

# NEWSLETTER

OF THE

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION

FOR AMERICAN STUDIES

EDITOR

SIGMUND SKARD

ASSISTANT EDITOR

D. R. WIGHTMAN

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THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR AMERICAN STUDIES  
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## WORDS OF INTRODUCTION

At its constitutive meeting in April 1954 the European Association for American Studies decided to publish a Newsletter, to appear twice a year. Its purpose is to serve as a link between members of the EAAS, to facilitate their professional and personal contact, and generally to promote cooperation and coordination of efforts within the field of American Studies in Europe.

In accordance with this general purpose the Newsletter will regularly contain information within the following categories:

*Organizations.* Reports of the conferences and other activities of the EAAS itself, including practical information for members. Reports on the activities of national associations for American Studies.

*Institutions.* Reports on developments in American Studies, as for example: the opening of new American Seminars or Institutes (or of American Departments within existing institutions); the establishment of new chairs, lecture-ships or other teaching facilities; and the introduction of examination regulations or syllabuses (in universities and secondary schools) in which the weight given to the study of American material is of general interest. Reports on temporary

schools and courses in American Studies.

*Bibliography.* A current bibliography of European publications in book form in the field of American Studies.

*Personalia.* A list of members of the EAAS, with their academic affiliations and addresses; reports of appointments, etc. within teaching staffs that are concerned with American Studies; and other personal news that may contribute to the creation of a feeling of contact and fellowship within the discipline.

*Resources.* Concise description of the literary and documentary resources available in the American field at European research institutions of importance. News regarding the development of Union Catalogues, the production of national lists of periodicals, special bibliographies, etc. that may facilitate a better coordination of American Studies.

*General News.* Beyond these categories, the Newsletter will provide news that may be practically helpful to the members, for instance: national lists of scholarships; references to organizations that may facilitate the purchase of books; special surveys of teaching material adapted to European needs in various fields; reports on grants for

special purposes, experiments with new teaching methods, major research projects, etc.

The Newsletter will not be able to live up to this program without the active cooperation of its

readers. *Any scholar interested in the field of American Studies is requested to inform the Editors of any development or news falling within the scope of the Newsletter.*

## AMERICAN STUDIES CONFERENCE IN SALZBURG 1954

The First International Conference of Professors and Scholars of American Studies in Europe was held from April 16 to 19, 1954 by the Salzburg Seminar of American Studies, in Schloss Leopoldskron.

The Conference was attended by 38 scholars. Four of them were Americans. The others represented nearly 30 universities and other institutions of higher learning, in eleven European countries, with the following national distribution: Austria (3), Eire (1), France (2), Germany (11), Great Britain (5), Holland (1), Italy (1), Norway (1), Sweden (1), Switzerland (5) and Yugoslavia (3). Of the European delegates, 18 were full university professors.

The aim of the Conference was to provide the opportunity for a comprehensive review and discussion of the experiences, methods and problems of individual scholars and institutions, in teaching and research. Seven sessions were arranged. They were chaired by the Director of the Salzburg Seminar, Professor W. Rex Crawford (University of Pennsylvania), Professor John A. Hawgood (Birmingham), Dr. R. O. Mead (Assistant Director, Salzburg Seminar), Professor W. Rex Crawford, Professor Sigmund Skard (Oslo), Professor Max Silberschmidt (Zürich), and Dr. Ian Forbes Fraser (Director, The American Library, Paris).

In the first session, Dr. Crawford explained the function of the Salzburg Seminar, and Professor S. Skard read a paper on the Development of American Studies in European Universities from the middle of the 19th Century to the beginning of the Second World War. In the subsequent meetings, reports, opinions and material of various kinds regarding the present situation of American Studies were presented by delegates from all countries, and submitted for discussion. These discussions, and their results, can be summed up under three main headings.

With regard to the *organization and techniques of general or specialized teaching* in American Studies in Europe the reports made it clear, that only a few specialized research institutes have an integrated syllabus of American Studies. In all secondary schools, and in most universities, such teaching has to find its place as a part of training and examinations in general disciplines like English Language and Literature, History, or Political Science. In smaller universities with limited resources this is the only method practicable. Work is under way almost everywhere to augment the place attributed to the United States within these disciplines. But except in large universities it proves difficult to create special chairs for

American Studies, and it is not always felt to be desirable.

Regarding the *organization of research*, much information was communicated about subjects and fields that may be particularly suited for investigation by European scholars (including students writing theses for higher degrees). A list of suggestions for such research topics is printed below. The discussion of available fellowships and other facilities for European scholars going to the United States made it clear that a pooling of information is desirable.

With regard to *resources for research*, a preliminary survey of specialized European library collections of Americana was presented by Professor S. Skard and supplemented by numerous delegates, notably Professor H. Lüdeke (Basel). It was evident that these resources are scattered and weak almost everywhere. The creation of a central American Research Library and a European Union Catalogue of Americana was discussed. No decision was made in the face of the difficulties involved. There was a feeling that such plans are too ambitious to be undertaken without careful investigation of resources that are now available, and of the regional coordination that is already established, or is being organized. As a preliminary step it was recommended that an investigation be made of the possibilities regarding the establishment of a European Union Catalogue of resources in a limited field (e.g., American Periodicals). Dr. I. F. Fraser declared that the American Library in Paris is willing to serve as a clearing agency in helping to locate research material in France and Europe.

