



THE · NEWSLETTER · OF · THE D·H· LAWRENCE SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

number 8, spring 1983

Michael Squires

President's Column

I am honored to succeed L. D. Clark as president of the Lawrence society and am grateful for his wisdom and resourcefulness and energy. I hope our next two years succeed as well as the past two.

When Fleda Jackson asked me to say a few words for the *Newsletter*, my first thought was to wonder what can we as a society do for Lawrence? Already we issue a fine newsletter; we help to present engaging programs at MLA; we use the society as a modest means of professional exchange; and we create a worthy identity for ourselves. But last week, when I chose textbooks for the spring quarter and realized that in one of my undergraduate courses I would be teaching both essays and stories by Lawrence, I thought, "True, I know how I will teach Lawrence. But I wonder how other faculty members of our society teach him." And when I returned to my initial thought, I recognized that in addition to our established activities we might usefully be concerned with Lawrence's value to students who study his work. They also carry forward his emotional and intellectual attractiveness.

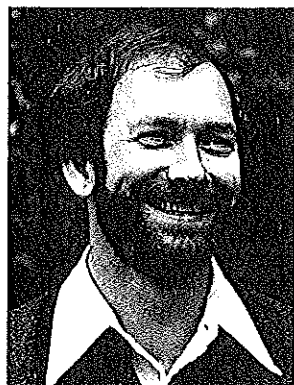


photo by Tom Brumbach, Jr.

It also occurred to me, as it has to others like Fleda Jackson, that we should inquire about Lawrence in the classroom and, to bolster this inquiry, perhaps choose as an MLA seminar topic, "Lawrence in the Classroom."

Here are questions that might interest at least those of us who teach: Are Lawrence's novels taught in freshman composition courses? With what other writers besides, say, Hardy or Forster is Lawrence successfully paired? Is Lawrence included in "masterpieces of literature" courses? Does anyone devote a whole course to Lawrence? What fresh approaches have society members tried in teaching his work? Is Lawrence included in a course in feminist literature? in a course in sexuality and literature? Is anyone "deconstructing" Lawrence in the classroom? or (following Foucault's lead) looking at how Lawrence's language may deny sexual representation? For us to answer these questions might enhance the function of our society. Please do tell us how you and your colleagues are teaching Lawrence.

Essential to teaching his work is an adequate text. What new textbook combinations are needed by teachers? Does anyone need "casebooks" on Lawrence that are not currently available? I find, for instance, that in my sophomore-level short fiction course — the most popular elective we offer — I need a single volume of Lawrence's fiction that includes a dozen stories and several novellas. If we could coordinate our needs, we might be able to influence the publication of new texts.

Finally, I hope that in our Fall 1983 *Newsletter* we can initiate a series of "guest columns" by people who, like myself, have recently written on Lawrence. It might be enlightening to

know how a book was conceived and executed, to have a personal account of a book's composition and publication, to know what didn't get said in the preface.

Good wishes to all of you!

Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, Virginia

OFFICERS

D. H. Lawrence Society of North America Elected for the 1983-84 term:

- Past President: L. D. Clark (Univ. of Arizona)
- President: Michael Squires (Virginia Tech)
- President-Elect: Dennis Jackson (Univ. of Delaware)
- Program Chairman: Keith Cushman (Univ. of North Carolina, Greensboro)
- Secretary Treasurer: Lawrence B. Gamache (Univ. of Ottawa)
- Executive Committee Members Elected at Large:
 - T. H. Adamowski (Univ. of Toronto, Erindale College)
 - Lydia Blanchard (Southwest Texas State Univ.)
 - Sandra Gilbert (Univ. of California, Davis)
 - Donald Gutierrez (Western New Mexico Univ.)
 - Ian MacNiven (State Univ. of New York, Maritime College)
- Editor-in-Chief: Fleda Brown Jackson (Univ. of Delaware)
- Society Photographer: LaVerne H. Clark



"From the Miner's Kitchen to the Court of Israel: the Plays of D. H. Lawrence," session sponsored by the Society at MLA, December 1982. Presenters at the Biltmore Hotel were (L to R) William Mallory, Holly Laird, Lawrence Gamache (L. D. Clark, standing).

