (now for sale at £350,000). Rupert Brooke, as Partridge points out, had none of the problems suffered by the Wordsworths and the Lawrences during his camping trip to Devon in 1911.



People in the News

Louis Martz (Yale) reports that a revised version of his introduction to *Quetzalcoatl* and a forty-page essay on the second version of *Lady Chatterley's Lover* will appear in a collection of his essays to be published by the University of Missouri Press.

Mark Spilka (emeritus Brown) has another book, ironically entitled Eight Lessons in Love: A Domestic Violence Reader, appearing in 1997 from the University of Missouri Press. He will be giving lectures drawn from the book at universities around the country and in Israel.

James Phelps has received his D.Phil. from York University, writing his dissertation on the interloper theme in Lawrence, and has returned to teach at the University of Zululand.

Eleanor Green (Ohio Northern University) is on a teaching exchange at the University of Wales-Lampeter, where one of the courses she is teaching is on D. H. Lawrence in North America.

Earl Ingersoll (SUNY-Brockport) has an article "Gender and Language in D. H. Lawrence's Sons and Lovers" in the Midwest Quarterly for summer 1996, based on the paper he read for the Lawrence session at the 1991 convention in San Francisco. In addition SUNY has honored Earl by naming him a Distinguished Teaching Professor, the first in his department to be so honored and one of only five at Brockport.

Charles Rossman is one of eight faculty members (out of 2000 plus) to be inducted into the Academy of Distinguished Teachers at the University of Texas-Austin. Also honored was **Virginia Hyde**, whose Lawrence seminar was voted "Best Graduate Course" of the year by the English Graduate Students' Organization at Washington State University-Pullman.

Jill Franks is beginning a new job at Austin Peay State University as an assistant professor in modern British literature. She is presenting a paper entitled "Studies in Classic Psychoanalytic Training: D. H. Lawrence's Adoptions of Jung and Freud" at the conference on "Lawrence and the Psychoanalytic" in Nottingham at the end of November.

William Harrison (Wichita State) chaired a panel at the November meeting of the South Atlantic Modern Language Association Convention in Savannah. Andrew Franta (Johns Hopkins), Karl Henzy (Morgan State), and Rebecca Carpenter (Western Maryland) gave papers related to new readings of Lawrence, and Dennis Jackson (Delaware) served as respondent.

The Twenty-Eighth British Studies Conference of the Northwest, held in Portland in October, had a section on Lawrence, using a Cultural Studies approach. Participants were Theresa Thompson, Patti Ver Strat, Bryce Campbell, Virginia Hyde (all of Washington State-Pullman, and Carol Siegel (Washington State-Vancouver). Several Lawrentians—Jack Stewart, Keith Cushman, Larry Gamache, Earl Ingersoll, and Ian and Susan MacNivenattended the Lawrence Durrell conference in Alexandria, Egypt, in June. Jack, Keith, and Larry have now participated together at conferences on four continents: North America, Europe (Montpellier), Asia (Shanghai), and now Africa.

Proposed Lawrentian Travel Tour of Mexico, 1998

ichael Squires and Lynn Talbot are planning, in conjunction with the Seventh International D. H. Lawrence conference in Taos, a tour of Mexico City, Oaxaca, and Guadalajara to places where Lawrence lived or visited. At this point such a trip would cost about \$1800 double occupancy in 1996 dollars, and would include travel, touristclass hotels (with private baths), entrances, two lunches, and a farewell dinner. They welcome suggestions and comments.

Corrections and Additions

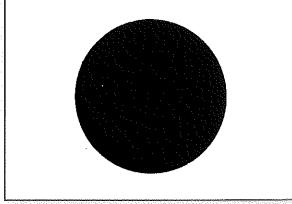
he MLA volume on Approaches to Teaching D.
H. Lawrence is edited by both Elizabeth Sargent and Garry Waller; Garry's name was inadvertently omitted in the last newsletter.