The Conference unanimously agreed that a European Association for American Studies be organized in order to carry on its work. The Conference passed the following

#### PRELIMINARY BYLAWS

1. The EAAS is an association with the purpose of furthering the studies in Europe of the Civilization of the United States of America.
2. The EAAS is open for membership to persons who, by teaching or research, are interested in American Studies in Europe.
3. The EAAS has a Council, a President, an Executive Committee, and an Assembly of the members, to be held, if possible, every second year. The Assembly elects the members of the Council for life, and the President among the Council members for a term of two years. The Executive Committee shall be elected by the Assembly and consist of seven members, one from each of the countries France, Germany, and the United Kingdom, and four members rotating among the other nations represented on the Council. The Executive Committee will be renewed by each meeting of the Assembly; it elects its Chairman among its members, and appoints the Secretary-Treasurer and the Editor and Assistant Editor of the News Letter. A quorum of the Executive Committee shall consist of four members.
4. Membership dues shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

5. These bylaws are understood to be provisional, and will together with such other bylaws as are suggested by the Executive Committee be subject to ratification by the next meeting of the Assembly.

Professor R. W. Zandvoort (Groningen) was elected President of the Association. The Council consists of eminent scholars who will lend their support and patronage to the aims and work of the Association, but have no direct responsibilities. The following were elected to the Council: for Austria, Professor Leo von Hübner (Vienna) and Johann Moks (Graz); for Belgium, Professor Michel Woitrin (Louvain); for Denmark, Professor Sven Henningsen (Copenhagen); for Eire, Professor T. W. Moody (Dublin); for Finland, Professor Ole R. Reuter (Helsingfors); for France, Professors M. Le Breton and André Siegfried (Paris) and André Tunc (Grenoble); for Germany, Professors Walther Fischer (Marburg), Erich Hysa (Frankfurt) and Gottfried Pfeifer (Heidelberg); for Great Britain, Professors H. Hale Bellot (London), Denis W. Brogan (Cambridge) and John A. Hawgood (Birmingham); for Holland, Professors A. N. J. den Hollander (Amsterdam) and R. W. Zandvoort (Groningen); for Italy, Professors Nicola Abbagnano (Torino), Gabriele Baldini (Naples), and Giuseppe Caraci (Rome); for Norway, Professors Frede Castberg and Halvdan Koht (Oslo); for Portugal, Professor J. da Providencia (Coimbra); for Sweden, Professors Herbert Tingsten (Stockholm) and P. Gunnar Westin (Uppsala); for Switzerland, Professors Henry Lüdeke (Basel) and William E. Rappard (Geneva);

and for Yugoslavia, Professor Josip Torbarina (Zagreb). The elected Council members represent the following disciplines: Language and Literature (9), Political Science and Economics (6), History (5), Law (3), Geography (2), Philosophy and Education (2) and Religion (1).

The members elected to the Executive Committee were Professor Max Silberschmidt (Zürich, Chairman), Professor Aldo de Maddalena (Milan), Professor Jean Loiseau (Bordeaux), Dr. R. H. Pear (London), Professor Sigmund Skard (Oslo), Dr. Janez Stanonik (Ljubljana) and Dr. Rudolf Suehnle (Bonn).

The Conference unanimously decided that the Association should publish a Newsletter, the programme of which is printed above. Professor S. Skard (Oslo) was elected Editor and Dr. D. R. Wightman (Birmingham) Assistant Editor. Dr. Robert O. Mead (Salzburg Seminar) was elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Association.

The Salzburg Conference was the first of its kind, and naturally met with some difficulties. For various reasons, the membership of the Conference did not fully reflect the work that is being done in the field. The representation was uneven, both of countries and disciplines. For instance, there were relatively few scholars in History and Political Science compared to those representing Language and Literature. During the brief time available only a few of the subjects touched upon could be carefully studied. There was little time for preparation, and considerable overlapping. Also, the differences of the national educational systems made for some misunderstanding and waste of time.

This notwithstanding, the Con-

ference as a whole was a definite success. The spirit of the delegates was excellent, and there was not the slightest friction of any kind. High-sounding declarations were few, but there was much exchange of factual information and sober argument. Valuable beginnings were made towards more organized efforts and better personal contacts. The general feeling of purpose and fellowship pervading the Conference, and the integration of the various disciplines into a larger picture may not be without results for many delegates who are still

working in relative isolation and against numerous obstacles.

It is the task of the new Association through its media of communication to make these beginnings develop. The long discussions of the organizational framework of American Studies in Europe are obviously drawing to a close. The main energy may now be directed to the promotion of solid scholarly achievements in teaching and research.

*(Reported by R. O. Mead, Sigmund Skard, and D. R. Wightman.)*

## THE ESTABLISHMENT AND THE AIMS OF THE «GERMAN SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN STUDIES» («DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR AMERIKASTUDIEN»)

Owing to the manifold cultural and racial ties of Germany with the United States there has always been a widespread interest in America in this country. From colonial times down to the end of the 19th century numerous were the links that kept this interest alive in many spheres of human activities. In the decade preceding the First World War, some of these cultural relations were considerably intensified. Thus in 1906/07 the first professorial exchanges between the United States and Germany took place, and soon afterwards (1910) the first «Amerika-Institut» was founded in Berlin. At the same time both in the universities and secondary schools the need for a somewhat more extensive and more systematic knowledge of the United States became apparent. Immediately after the First World War these cultural relations were taken up again, and in 1923 the famous manifesto of Professor Friedrich Schönnemann

declared scholarly American studies «a timely proposition» («Amerikakunde — eine zeitgemässe Forderung», Bremen 1923). Two years later, in 1925, this trend was officially sanctioned by the very important «Richtlinien» (study guides) for secondary instruction, prepared by the Prussian Ministry of Education, and by the concomitant endeavour of the German universities, especially of the English Departments, to enlarge their scope of instruction by giving courses in American literature and civilisation, by establishing American lectureships of various descriptions, by founding small American libraries both in the English Seminars and in other institutions with American interests. But it was not until 1936 that the first chair for «Amerikakunde» was finally established for Professor Schönnemann in the University of Berlin.

