
The D.H. Lawrence Society Of North America Newsletter

Vol. 21. Summer 1990



Report from Lydia Blanchard, Secretary Treasurer:

The D. H. Lawrence Society of North America sponsored two paper-reading sessions at the annual meeting of the Modern Language Association, December 1989, in Washington, D. C. More than 100 people attended one or both sessions.

The first, devoted to "The Cambridge Edition," included presentations by Paul Eggert, Australian Defense Force Academy; Michael Squires, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; and John Worthen, University College, Swansea.

In "The Cambridge Lawrence Edition and Post-Structuralism," Eggert discussed the challenge that post-structuralism poses to traditional textual editing. If—as post-structuralists argue—meaning is indeterminate, if every reading is partial, if the work comes into a different existence each time it is read, if the text is open-ended, what can it mean to establish a single text? Eggert argued that the apparatus for the Cambridge Edition opens up rather than stabilizes Lawrence, reminding us that reading is always an amalgam.

In "Editing *Lady Chatterley*: The Inside Story and a Preliminary Critique of the Cambridge Edition of D. H. Lawrence," Squires traced his experiences with Cambridge editors, in particular their response to his hypothesis that Lawrence's typists interfered with the text of *Lady Chatterley's Lover*. He argued that the board of directors was remote, wielding power without face-to-face contact, and relied too heavily on collective opinions and hierarchical decisions, delaying decisions and responses. Squires made several suggestions for improving the process, including the following:

1. Major assumptions about textual theory need to be made explicit.
2. Prospective editors need to specify the textual authority of each document, considering how other scholars have arrived at similar decisions.

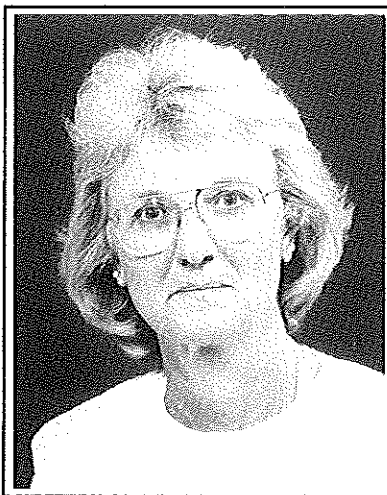
Annual Meeting Report

The annual meeting of The D. H. Lawrence Society of North America was held following the paper-reading sessions and dinner at the Yenching Palace. Our biggest group yet—thirty-four Lawrenceans—gathered for Chinese food, fellowship, and discussion of the Society's business. Judith Ruderman, President, presided.

Lydia Blanchard, Secretary-Treasurer, reported that the Society had a balance in its treasury of \$4,091.07, with \$1,000 of that designated to defray expenses of an essay collection honoring Harry T. Moore. The Society voted to contribute \$500 toward the expenses of the Lawrence Conference in Montpellier, France.

Other agenda items included the following:

1. The Society agreed that for future sessions scholars should be encouraged, but not be required, to be members of the Lawrence Society to give papers. This continues the present practice.
2. The Society accepted the recommendation that two Harry T. Moore awards be presented at Montpellier to international scholars of Lawrence and that we return, in 1991, to the presentation of a single award every two years, given ordinarily to a North American scholar.
3. Keith Cushman reported on plans for the Montpellier conference;



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Report . . .

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3. Discussions need to be organized between editor and editorial board.
4. New technologies need to be used to speed the flow of information.
5. Inexpensive student texts need to be made available as quickly as possible.

Although Squires posed several criticisms, he nevertheless concluded that Lawrence has been well-served with the Cambridge Edition.

Finally, in "Ur-Sons and Lovers Texts," Worthen argued that no single volume in the Cambridge Edition will stand alone, that Lawrence's continual re-drafting makes it impossible to understand his composing process outside of the full edition. Worthen traced five fragments, precursors for *Sons and Lovers*, that will appear in five different volumes of the Cambridge Edition. To understand the novel, we will need to refer not only to the Cambridge *Sons and Lovers* but to other volumes—including the poems, letters, short fictions, and biography.

In response to Langdon Elsbree's question, "Are we seeing a new Lawrence?," the panelists agreed, "Yes." The image of the Lawrence who never blotted a line has been destroyed, to be replaced by a writer who was an acutely conscious stylist, one who understood the publishing business very well.