—photo by LaVerne H. Clark

Editor's Note

Included with your *Newsletter* is a collection of course descriptions sent to me over the past few months. I hope this beginning will prompt more of you to send your ideas and course plans to share with other members.

The BBC television production of *Sons and Lovers*, broadcast in this country on Masterpiece Theatre, is under way. Its 7-part presentation has prompted many short newspaper and magazine articles. Probably most of you saw the *TV Guide* article by Julian Moynahan. The *Philadelphia Inquirer* has an interview by Nancy Mills with Eileen Atkins, who plays Gertrude Morel in the film. Atkins says that when she first read *Sons and Lovers*, she thought Gertrude was "a bit of a monster. She's so possessive and puritanical." But as she played the part, she says, she began to like the character so much that she almost came to blows defending her. While they were shooting at the Lawrence house someone called Mrs. Morel a "terrible woman" and her husband a "good man." Atkins, her fists clenched, began yelling, "My husband was a drunk." Atkins says, "Today it's fashionable to like the completely ignorant good man in the story and not see the point of view of the woman."

I am looking forward to seeing many of you in December at MLA in New York — which seems to stimulate larger and livelier Society gatherings. Michael Squires, our new president, and Larry Gamache, secretary-treasurer, will preside over a session on Lawrence's short fiction. Papers will be read by Keith Cushman, Janice Harris, and Weldon Thornton. Later during the convention, the Society will hold its annual business meeting, and, following that, the traditional Society dinner at Gallagher's, the restaurant originally chosen for us by Harry T. Moore. We will also sponsor a showing of the film version of *The Virgin and the Gypsy* during the convention.

My thanks to the people who sent photographs for this issue: LaVerne Clark, our Society photographer, for the photos of last year's MLA speakers, and Julia Erin Duncan, for the photo of the splendid woodcarving of Lawrence. Unfortunately, the photos taken at the Society dinner did not come out because of a defective flash attachment. And as always, thanks to all Society members who faithfully respond to the call for news.

Fleda Brown Jackson
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Lawrence B. Gamache

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Since becoming secretary-treasurer of our Society last December, I have been given a clear set of guidelines and a model of efficiency for conducting the business of this office by Dennis Jackson, my predecessor. He turned over to me a well-ordered file and a healthy bank balance — \$2,085.30 as of December 7, 1982. This amount includes the \$1,000.00 grant previously reported which is destined to support the publication of a collection of essays to honor the memory of Harry T. Moore. Ian MacNiven has indicated that work on this project is in progress. The Society also continues to provide funds for the publication of the Society's *Newsletter*. We must also thank, once again, the Department of English of the University of Delaware for its continuing support.

Our meetings in Los Angeles were successful, especially given the liveliness of the discussions and the fullness of the participation of those in attendance. The numbers were, as expected, smaller than those of the New York meetings last year, but the contribution of all who were there was wholehearted,

and well appreciated by those who organized the Conference activities of our Society. In attendance at both the discussion session and the business meeting were scholars and students of Lawrence from many parts of the world, including the U.S., Canada, England, France, Africa, Japan, and New Zealand.

It was unfortunate that, because of financial problems, the evening Reader's Theatre presentation of Lawrence's *The Daughter-in-Law* had to be cancelled. The discussion of the plays in the afternoon did help to focus attention on this somewhat neglected aspect of Lawrence's canon. In the evening, we adjourned to a nearby Japanese restaurant to enjoy a very good meal and several hours of relaxed discussion.

Our appreciation must be expressed to our past-president, L. D. Clark, for his excellent conduct of the business of the Society during his time in office and for the success of our meetings at MLA Conferences over the past several years. His efforts have produced a significant growth in the activities of the Society and in the size of its membership. Dennis Jackson, who will become our president following the term of Michael Squires, must also be thanked for his important contribution while he was secretary-treasurer.