After the Second World War and Germany's complete defeat in 1945

it was felt in many circles that, although many features of these earlier endeavours had been entirely sound, something of a new starting point was needed in order to avoid future political catastrophes and ideological misunderstandings.<sup>1)</sup> Thus a new phase of American Studies was inaugurated and its significance became again apparent both in the secondary schools and at the university level. The requirements concerning the knowledge of Americana in the Stateboard Examinations for secondary school teachers of English became stricter or were more strictly enforced; the number of university lectureships for American Studies of various kinds was again increased and the number of American books available in university libraries (hand-somely supplemented in certain fields by the libraries of the «Amerikahäuser») grew rapidly. Nevertheless the book situation in most of our average libraries is still far from satisfactory and only some of the large Amerika-Institutes or American Seminars are more favourably conditioned.

It was in these circumstances that the first attempts at consolidating and coordinating the various aspects of American Studies in Germany were made. A first step in the new direction was a Conference held under the auspices of the Munich Amerika-Institut (acting Director Prof. Peters, Assistant Dr. Stammeler) and financed by the Rockefeller Foundation in April 1951. About 20—25 German Americanists, Anglicists, historians, and sociologists and

some well-known representatives of secondary schools, together with a few American exchange professors carried out, for two weeks, a very interesting program of lectures and discussions on pertinent subjects. Of a certain historical importance were also the two resolutions which were passed at this Conference and submitted to the proper authorities of the German Länder, pointing out the great importance of American Studies and making a few practical suggestions. Also the desirability of a German periodical devoted exclusively to American Studies was emphasized at this meeting.

About a year later, in June 1952, a shorter but even more important conference was convoked at Boppard/Rhein by Prof. J. J. Oppenheimer of the University of Kentucky, then Cultural Officer in charge of Higher Education under the High Commissioner of Germany. The very weighty outcome of this Conference was, first, the founding of a temporary «Committee for American Studies in German Universities» (the so-called «Boppard-Ausschuss»), and, second, the awarding for 1953 of two grants-in-aid by the Foreign Service of the United States for the advancement of American Studies in Germany, one of them furnishing means for a number of teaching and research fellowships, the other stocking our English Seminar libraries with basic books in the field of American Studies carefully chosen by a German selection committee.

In February and June 1953 two further conferences held at Marburg culminated, after the dissolution of the Boppard-Ausschuss, in the founding of a new and permanent «Deutsche Gesellschaft für Amerikastudien».

<sup>1)</sup> It must not be overlooked that also in the Eastern Zone of Occupation a strong interest in American literature and civilisation made itself felt.



It is the aim of this Society to foster American Studies in Germany in their widest sense on a scholarly basis, to spread reliable knowledge concerning the United States among the German public, and to cultivate friendly relations between the two countries. Its further aim is to develop into a kind of top-organisation for American Studies in Germany, not with a view to hamper individual initiative, but rather to become a kind of clearing house for similar endeavours. It also wants to cooperate with corresponding national or international organisations, and especially to establish contacts with American organisations of a similar purport. A particular object of the Society is to help advance American Studies in schools, universities and research institutions. It intends to arrange conferences and courses in American Studies or to assist in such courses as may be arranged by other agents. Finally, it expects to publish a Yearbook or a Quarterly with contributions on American Studies as defined by its general purpose.

It is hoped to enlist, for the purpose of this Society, the active interest of private patrons, of the educational boards of the German Länder, as well as of some American foundations. The Society is still in its beginnings but its membership increased, without any systematic drive, from the original 40 charter members to over three times this number. Membership is not restricted to German nationals and we are proud to have among our members citizens of various European countries and some very prominent Americanists of the United States. The minimum annual fee is DM 5.—.

The Society is organised as fol-

lows: It is managed by an Executive Committee of three members, chosen at an annual meeting for three years. At present this managing committee is identical with that of its predecessor, the Boppard-Ausschuss, viz. Prof. W. Fischer, Marburg, Chairman; Prof. E. Zechlin, Hamburg, Vice-Chairman; Dr. F. Meinecke, Frankfurt/M., Treasurer. The Executive Committee is assisted by an Advisory Board of 5—15 members chosen for four years. It is selected according to geographical areas and with a view to represent important branches of American Studies. Its members are at present, Prof. E. Baumgarten, Stuttgart — sociology; Prof. A. Bergstraesser, Stuttgart — political economy; Dr. A. Bohlen, Münster (Chairman of the German Modern Language Association) — secondary schools; Prof. H. Bock, Kiel — literature; Dr. P. Buchloh, Köln — bibliography; Prof. H. Herrfahrdt, Marburg — international law; Prof. H. Kuhn, Munich — philosophy and American civilisation; Prof. H. Papajewski, Köln — literature; Prof. Th. Spira, Frankfurt/M. — literature, American civilisation. There is also a Board of Trustees whose members are chosen partly from among the Advisory Board, partly from such official bodies as are expected to further the aims of the Society.

The Society publishes a News Letter (*Mitteilungsblatt*) twice a year containing general news items, detailed information on the progress of American Studies in our universities and secondary schools and a full bibliography of current German research, especially dissertations and work in progress. The first number of this *Mitteilungsblatt* (17 pp.) appeared in July 1954; its biblio-

graphy covered German university publications in 1953/54. The plans for the first Yearbook of the Society are well advanced; it is hoped to publish it in the beginning of 1955. It will contain about 8 to 10 articles, some of them on the basis of a certain integration, a bibliography of German publications since 1945 and a few reviews.