The second session, devoted to "Lawrence and Psychology," included presentations by Peter Balbert, Trinity University; James Cowan, University of North Carolina; Cynthia Lewiecki-Wilson, University of Ottawa, who summarized a paper by P. T. Whelan, Mu'tah University, Jordan.

In "Ten Men and a Sacred Prostitute: The Psychology of Sex in the Cambridge Edition of *The Lost Girl*," Balbert argued that the apparatus for the Cambridge Edition makes possible the re-establishment of the early high reputation that *The Lost Girl* enjoyed.

In "Blutbruderschaft and Self-Psychology in *Women in Love*," Cowan called Birkin's motives not sexual but pseudo-homosexual, reading Birkin's concluding dialogue with Ursula as a demonstration that Blutbruderschaft was doomed to disappointment and tragic failure.

In "To Speak Like a Woman: Revising Family Relations in *Sons and Lovers*," Lewiecki-Wilson used feminist psychoanalytic theory—including that of Nancy Chodorow—to illuminate Mrs. Morel's dilemma, giving a voice to the usually silent voices of the women in the novel.

Finally, Gamache summarized "Lawrence's Psychology of bonding," in which Whelan analyzed the astronomical basis for bonding. ■

Annual Meeting Report

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Ian MacNiven on still tentative travel arrangements.

4. Betsy Wallace discussed her correspondence with the Modern Language Association Publications Board about including Lawrence in the "Approaches to Teaching" series. Wallace circulated a petition encouraging the MLA to consider a publication dealing jointly with *The Rainbow* and *Women in Love*.

5. The Society did not recommend subsidizing Liu Xianzhi and the D. H. Lawrence Society of China at this time.

6. Larry Gamache announced two tentative Lawrence conferences: in Toronto in 1993 and in Nottingham in 1995.

7. The topic for the Lawrence Society paper-reading session at MLA in 1990 will be "Lawrence and the Body." A second possibility, if MLA approves a special session, is "Lawrence and Current Critical Theory." Members discussed various other topics and voted to consider "Lawrence and the Revolutionary Spirit" in 1991. The second choice, if it is not used in 1990, was "Lawrence and Current Critical Theory."

8. The Society voted not to consolidate membership in the Society with *The D. H. Lawrence Review*.

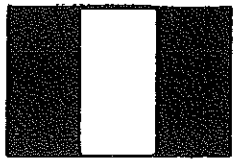
9. The Society voted to support a proposal submitted to the National Endowment for the Humanities by Jim Sebring, University of New Mexico, to develop the D. H. Lawrence ranch.

10. Paul Eggert reported that the Save Wyewurk campaign had failed and that an addition will be put on the house.

And on that unfortunately sad note, the meeting adjourned—with members looking forward to meeting again in Montpellier or in Chicago in 1990. ■

Quoted without Comment . . .

From *The Reader's Catalog*, a huge book of lists of recommended books edited by Geoffrey O'Brien: "The intemperate, tubercular coal miner's son looked like a satyr, at times filled his writing with crazed messianism, was accused by Bertrand Russell and others of espousing fascism, and—by loosening the sexual clamp on the English novel of the 1910s, '20s, and '30s—excited the imaginations of several generations of readers."

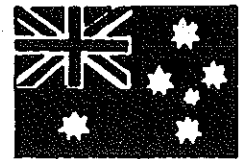


News from France

Ginette Roy directed a colloquium on Lawrence's humor and satire at the University of Paris-X in January. She read a paper on humor in Lawrence's poetry, Jean-Paul Pichardie of the University of Rouen presented one on "Nettles," and Keith Cushman one on "The Serious Comedy of 'Things'." Scholars from France, England, and the U. S. attended the conference.

Another colloquium was held at the University of Nice in November. The theme was "The Call of the South in English Literature." Four Lawrence scholars read papers on Lawrence and the South: Ginette Roy, Jacqueline Gouirand, Therese Vichy, and Jean-Paul Pichardie.

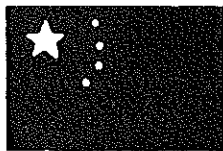
A translation of *Sons and Lovers* into French by Pierre Nordon was recently published.