Also omitted was the artist's name from the head of Lawrence that was pictured in this newsletter; the head was drawn by Jack Bronson.

Lawrence in Japan

he twenty-seventh meeting of the Japanese D. H. Lawrence Society was held at Yamagata Women's College in June. There were six papers on a range of topics from Kangaroo, The White Peacock, to The Prussian Officer, as well explorations of Salomé and Ursula, Lawrence's Italy, and Lawrence's view of religion. A public symposium on "Traveling and Literature: Basho and Lawrence" ended the

conference.



The Society has issued the sixth number

> of its journal D. H. Lawrence Kenkyû with articles by Makoto Kinoshita, Michiko Inoue, and Makoto Goto, as well as an annotated bibliography of translations and studies of Lawrence in Japan by Mitsuru Mashiguchi.

Sadly, two Japanese Lawrentians, Koya Shimizu and Taiji Okada have recently died.

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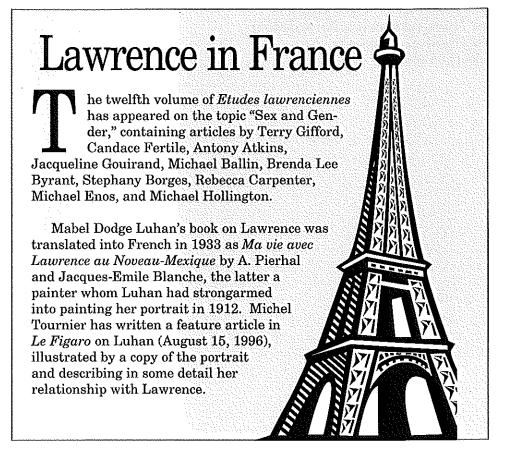


he D. H. Lawrence Society of North America will hold its annual business meeting on Sunday, December 29, at 10:15 a.m., in the Truman Room of the Hotel Sheraton.

The Lawrence session will be that same day at 3:30 p.m. in the Maryland B Room of the Sheraton. Karl Henzy (Delaware), Louis Martz (Yale), Elizabeth Sargent (Western Oregon), and Jack Stewart (British Columbia) will read papers on Lawrence's letters.

The Society dinner will take place that evening at 7:30, with the restaurant to be announced at the Lawrence sessions.

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Request for Information

ynn Talbot and Michael Squires are preparing a data-base of the complete letters of Frieda Lawrence Ravagli. They have already copied the letters, published and unpublished, at the Humanities Research Center, Yale, UCLA, Berkeley, Stanford, Southern Illinois, Rochester, and Buffalo. They are particlarly interested in learning about letters that are privately held as well as letters in the collections of libraries they have not yet visited. At some point in the future they hope to make their data-base available to interested scholars around the world. Please send any information to Lynn K Talbot, 1416 Palmer Drive, Blacksburg, VA 24060; e-mail talbot@acc.roanoke.edu; or call Lynn at 540/951-7500.



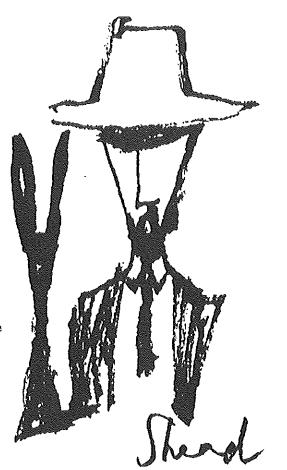
Lawrence on the Internet

Diane Ward at the University of Buffalo has a home page with Lawrence material. The address: http://www.acsu.buffalo.edu/~dward/

Persons wishing to join a listserv discussing Lawrence should send an e-mail message to Helen Croom at hel@rananim.prestel.co.uk.

Paul Delany is mounting the full text of some of his D. H. Lawrence publications on his web site at: http://www.sfu.ca./~delany/

Right: The logo for the D.H. Lawrence Society of Australia



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