No account of the history of the «Deutsche Gesellschaft für Amerikastudien e. V.», nor indeed of the progress of American Studies in Germany, would be complete without mentioning, at least briefly, some of the discussions centering around the definition and the scope of the term «American Studies». Some readers of this article may consider these debates about methodology and definitions to be of secondary importance, but I beg to point out that similar discussions on the principles of American Studies are going on also in the United States and that American opinion concerning them is by no means unanimous.

As far as the actual situation is concerned, it must always be borne in mind that by far the majority of German students interested in American Studies expect to become secondary school teachers who have chosen English as one of their subjects. To them American Studies will naturally appear as a kind of appendix to their English Studies. Therefore they are quite willing to make themselves familiar with a survey of American literature, supplemented by the study of some basic classics and many of them hope thus to elude the not over-popular linguistic or philological side of their English studies. Needless to say that American Studies thus conceived would be a very

poor imitation of the real thing. Yet there is a real dilemma. Are these Studies merely a number of courses in literature and civilisation of the United States such as are usually offered by professors of English, or must we adopt the American conception, and aim at 'interdepartmental integration', at 'area studies', i.e. studies including, besides language and literature, all the 'social sciences' such as history, economics, art, and philosophy? I for one doubt if it is possible to offer a patented solution for all possible needs and occasions. This is, however, not the place to point out the various compromises that have been offered to solve this problem.

On the other hand, not all our students of English will become teachers; some rather expect to enter other professions. And in other faculties there are future lawyers, economists, journalists etc., equally interested in American Studies. It is chiefly for those non-philologists that a special curriculum of American Studies in its wider sense can most profitably and conveniently be organised. And here it is where the great importance of the large «Amerika-Institutes» recently founded in Germany (e.g. in Munich, Frankfurt/M., Cologne, Stuttgart, Berlin) becomes evident. For in them are at work fully qualified university teachers who combine a wide knowledge of their general subject with an expert knowledge of its bearings on their special American Studies, and this will enable them to work out, both in their teaching and in their research, a real 'integration', a synthesis on the highest level of scholarship of the two main trends of American Studies.

Marburg/Lahn.

Walther Fischer.

## SUGGESTED TOPICS FOR RESEARCH BY EUROPEAN SCHOLARS

In preparation for the American Studies Conference 1954 a number of representative American historians and students of American Literature were asked to «put down on paper their ideas as to those areas of research which could be most conveniently and successfully exploited by European scholars».

Replies were received from the following scholars: Daniel Aaron (Smith), Thomas A. Bailey (Stanford), Joseph Warren Beach (Minnesota), Ray A. Billington (Northwestern), Daniel Boorstin (Chicago), T. A. Clark (Kentucky), H. S. Commager (Columbia), Avery Craven (Chicago), Foster Rhea Dulles (Ohio State), Scott Elledge (Carlston), N. Bryllion Fagin (Johns Hopkins), John Hope Franklin (Howard), William Gilman (Rochester), Oscar Handlin (Harvard), John D. Hicks (Berkeley), Richard Hofstadter (Columbia), Walter Johnson (Chicago), Richard W. B. Lewis (Institute, Princeton), Henry May (Berkeley), Kenneth B. Murdock (Harvard), Allan Nevins (Columbia), Julius W. Pratt (Buffalo), Arthur M. Schlesinger (Harvard), Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. (Harvard), Karl J. Shapiro (Poetry Magazine, Chicago), Henry Nash Smith (Minnesota), Robert E. Spiller (Pennsylvania), Willard Thorp (Princeton), and Stanley Williams (Yale).

As was to be expected, purely American subjects played a minor part among the suggested topics. A few of the consulted scholars seemingly had too high notions of the research material available in Europe, or exaggerated the ability of foreigners to cope successfully with highly specific American pro-

blems («Faulkner's Work and World compared with those of Hawthorne and Eudora Welty») or with exacting general evaluations («De Tocqueville's America after 100 years or Bryce's America after 75 years»). Most of those suggesting purely American subjects, however, pointed to fields wherein results could be obtained from a limited material (for instance, «A Study of American Culture made by considering in parallel *The Dial* and *The American Magazine* from 1920—1929»). They particularly pointed to problems of literary criticism, which can be studied in a relatively small number of texts.

The distance from the American scene here often was seen as an advantage. In literary criticism, the European eye with its «perspective and objectivity» might more easily grasp that «James Gould Cozzens is a better novelist than Dreiser, Sinclair Lewis, or Steinbeck», or see the grandeur of Edgar Lee Masters (presently denied by most American critics) as a poet of American small town life, not only in «Spoon River», and his great influence on other writers. Similarly, unbiased European studies on controversial subjects would be appreciated, for instance, investigations on the Reconstruction years after the Civil War («Europeans have had a tremendous amount of reconstruction to deal with during their lifetimes») or recent progress in the solution of the Negro problem.

More of the topics were concerned with the European impact on America. Even in purely American subjects this aspect some times came out («American historiography, its

style, structure, and concept of history, and the European influences working on it»). Among suitable topics of a similar kind were mentioned the European backgrounds of Transcendentalism or the Anti-Slavery Movement, American versions of Expressionism, the influence of Ibsen and Chekov, the impact in America of European insurgent theatres like Théâtre Libre, Die freie Bühne, Abbey Players, the London Stage Society, the Moscow Art Theatre, and — in a different field — European capital investments in such American enterprises as ranching, mining, railroad building, and large-scale farming. But such suggestions were relatively rare. Some scholars, but surprisingly few, asked for studies of European emigration to the States, «its sources and motives in various periods». One mentioned the activity of the emigration agents, the railroad and steamship representatives, who recruited Europeans for settlement in America.