News from Australia

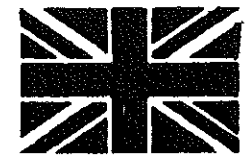
The latest word on Wyewurk is that, although the present owner of the house has been given permission to make the alterations he requested, nothing so far has been done and the owner in fact has moved out of the house, leaving it vacant. As Robert Darroch, Convenor of the Save Wyewurk Committee, writes, "At least it is still intact, and the publicity generated by the controversy has alerted a large number of people—particularly local residents—to the importance of Wyewurk."

A local historian, Joe Davis, has further fueled this interest with his publication *D. H. Lawrence at Thirroul*, which gives a full background of Lawrence's time there from May to August 1922. The book's publisher, Collins, has also put out a companion edition of *Kangaroo*, using the Seltzer text, with a new introduction by a local academic, Raymond



News from China

The publisher of the new Chinese edition of *D. H. Lawrence* has been found guilty of corruption and arrested, and so a new publisher is being sought!



News from England

The Higgs Farm Preservation Society held its third Annual General Meeting in May.

..... Lawrence in China

In an article on teaching literature written in English to Chinese students at the Jiaotong University in Xian, a premier engineering school in Shaanxi Province, Bill Holm writes in *The New York Times Book Review* of February 18, 1990:

"D. H. Lawrence was the hardest case for the Chinese literary pigeonholers. Having hatched the notion that British writers are almost entirely bourgeois (true) and reflect bourgeois values (sometimes true), they were stumped by Lawrence. A true man of the working class, he hated capitalism—so far, so good. But he hated socialism, too—just as much. And insisted on the business about sex. Orwell's description of Big Brother's attempts to destroy and pervert sexual life is exactly and literally true. Change the names and it describes China. Change them again and it describes any institution like China, name your own preferred church or government. Chinese translations of *Lady Chatterley's Lover* sold on the black market at prices ranging from 7 to 20 yan, ferociously expensive, but not enough to keep readers away from its dangers and delights." ■

People in the News



An essay by Peter Balbert, "From *Lady Chatterley's Love* to *The Deer Park*: Lawrence, Mailer, and the Dialectic of Erotic Risk" has been published in the Spring issue of *Studies in the Novel*.

The *D. H. Lawrence Review* will be publishing "Virginia Woolf and Katherine Mansfield's Responses to D. H. Lawrence's Fiction" by Carol Siegel, while her article "Floods of Female Desire in D. H. Lawrence and Eudora Welty" will appear in Dennis Jackson and Keith Cushman's *D. H. Lawrence's Literary Inheritors*.

Earl Ingersoll has an article, "Lawrence in the Tyrol: Psychic Geography in *Women in Love* and *Mr Noon*," published in *Forum for Modern Language Studies*.

Zhang Jian, who translated *The Priest of Love* into Chinese, has been admitted to Oklahoma State University for graduate study.

Essays on the Essay: Redefining the Genre, edited by Alexander J. Butrym, has an article entitled "Inferences Made Afterwards': Lawrence and the Essay" by Duane Edwards.

Micheline Miro of the University Aix-Marseille defended her "these d'etat" at the University Paul Valery, Montpellier III, on Mexican and English literature from Lawrence to Lowry, which had a large section devoted to Lawrence.

Langsdon Elsbree is completing a book on ritual passage and narrative structures for Peter Lang.

On academic leave this spring, Bruce Clarke has begun work on a book entitled *Modernist Individualism: Anglo-American Literary Connection 1906-1923*, one chapter of which will deal with relations between

Lawrence and Dora Marsden. Clarke's essay "The Melancholy Serpent: Body and Landscape in D. H. Lawrence and William Carlos Williams" will appear in *D. H. Lawrence's Literary Inheritors*.

P. T. Whelan has resigned from Mu'tah University in Jordan and has accepted a lectureship at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. ■

Inquiry

Carol Sklenicka asks if anyone knows the whereabouts of Lawrence's painting "Family on a Verandah."

Lawrence and the Media



The BBC has begun a 15-part radio adaptation of *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, complete with sexually explicit passages and four-letter words, arousing great controversy and protest. Radio 4 preceded the broadcast with a nearly 2 1/2-hour reconstruction of the 1960 trial at which Penguin Books was charged with obscenity for publishing the sexually explicit version. The choice of the novel was approved by the BBC Board of Governors, who do not normally become involved in program decisions. Michael Green, Controller of Radio 4, told *The Sunday Telegraph*, "I think it is much too important an event in English literature to go on being overlooked. As for the offending words—well, you can hear them on television most nights." The program has an average of 250,000 listeners, predominantly middle class and over 50.