Two additional decisions taken at the business meeting need to be promulgated: the choices of the topics to be discussed at our next two meetings, 1983 in New York and 1984 in Washington, D.C. In New York next December, the topic will be Lawrence's short fiction, and the organizer will be Keith Cushman. In 1984 the topic will be "D. H. Lawrence and Criticism." The topic for that meeting was chosen this early to allow for more notice to be given to prospective contributors of papers, in particular through the November issue of the *M.L.A. Newsletter*. In the past we have had to wait for the spring issue, which was too close to the required deadline for anyone to initiate a project. Suggestions of topics for future meetings are welcome. I urge all members to pass our *Newsletter* along to anyone who might be interested in our Society; memberships for two years are \$10.00 and checks made out to the "D. H. Lawrence Society of North America" should be mailed to me at the address below.

Best wishes to all for a productive and enjoyable summer.

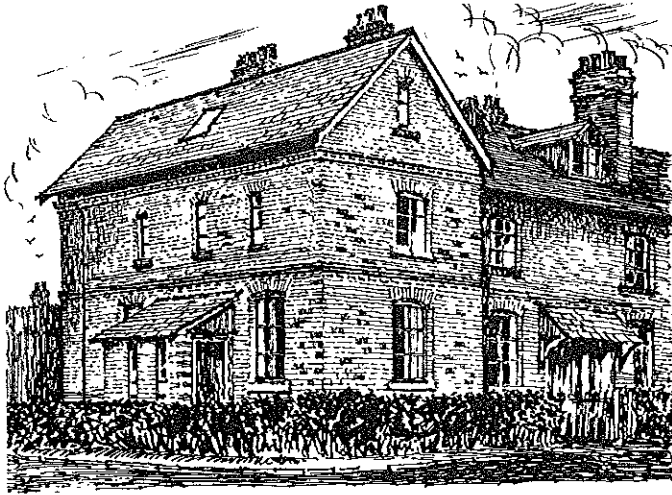
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People of Interest

- Emile Delavenay has authorized Macmillan's of London to publish his paper, "D. H. Lawrence and the Futurists," in a collection devoted to Lawrence, edited by Christopher Heywood (U. of Sheffield). Delavenay is also currently working on a paper inspired by new material on, and new French translations of, Otto Weininger. Delavenay presents evidence that Lawrence had read and discussed Weininger's *Sex and Character* before he wrote "Study of Thomas Hardy" in 1916.
- Donald Gutierrez (Western New Mexico U.) has an article, "Quick, Now, Here, Now, Always": The Flaming Rose of D. H. Lawrence and T. S. Eliot," in *University of Portland Review* 34 (Fall 1982). Another article, "D. H. Lawrence and Sex," is coming out this spring in *Liberal and Fine Arts Review* (Eastern New Mexico U.).
- Judith Ruderman (Duke U.) will be teaching a short course to adults on *Sons and Lovers* to coincide with Masterpiece Theatre's serialization of the novel.
- An essay by Peter Balbert, "Logic of the Soul": Prothalmic Pattern in *The Rainbow*," will appear in *Papers on Language and Literature*. His essay, "From Hemingway to Lawrence to Mailer: Sexual Identity and Survival in *A Farewell to Arms*," will be published next year by *The Hemingway Review*.
- Roy A. Sheldon has just finished his dissertation, "The Intertwining Flux: The Imagery of Relation in the Major Novels of D. H. Lawrence," at Purdue U. Sheldon has just taken a position as assistant professor of English at Franklin College of Indiana.
- John B. Humma had an article, "The Interpenetrating

Metaphor: Nature and Myth in *Lady Chatterley's Lover*," in the January 1983 *PMLA*.

- **Mitzi Brunsdale's** article, "D. H. Lawrence's *David*: Drama as a Vehicle for Religious Prophecy," appears in *Themes in Drama V, Drama and Religion*, ed. James Redmond.
- **Lydia Blanchard**, recently elected to the Executive Committee of the Society, has taken a new position at Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos.



D. H. Lawrence House Eastwood

As a boy David Herbert ('Bert') Lawrence lived at 57 The Breach (now 28 Garden Road) from 1887 - 1891. The family moved to this intense mining community when Bert was two years old, after leaving 8a Victoria Street. The houses in The Breach had been 'purpose built' for their employees by the Barber, Walker Company, and Mr. Lawrence was employed by the company as a 'butty'. The houses were considered 'desirable' by the local miners, and the Lawrence family were lucky to obtain a corner house, with its more spacious bedrooms and larger garden. Mrs. Lawrence, however, could never reconcile her middle class background to living in this working class community, and the family moved to a private house on Walker Street, after only four years, when Bert was six. Nevertheless, he was to use the house and its setting extensively in his later works, especially in his largely autobiographical novel 'Sons and Lovers' in which he called it 'The Bottoms'.