This relative lack of interest is connected with the fact that the overwhelming majority of the suggested topics had reference to the American impact on Europe. «All the primary sources for it are in Europe», which gives the European scholar a tremendous advantage. But it was also felt that «the impact of European ideas and institutions on American civilization and culture has been fairly thoroughly studied», while little has been done the other way.

One group of problems, often pointed to, was that of the intermediaries between American and European civilization: «Americans abroad» generally (the tourist, the soldier, the American woman, the American student, the business man,

the art collector), the official and semi-official representatives of the United States, and the diplomats; the kinds of persons sent, their contacts, their influence, and their role apart from their official duties. (To what extent did they enter into the life of the communities in which they lived? As the United States became more important, did its representatives become more active? Did they form lasting friendships? etc.) Of particular interest are the expatriates and expatriate groups, like the colony of American artists in Italy during the middle of the 19th century, or the activities and interests of writers like Cooper, Irving, James, Pound, Eliot, who lived for long periods in Europe.

Among the suggested problems within the general cultural impact were the image of America in European press and periodicals (with the stereotypes, hostile or enthusiastic), the reviews in the European press of European books about America and the social and political background of books and reviewers, the general influence of American education, reform movements, and popular culture (films, jazz, etc.), the attention devoted to outstanding figures in American life, and so on. («Sound, sober studies like Koht's *The American Spirit in Europe* are very badly needed»). Two scholars expressed the hope that «some student with a real knowledge of sociology would select an Italian village, a Greek town, a Danish community» and explore the impact there of the returning emigrant. In particular, the Europeans ought to evaluate the bibliographical material collected by Americans on foreign views of the United States.

In the political field, more studies

were felt to be needed on European reactions to specific American developments and events, like the Monroe Doctrine, the «Manifest Destiny» in the 1840's and 1850's, the Spanish-American War and American Imperialism, the oscillation of the United States between cooperation and isolation from 1914 to the present, the «Big Red Scare» of the 1920's, and McCarthyism of the 1950's. Also, some work may still be necessary on the adoption of the American Constitution in European liberation movements during the 19th century.

In economic life, studies could be made not only of the general influence of American techniques, but more specifically of the establishment of American industrial branch plants in Europe: the French plant of Goodyear Rubber, the German and other continental plants of General Motors, etc. («Subsidies might be obtained from some of these corporations for the preparation of careful monographs»). And there is, of course, the whole field of intellectual and literary influences, including the reception and reputation of most American authors, living and dead, not only fiction writers and poets, but people like William James, Veblen and Dewey. Particularly the field of bibliography is still virtually untouched in this subject («it is very difficult to find lists of works on our authors in certain European languages»).

Behind these topics looms the much larger problem of general intercommunication: the interchange of European and American intellectuals and scholars from the 17th century on, the mutual history of translation, the reciprocal influence of American and European theories

of historical interpretation, etc., and the whole field of diplomatic relations (where so much of the material is in Europe). These studies again lead up to the more general problems of comparison. For such questions «the non-American has a peculiar vantage point. His superior knowledge of a culture other than that of the United States qualifies him to ask those very questions which might never occur to the American student of the subject. In this area, therefore, the European scholar would be qualified to make a more profound, even if perhaps less 'scholarly' contribution».

Among suggested tasks in this group was the comparative study of governmental and other institutions (educational, religious, economic, business, etc.), and the comparison of European and American developments in certain key problems (for instance, urbanization) where evolution in the United States is significantly different from that in the Old World. Of particular importance are the allegedly unique features of American civilization; for instance: What factors in the history of European countries would be analogous to the place of the frontier in American history? In what sense have the colonies of European countries played for them a similar role to that which the frontier has played in American history? In what way has immigration to the United States been a different factor in our culture from the place of immigration in the lives of Western European countries? How do American political crises, such as the American Revolution and the American Civil War differ from analogous (if indeed analogous?) events in the history of Western European

countries? What are the differences between American political parties and those of European countries, and how are these differences accounted for by factors in American history? Is the «American businessman» in fact distinguishable in attitude or belief from his European counterparts? The answers would probably be «embarrassing and refreshing».

«Another class of studies which might be particularly interesting and accessible to the European scholar would be comparative life-histories of particular ideologies. This would include a history in Europe and America of such systems of thought as Calvinism, Liberalism, Marxism, Protestant Neo-Orthodoxy, Positivism, Darwinism and Pragmatism», Dutch, English and American Protestantism, the French, English and American Enlightenment, European and American Social Reform in the early 19th century, American and European agrarian politics, German and American labour and radical movements, Euro-

pean and American educational thought and practice, etc.

In the field of literature and scholarship, it may be worth while comparing the various European national literatures with American literature during given periods, the writings by American and by European scholars or authors on the same subjects, the non-commercial («high-brow») fiction on both sides of the ocean, the role of the intellectual and literate class in America and Europe with particular reference to the impact of the American literary professor and the university milieu, etc.

Behind such questions relating to the general problem of international currents and influences, looms also the old question: «What is it that makes American literature or American anything, American? Europeans can help us all here».

An effort will be made to present, in a following issue, similar suggestions by European scholars.

*(Summarized by Sigmund Skard.)*

## SUMMER SCHOOLS

### CAMBRIDGE: THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON AMERICAN STUDIES

The United States Educational Commission in the United Kingdom for the third successive year held its Annual Conference on American Studies in 1954, in two sessions; the first, for those lecturing, undertaking research and writing in the American field at British Universities, and the second, for sixth form teachers of history and literature at British grammar schools. The inclusive dates of the Conference, held at the oldest of Cam-

bridge University colleges, Peterhouse, were July 12th—August 14th. Attendance at the first session ranged from full Professors to the exceptional undergraduate student and numbered in toto approximately 55 members; in the second session forty teachers, twenty men and twenty women.