Lillian Gallo has secured an option on the motion picture rights of *The Princess* and Monica Tidwell

has renewed her option on *St. Mawr*.

Global Arts has concluded a television contract for *The First Lady Chatterley*, *John Thomas and Lady Jane*, and *Lady Chatterley's Lover*.

Panoptic has a contract for a television and film feature about D. H. Lawrence. They have been filming in Eastwood and will be constructing a courtroom set in London to cover the trials of *The Rainbow* and *Lady Chatterley's Lover*.

Freddie Francis, who won an Oscar for the cinematography of *Sons and Lovers* in 1960, won another one for *Glory* in 1990.

According to *USA Today*, the editors of *Woman* magazine rank *Lady Chatterley's Lover* as one of the ten sexiest books of all time, along with, among others, Anais Nin's *Little Birds*, Henry Miller's *Quiet Days in Clichy*, Marguerite Duras' *The Lover*, Erica Jong's *Fear of Flying*. ■

Book News



In England, Neil Champion has published *D. H. Lawrence: Life and Works* (Wayland), and Keith Sagar *A Deeper Reality: A Study of D. H. Lawrence* (Cambridge UP).

D. H. Lawrence's Literary Inheritors, edited by Keith Cushman and Dennis Jackson, is to be published by St. Martin's in the U. S. and Macmillan in England.

St. Martin's is publishing Allan Ingram's *The Language of D. H. Lawrence*.

Nancy Kushigian of the University of Michigan has a book coming out from Peter Lang entitled *Pictures and Fictions: Visual Modernism and the Pre-War Novels of D. H. Lawrence*.

Whitson has published Wayne Templeton's *States of Estrangement: The Novels of D. H. Lawrence, 1912-1917*.

Carol Sklenicka will have her *D. H. Lawrence and the Child* published next year by the University of Missouri Press.

"*The Rainbow*": *A Search for New Life*, by Duane Edwards, will be published by Twayne.

Carol Siegel is revising a book for publication by the University Press of Virginia entitled *Lawrence among the Women: Wavering Boundaries in Female Literary Tradition*.

Jeffrey Meyers' new biography of Lawrence will be released by Knopf in June. ■

Call for Papers



The D. H. Lawrence Review is seeking essays for a special issue titled "Textual Criticism of D. H. Lawrence: Theory and Practice." The coeditors for this collection, Charles L. Ross and Dennis Jackson, seek to take critical advantage of the current vigorous activity in textual criticism of Lawrence, including the Cambridge edition, rival editions, manuscript research, and debate about the principles of textual criticism. The following subtopics are provided by way of example and suggestion only:

-The nature of textual authority; definitions of crucial terms

-Contribution of manuscript studies to textual criticism and editing

-Audience(s) envisaged by Lawrence and editors of his work, contemporary and subsequent

-Annotation and its relation to intertextuality or tradition(s) of literature and institutions

-Methodologies of reading/using various or rival "critical" texts

-Canon formation (e.g. selecting versions, expanding, repackaging) and its implications for our idea of Lawrence as a writer

-Comparisons/contrasts with work on other authors or in other disciplines (provided main emphasis remains on Lawrence)

-Impact of recent Lawrence activities on textual theory or editing in general

Deadline for submissions is September 1, 1990. Manuscripts should conform to the *MLA Style Manual* and two copies should be sent to *The D. H. Lawrence Review*, Department of English, 204 Memorial Hall, University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19716. ■

Collector's Corner

The following appear in the catalog of St. Andrews Books, Box 210756, Columbia, SC 29221:

23. Witter Bynner. *Journey with Genius: Recollections and Reflections Concerning the D. H. Lawrences*. London: Peter Nevill, 1953. First Edition. Very good with good dust jacket. \$27.

29. Sandra Jobson Darroch. *Ottoline: The Life of Lady Ottoline Morrell*. NY: Coward, McCann & Geoghegan, 1975. First American Edition. \$15.

40. Norman Timmins Gates. *A Checklist of the Letters of Richard Aldington*. Carbondale: Southern Ill. UP, 1977. First Edition. Very good. \$18.