In 1970 the house stood semi-derelict, and was purchased privately by a college lecturer living in Birkenhead. He spent the next ten years restoring it to its present state. The ground floor is furnished in period style, as the Lawrence family would have known it. The upper floors have been modernised, while retaining their character, as a self-contained flat. As such it is available for let to the Lawrence scholar, and members of the public. The house is non-profit making, and totally administered by a group of dedicated volunteers.

LOCAL HISTORY CARDS

No. 35

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International News

England:

Gerald Pollinger, executor of the D. H. Lawrence estate, reports that the director of the D. H. Lawrence Centenary Festival 1985 has been chosen. He is Kevin C. R. West, who has a background of theatre and media work, and has previously organized a number of festivals in England and abroad.

John Poynter also sends a newspaper clipping about West and the festival plans. John says that the D. H. Lawrence Society of England plans a series of its own events to add to the main festival.

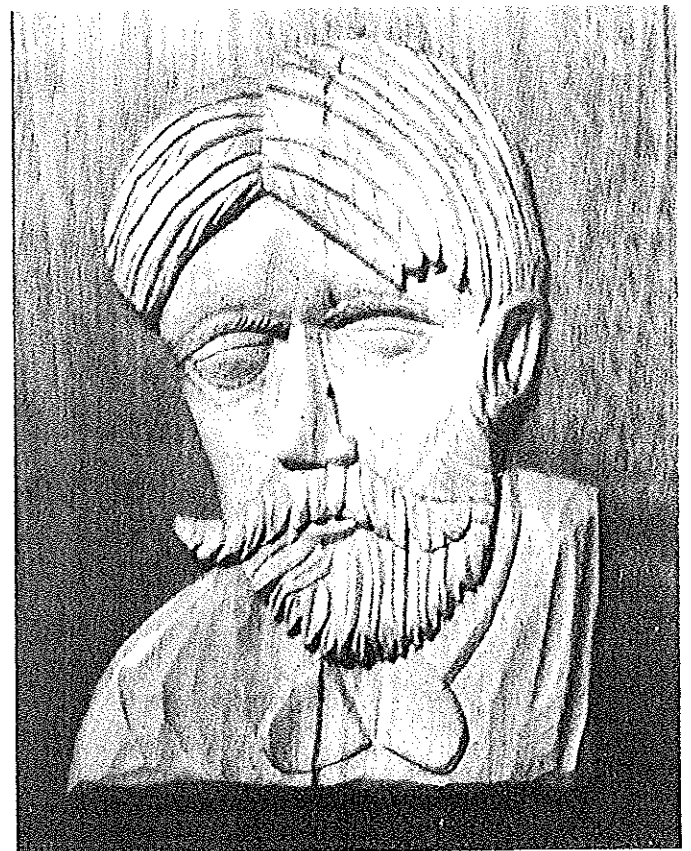
He also sends a copy of Local History Card No. 35 produced by Gatehouse Prints of the D. H. Lawrence House in Eastwood ("The Breach"). It is reproduced above. He reports that The Breach is repeating its 1982 success. The "Away Break" weekends organized by the City of Nottingham have brought many visitors, and the appointment of a full time curator has been a major boost for the house. Several items have recently been donated to the museum — a Victorian washing mangle originally bought in an Eastwood ironmonger's, a Singer sewing machine of the type that Mrs. Lawrence would have used, and a Victorian upright piano. Three specific projects urgently need funding: (1) \$600 to purchase audio-visual aids (video recorder/TV) for the house, (2) \$500 to "redecorate" the Victorian kitchen (plastering, foundation repairs, etc.), (3) \$2,000 to reinstate outbuildings (wash house. "bottom of garden

loo," water pump in back yard, and gas supply by the utility company to provide gas lighting). Anyone sending \$50 or more can stay in the Breach House free for five days when next in England.