The American lecturers invited specifically for the Conference included, in the field of history and foreign policy, Mr. Virginius Dabney, Editor of the Richmond Times-Despatch, on «The Press and Public Opinion»; Professor Dana Fleming

of Vanderbilt University, on «Post-War American Foreign Policy»; Professor John Hope Franklin of Howard University, on «Regional and Ethnic Influences in American History», and Professor Easton Rothwell of Stanford University, on «American Foreign Policy, an Historical Approach.» In the field of American Government, Professor David Truman of Columbia University; in Local Government, the City Manager of Kalamazoo, Michigan, Mr. Clarence Elliott. Professor Robert Sutherland, Director of the Hogg Foundation, the University of Texas, lectured on «American Social Institutions»; Professor C. Lowell Harriss, Columbia University, Fulbright grantee to lecture in the Netherlands 1953/54, lectured on «Post-War American Economic and Fiscal Policy»; Dr. George B. Stoddard, former President of the University of Illinois, on «American Education». In the field of American Literature, Professor Arthur Mize-ner, the Scott Fitzgerald biographer, lectured on «Contemporary American Literature», and Miss Eudora Welty, the Mississippi short story writer, lectured on «Creative Writing in America».

In addition to formal lectures, three in number in each session, there were individual classes, panel discussions, and individual tutorials. Indeed the excellent locale, in one of the smaller Cambridge colleges, with all participants, British and American, «living in» and dining in Hall together, provided the ideal Conference accomplishment, the sixteen hours daily running seminar.

On the evidence of letters received from both the American and British membership, the Commission is quite satisfied that the provision of this forum, this meeting

ground not only between American and Briton, but perhaps even more importantly between Briton and Briton interested in the American field, is meeting a very real need.

(R. P. Taylor.)

#### FRANKFURT: SUMMER SCHOOL IN AMERICAN STUDIES

In August 1954 a *Seminar for American Studies* was held in the «Amerika-Institut» of Frankfurt University. It was sponsored by the US Educational Commission and the Fulbright Commission. There were two courses, each for a hundred participants; each lasting two weeks. The general topic, «America Today», was treated by an all-American faculty of eight Fulbright professors already stationed in Europe in their respective fields. The faculty and program comprised: Richard Bar-dolph, Professor of History and Political Science, on «American Political Thought»; Allan S. Downer, Associate Professor of English at Princeton, on «Contemporary American Drama»; Joseph H. Fichter, Professor of Sociology at Loyola University of the South, on «Human Relations»; John E. Hankins, Professor of English, University of Kansas, on «The American Language»; Paul Holmer, Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of Minnesota, on «Philosophic Trends — Implications and Applications»; John P. Johansen, Professor of Rural Sociology, South Dakota State College of Agriculture, on some «Recent Changes in American Society»; William M. Murphy, Associate Professor of English, Russell Sage College, on «Issues in American Life since 1900»; Thomas Parkinson, Associate Professor of English, University of California at

Berkeley, on «Recent American Poetry».

The seminar was planned by a bi-national committee of five American and five German members, which selected the faculty and prepared an exact time table (three lectures in the morning and two seminar sessions in the afternoon).

The participants were selected on a competitive and selective basis from more than 800 applicants. It was decided that for 1954 all participants should be taken from among the teachers at secondary schools all over the Federal Republic of Germany, including West Berlin. All expenses including travel, board, lodging, and tuition fees were paid by the seminar for all the participants.

The professors realized with alert sensitivity that the task of interpreting America today in a scholarly way could only be accomplished by a process of integration. Without having been asked they went into each other's lectures, discussed arising problems in nearly daily faculty meetings, and in their own courses made many cross references to relevant and pertinent points in the courses of their colleagues. In short, they tried to explain and integrate apparently contrasting views, which sprang from the given diversity of American society when studied in the different university disciplines. This was a difficult task; but these American professors had been prepared for it in the States by the method of area studies in their seminars, a teaching technique which might well serve as a model to be observed in the teaching of American Studies at European universities.

The response among the participants was enthusiastic. They all

felt that they spent not only two interesting, but stimulating and profitable weeks at the seminar, where scholarly accuracy and competence on a high university level were combined with the lively, personal, and refreshingly informal way of the American teaching method.

*(Fritz Meinecke.)*

#### GRONINGEN CONFERENCES OF AMERICAN STUDIES

In the Easter vacation of 1953, and again in that of 1954, Conferences of American Studies were held at Vosbergen, the Conference Centre of the University of Groningen. The Conferences, to which about twenty Dutch High School teachers of English, History, and related subjects were invited, were organised by the Anglo-American Institute of the University of Groningen, the United States Information Service at The Hague, and, in 1954, the Netherlands-America Institute at Amsterdam. In 1954 five Belgian High School teachers were also admitted. Lectures on American history, literature, and other aspects of American civilisation were given by American professors currently in Europe on a Fulbright or other grant. The meetings were a great success, and were very favourably reported in the educational and other papers. It is planned to continue them in 1955 and later years.

*(R. W. Zandvoort.)*

#### SUMMER SEMINARS AT NICE AND PAU

In 1954, the second yearly six-week Summer Seminar in American Studies was held at Nice, at the Centre Universitaire Méditerranéen, under the sponsorship of the Uni-



versity of Aix-Marseille. American and French professors participated in this seminar, which was based on courses in American literature and civilization, as well as English language and literature.