56. *Phoenix II: Uncollected, Unpublished and Other Prose Works*. NY: Viking, 1970. Paperback. Very good. \$7.

57. *Studies in Classic American Literature*. NY: Viking. Paperback. Very good. \$5.

59. F. R. Leavis. *The Common Pursuit*. London: Chatto & Windus, 1965. Fifth Printing. Ex-library. Very good. \$8.

62. Shelia Macleod. *Lawrence's Men and Women*. London: Heinemann, 1985. No index. Book and jacket as new. \$17.

64. Katherine Mansfield. *Katherine Mansfield's Letters to John Middleton Murry 1913-1922*. London: Constable & Co., 1951. First Edition. Ex-library. Very good. \$15.

68. Jeffrey Meyers, ed. *D. H. Lawrence and Tradition*. Amherst: U. of MA Press, 1985. First Edition. New with jacket. \$12.

104. Keith Sagar. *D. H. Lawrence: A Calendar of His Works—With a Checklist of D. H. L. Manuscripts*. Austin: U. of TX Press, 1979. First Edition. As new, no jacket. \$14.

105. Keith Sagar. *The Art of D. H. Lawrence*. Cambridge UP, 1966. Paperback. Very good. \$5.

The following are available from W. & V. Dailey, Ltd., Box 69160, Los Angeles, CA 90069:

621. *Lady Chatterley's Lover*. Privately printed, 1928. Good. Forgery of the first edition, with a limitation notice of 500 copies bearing the forged signature of Lawrence. The true first edition was limited to 1000 copies signed, and this edition appears to have been derived from that one, but with the change of limitation (which is most suspect). \$75.

622. *Lady Chatterley's Lover*. Privately printed, 1928. Early piracy, limited to 1500 copies. A little worn. \$300.

623. *Lady Chatterley*. Version Originale traduite par Annie Brierre. Illustrations de Andre Collot. [Paris]: Deux Rives, [1946]. First French Edition. Text on cheap paper and very browned, plates on better paper and good. \$95. ■

More on Margaret Drabble's Latest Novel...

Judith Ruderman writes: "Although 'our' L. D. was not the L. D. Clark in Drabble's latest novel, there are references to DHL himself. The narrator compares the escapades of one character to the events of *The Lost Girl*; and one of the main characters, as she's driving through the midlands, says that she always thinks of this landscape as Lawrence country."

The name of the novel is *A Natural Curiosity*. ■

Malcom Muggeridge on Lawrence

"He was one of those men, tragic and gifted, who work out in themselves the conflicts and dilemmas of their time; who are themselves our own fever and pain." (From *An Autobiography*) ■



Necrology

Harwood Brewster Picard, 77, daughter of Earl and Achsah Brewster and church secretary at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Washington, D. C., from 1959 to 1976, died of cancer on February 28. She was born in Paris and grew up in France, Italy, and England. She moved to the United States after World War II. Her memories of Lawrence, whom she knew as a young child, continued vivid all of her life.

Gerald Austin, Lord Gardiner, 89, died January 9 in London. Lord Chancellor from 1964 to 1970, he earlier was the barrister representing Penguin Books in the trial against the publication of the paperback edition of *Lady Chatterley's Lover* who helped defeat the obscenity ban in Britain against the novel. It was not until 1960, however, that a court ruled that the full version, with its vulgar language, could be published in the United Kingdom.

Bernal Edward Martelly Seaman, 90, widower of Frieda's second child Elsa, died in Chicester, England. ■

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News from Gerald Pollinger



Gerald Pollinger reports: "The most exciting event is my discovery and acquisition of a whole archive of material given by Frieda to her London lawyer; this is now being assessed and I will make an announcement at the Montpellier Conference in June. We have also found for Michael Squires in connection with his next book on Frieda the files of correspondence exchanged between her and Laurence Pollinger (my father). And I have given to the noted collector of Lawrence, George Lazarus, every newspaper clipping (a considerable amount) about the Penguin *Lady Chatterley's Lover* trial. . . . We have also acquired for sale, mainly in Garden Centres (our most thriving industry), a considerable amount of Lawrence pottery which apparently is purchased avidly by collectors of Bon-sai trees as stands and saucers." ■

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