A letter from Mrs. Vernice Trask (Portland, OR) expresses great praise for the course, "The Writer and His Environment" [English Literature Summer School, 10 Victoria Road, Sheffield S10 2DL]. The two-week course centers on major works of the Brontes, George Eliot, Lawrence, Shakespeare, Austen, Byron, Wordsworth, Coleridge, and Ted Hughes. Mrs. Trask writes: "To me the Lawrence studies were the high point of the class. We studied *Sons and Lovers* and then spent a day visiting Eastwood — seeing all the places we had read about — the birthplace, the house on the Breach, his grade school, and the Hags."

Japan:

Yasuichiro Ohashi writes: "The fourteenth meeting of the Japanese D. H. Lawrence Society was held at the General Library, Tokyo University of Arts and Sciences, on 13 May 1983. Shizuo Wada, president of the Society, gave an opening address, and Saburo Kuramochi presiding, four members read their research papers, though halfway between them lunch was held and the meeting of the managers took place. After a symposium on *The Lost Girl*, . . . the general meeting was held, which was closed with an address by Yasuichiro Ohashi, vice-president of the Society. After the general meeting, the customary social gathering was held at Shinkiro's, a Chinese restaurant."



Gift to Julia Erin Duncan from her husband: handcarving in linden, mahogany, and oak, based on the Harri Peccinoti photo of Lawrence on the back covers of the Penguin paperback editions of Lawrence's work.

Proposed Plans for Centenary

Plans for the 1985 D. H. Lawrence Centenary Festival to be held in Nottingham are still in the proposal stage, but the proposals are indeed elaborate. According to Director Kevin West's preliminary plans, the Festival will open with a carnival-type procession down the streets of Nottingham. Giant puppets, lanterns, music, and fireworks will be based on images derived

from Lawrence's use of symbolism (dark/light, the sun, icons, the rainbow, etc.).

The main exhibition of the Festival will be "a celebration of the writings, mind, philosophy, and spirit of D. H. Lawrence... using much original material, manuscripts, specially commissioned tableaux, photographs, music, tapes, etc." There will be live performances and readings.

Literary events will be organized in consultation with Nottingham University, the British D. H. Lawrence Society, and major academics. There will be a seminar week or weekend involving writers and critics of international stature who will give their own appraisals of Lawrence's work and point up Lawrence as a world figure in literature. A preliminary list of significant writers and scholars has been compiled. There will be dramatically staged readings of Lawrence's works, an appointment of a "writer in residence" to involve local writers, a production of some of Lawrence's plays directed by Peter Gill, and a new play commissioned from a qualified playwright. A dramatic re-staging of the *Lady Chatterley* trial is also in the works.

For school children, there are to be painting, essay, poetry, and puppet competitions. Composers will be commissioned to set some of the animal poems to music, and a major new "Lawrence Suite" will be commissioned. There will be intimate musical evenings (with hymns and parlor songs) round the piano in the Birthplace Museum.

Popular events will include a Victorian/Edwardian Street Fair, possibly in Eastwood Market Place, "Poems for a Pint" to be staged in pubs in Nottingham and Eastwood, a Flower Festival, and guysers/mummers and other traditional customs.

The Festival is being funded by Nottinghamshire County, Nottingham City, Broxtowe Borough, and Eastwood Town Council.

To all of this, Gerald Pollinger adds: "A number of these proposals are, in fact, already in train, including a movie about Eastwood, centenary editions of Lawrence's books, a literary luncheon, and a musical tone poem."

Motion Picture, Theatre and Television Productions

In preparation for the televising of Mobil Masterpiece Theatre's presentation of *Sons and Lovers*, Arlene M. Pillar prepared a Penguin Book Study Guide to the novel. The guide is available from Penguin Books, School and Library Department, 40 West 23rd Street, New York, NY 10010.

Roy Spencer's adaptation of *Women in Love*, originally broadcast on Radio 4 BBC in March/April 1980, will be rebroadcast on another branch of BBC 12 July through 27 Sept. It is now in twelve half-hour episodes instead of the original six hours.

Gerald Pollinger writes: The play of *Lady Chatterley's Lover* is currently touring England. Concerning motion picture and/or television features, *The Captain's Doll* was screened recently. *Kangaroo* is presently being filmed in Australia. Contracts for *The Boy in the Bush* and *The Man Who Died* have just been signed. There have been expressions of movie interest in several other subjects, and Richard Bates has renewed his option on *Not I, But the Wind* (Frieda Lawrence's book).