This seminar is especially intended for students in English from French universities and political science students who are interested in American studies. However, it is also open to students and researchers in all fields and from other countries who wish to perfect their knowledge of English and plan to go to the States.

The Nice Seminar is divided into two main parts. The first part includes lectures related to the general topics of the programs of study leading to the *Certificat de littérature et civilisation américaines* and the *Agrégation* in English. During the 1954 session, three American professors lectured on American literature, history, and civilization; two French professors lectured on English literature. In addition, other outstanding American and French lecturers were invited to speak on American civilization and relationships between French and American culture.

The second part of the seminar is based upon practical courses in translation and composition given by a French professor and also courses in pronunciation and grammar given by two American instructors who taught the students by small groups.

A large number of students from all the French universities and even from Algeria attended the seminar (80 in 1953, 160 in 1954). Scholarships are offered to French students by the French Ministry of Education and the U. S. Embassy (26 in 1953, 60 in 1954). This year, the city of

Nice also offered seven scholarships to foreign students.

The second session proved to be such an outstanding success that even greater development will probably be given to the seminar in future years.

The Summer School held at Pau under the direction of the University of Bordeaux was also very successful.

A special course in English language has been included in this seminar since 1951. This year for the first time, an American professor was appointed by the Fulbright Commission to teach American literature and civilization at Pau.

350 students, representing 22 countries, were registered at the Seminar. The English language courses which were attended almost exclusively by French students (about 30), consisted of one hour a day each of practical conversation, translation, English and American literature and civilization.

Pau is making a fine effort to develop an academic center and the course in American studies will probably be given further expansion in the future.

(Edouard Morot-Sir.)

### THIRD ANNUAL SUMMER SCHOOL IN OSLO

In 1950 and 1953 the Norwegian Ministry of Education in cooperation with the Norwegian Association of Secondary School Teachers, the American Institute of the University of Oslo and the Norwegian Fulbright Commission (Institute for American Studies in Norway) arranged Summer Schools in American Civilization, respectively in the University of Oslo (23 participants) and in Milde School, Fana (35 parti-

cipants). In 1954 the same institutions arranged two Summer Schools, this time on a Scandinavian basis by cooperation of the Fulbright Commissions. Teaching material of various kinds was provided by the U. S. Information Service in Oslo.

The Summer School in American Civilization was held at Sørmarka School (near Oslo) from July 18 to 31. It was attended by 7 Danish, 5 Finnish, 28 Norwegian and 3 Swedish teachers in secondary schools and teachers' colleges. The teaching staff consisted of Professors Campbell Crockett (Cincinnati), Winthrop E. Richmond (Indiana), Richard B. Davis (Tennessee) and Louis Kesselman (Louisville), all of them Fulbright Professors to Norway, and by Norwegian guest speakers. Leader of the course was Professor Crockett. The core of the curriculum was American Literature.

The Summer School in the Teaching of Social Studies was held in the Students' City at Sogn (University of Oslo) from July 25 to August 7, and was attended by 7 Danish, 5 Finnish, 23 Norwegian and 3 Swedish teachers in secondary schools and teachers' colleges. Lecturers were the Fulbright Professors Crockett and Kesselman mentioned above, their colleague Professor C. T. Pihlblad (Missouri), American visiting teachers, and Norwegian guest speakers. Leader of the course was rektor T. Sirevaag. Beside general orientation courses in American Civilization the core of the curriculum was American methods and techniques in the teaching of Social Studies, which have no exact equivalent in Scandinavian schools.

Both schools were well managed, and successful.

(Sigmund Skard.)

## AMERICAN SUMMER SCHOOL IN ROME

A Seminar in American Literature organized by the Council on American Studies was held in Rome from April 12 through May 8, 1954.

The teaching staff consisted of Fulbright lecturers to Europe. The general theme of the Seminar was «20th Century American Literature», and the following specific subjects were covered: «20th Century American Poetry» (7 lectures and 8 Seminar sessions) by John F. Nims, Univ. of Notre Dame; «20th Century American Criticism» (7 lectures and 8 Seminar sessions) by Allen Tate, Univ. of Minnesota; «20th Century American Novel» (8 lectures and 8 Seminar sessions) by Frederick Hoffman, Univ. of Wisconsin, and William Van O'Connor, Univ. of Minnesota, and «20th Century American Drama» (3 lectures and 2 Seminar sessions) by Allan Downer, Princeton University.

There were twenty participants, all of whom had been selected by the American Commission for Cultural Exchange with Italy for study grants under the Fulbright Program. One of them was an instructor (at College level), 8 graduates (University Assistants, Secondary School Teachers), 5 candidates for degrees, and 6 undergraduates. Their average age was 25, two of them being over 30, while none was under 20. Their English language was from good to excellent. Each student was required to attend all lectures (an average of one or two hours a day), and to participate in two of the Seminars (an average of from two to four hours every morning). Attendance at Seminars was kept below a maximum of 16 for each.

Students were also asked to attend occasional lectures on specific subjects which were given by: Prof. Gabriele Baldini (Universities of Naples and Rome), Prof. Augusto Guidi (University of Naples), Prof. Renato Poggioli (Harvard University Fulbright Lecturer to Italy), and Prof. Salvatore Rosati (University of Rome). The faculty had two assistants, who helped in the class and Seminar work, namely: Mr. Aldo Celli (University of Florence) and Miss Annamaria de Dominicis (University of Rome).

Each student was presented with one copy of 18 American books, which were used for class work. The Nelson Gay Library was open for the use of reference material at almost every time of the day. Some books had been transferred there for the duration of the Seminar from the U.S.I.S. libraries. A number of new books were secured by the American Commission for Cultural Exchange with Italy.