"Nudity in Play Protested"

[This Associated Press news item appeared in the Wilmington (Del.) *Sunday News Journal*, April 17, 1983]

Bath, England — Local church leaders have asked theatergoers to boycott the Bath Theater Royal production of D. H. Lawrence's Novel "Lady Chatterley's Lover" because the play contains obscene language and nudity.

"Sexual relations are a wonderful God-given thing but do not translate onto the stage," said the Rev. Paul Eterly, adviser for social concern in the Bath Archdeaconery of the Church of England.

Lynn Farleigh, who plays Lady Chatterley, said, "It would be impossible to do this play without taking your clothes off. It is tastefully done."

Book News

From Arthur Efron: Wayne Burns has published an autobiographical account of his most unusual teaching career in the English departments of Miami (Ohio), Cornell, Harvard, UC at Berkeley, and at the U. of Washington. Entitled *Journey Through the Dark Woods* (after a phrase by Lawrence), the book is especially interesting for its discussion of Lawrence as a critic. Lawrence's criticism provides the makings for Burns's original approach to literature. His book is available for \$6 to teachers (reg. \$6.95) in paperback. Write to The Howe Street Press, 212 East Howe Street, Seattle, WA 98102.

Lindeth Vasey has almost finished editing *Mr Noon*, to be published by Cambridge U. Press in autumn 1984. She sends news also of publication dates of other books in the Cambridge series: *St. Mawr and Other Stories*, ed. Brian Finney (May 1983); *The Prussian Officer and Other Stories*, ed. John Worthen (Aug. 1983); *The White Peacock*, ed. Andrew Robertson (Aug. 1983); *The Letters of D. H. Lawrence, Vol. III (Nov. 1916-1 June 1921)*, ed. James T. Boulton and Andrew Robertson (Spring 1984).

Lawrence in Oaxaca: A Quest for the Novelist in Mexico by Ross Parmenter is scheduled for publication in the fall by Peregrine Smith. The book, which contains over 80 photographs, is a detailed study of the three months Lawrence spent in Oaxaca in winter 1924-25, and of the works he wrote there. Parmenter has also nearly finished his biography of Zelia Nuttall (the Mrs. Norris of *The Plumed Serpent*). The book contains a chapter on the somewhat stormy relationship between Lawrence and Mrs. Nuttall.

Dennis Jackson is editing a collection of essays on D. H. Lawrence to be published in the "Critical Essays on Modern British Literature Series" of books by G. K. Hall & Co. The collection will reprint a selection of the best essays on Lawrence published in academic journals over the past decade.

Of the new Penguin English Library Editions of D. H. Lawrence now coming out, three are available in the U.S. at the present time: *Sons and Lovers*, ed. Keith Sagar; *The Rainbow*, ed. John Worthen; and *Women in Love*, ed. Charles Ross. Each costs \$4.95.

Cambridge Press has issued the second edition of Warren Roberts's *A Bibliography of D. H. Lawrence*, much improved and expanded.

Granada has issued *The Trespasser* in hardcover recently, and plans to publish *St. Mawr* and *The Prussian Officer* in September.

COLLECTORS' CORNER

- Keith Cushman writes that he has recently acquired a freak copy of the first issue of the Duffield *White Peacock* (the last seven leaves are printed only on one side).
- MacManus Catalog no. 276 lists *Glad Ghosts* with its original yellow printed wrappers, London: Ernest Benn, 1926, \$1,500. This is a first edition, first issue, one of 500 copies. A presentation copy from the author to Mabel Dodge Luhan inscribed: "Mabel from D. H. Lawrence."
- Clark Kimball has *Witter Bynner's Photographs of D. H. Lawrence*, 25 B/W photographs taken in New Mexico and Mexico in 1922-23, brought together in an album in slipcase in an edition of 50 numbered copies, \$750 (institutional discount available). He also has the two-record set of Frieda Lawrence reading D. H. Lawrence's poems, with an introduction by Spud Johnson and photograph of Frieda signed by her. The set was done in Santa Fe in the 50s and is considered rare. \$450.