The course was a first experiment. It was considered highly successful by all persons and agencies concerned, especially in view of the high caliber of students participating and of the degree of interest shown by them in every phase of the program. The Council on American Studies intends to repeat the Seminar each year as a regular feature of its activities.

*(Council on American Studies.)*

#### THE SALZBURG SEMINAR IN 1954

The eighth year of the Salzburg Seminar in American Studies was marked by a continued expansion and improvement of its academic curriculum and other activities.

Both Winter and Summer sessions attracted the usual number of highly qualified scholars. The great majority of those attending were university lecturers, chargés de cours, Privatdozenten and other teachers. Also attending were occasional professors, government officials, labor leaders, writers, and research workers in the social sciences. It has become very difficult to award scholarships to even the most advanced students as the Seminar was formerly able to do.

The Seminar continues to attract as its teachers eminent American professors, a credit to the institution, since it does not offer any salary to its professors. Among those teaching American literature were Edmund Wilson, who dealt with the literature of the Civil War, and Ralph Ellison, who described the role of the novel in creating the American experience, and the backgrounds of negro writing. Others teaching literature were Roy H. Pearce of Ohio State, working in poetry, Lawrence Thompson of Princeton who analyzed puritanism in the American novel, and Daniel Aaron of Smith College, discussing the social novel and the age of Emerson. Isaac Rosenfeld discussed the relationship between literature and philosophy.

In political science Hans J. Morgenthau offered a course in Marxism, Fascism, and Democracy and Max Lerner in politics and American civilization. American political thought was taught by John P. Roche of Haverford College. James M. Burns of Williams College discussed class, group, and geography in American politics. Arthur W. MacMahon of Columbia taught American constitutionalism, as did Professors Burns and Roche.

The history of the frontier in American life was taught by Ray Allen Billington of Northwestern University and the social and intellectual history of the United States was offered by Eric F. Goldman of Princeton. American foreign affairs was discussed by Dexter Perkins, Hans J. Morgenthau, and W. W. Howells.

Art and music were taught by

Samuel Green of Wesleyan University and Allen Sapp of Harvard.

American legal thought and institutions was again offered by the Seminar through special arrangement with the Harvard Law School. Among those teaching in this year's law session were Professors Jaffe, Brown, Newman, Kaplan, von Mehren, and Scott.

(Robert O. Mead.)

## INSTITUTIONS AND RESOURCES

### THE AMERICAN LIBRARY IN PARIS

The American Library in Paris grew out of the World War I American Expeditionary Force library of the American Library Association, which gave its books and an endowment to a group of American residents of Paris in 1920. Incorporated in the State of Delaware in May 20 of that year, the Library expanded rapidly during the 1920s, and a typical American library school operated in the same building on the rue de l'Elysée in Paris. Despite the depression of the 1930s, the Library never interrupted its service to the public. During occupation years, the Library was one of the few spots in occupied Europe where books in English could be freely read.

Completely reorganized in the last seven years and now installed in a handsome new building at 129 Avenue des Champs-Élysées, the Library has assumed a more important role than ever before in interpreting the Anglo-Saxon world to thousands of French readers. Since March 1951, branches of the Library have been created in the provincial

cities of Roubaix, Toulouse, Rennes, Montpellier, Grenoble, and Nantes. During the year 1953, these branches received 142,344 visitors and circulated 159,754 books and magazines for home reading. In addition to the 4,000 borrowing members enrolled in the six branches, thousands of other readers use the free reading room facilities. This extension of the Library's service has brought American reading rooms and documentation centers to regions of France that have never before had such service. The total circulation of books and magazines for the whole system of libraries, including Paris, was close to 300,000 in 1953. This figure does not include the tens of thousands of books and magazines read in the libraries during the year. The Library also operates an out-of-town service by which books are sent by mail to professors and students, industrial concerns, and general readers in all parts of France. The Library's well-equipped reference department under trained librarians is used by hundreds of students and researchers, who ask questions in person, by telephone and by mail.

The American Library in Paris is

a private, non-governmental, non-profit-making organization, operating under its own Board of Trustees. Part of its income is derived from subscription fees paid by borrowing members, but the bulk of its resources comes from gifts from friends in France and the United States who believe in the purpose for which it exists. Many gifts are in the form of books and magazines, and it is interesting to note that of the more than 4000 books added to the collection of the Main Library in Paris in 1953, only about one-fourth had to be purchased by the Library.

The Library's collection now numbers about 80,000 books, and some 250 periodicals are regularly received. The major part of the collection is in the English language, and all countries publishing in English are represented. In the provincial branches there are collections of French translations of important English and American books in addition to works in the original text. An analysis of the Library's holdings in books concerning the United States shows the following totals, which may be accepted as reasonably accurate:

General Subject	Dewey Decimal Classification	Number of Titles
History .....	970—979; 940.3—940.55	1500
Geography .....	917—917.9	470
Political Science .....	320—329	475
Social Science .....	300—319; 330—399 (total Coll.)	1840
American Literature		
History & Criticism ...	800—810.9; 813	250
«Belles Lettres» .....	811—818; Fiction (60 % of total fiction counted as American)	4400
Biography .....	920—929; B (40 % of total counted as American)	1700
American Art .....	In 700s (Architecture, painting, music, etc.)	530
Bound volumes or complete years of American periodicals		5000
American periodicals currently received		214

These figures require some comments. It will be noticed that in the fields of general works (000s), philosophy (100s), religion (200s), philology (400s), science (500s), and useful arts (600s), no count has been made, although it is obvious that many of the Library's books in these fields concern American aspects of these subjects. It should be added that in these classifications as well as the others, the Library holds many books which represent American scholarship in subjects which

are general, rather than purely American, in scope.

The American Library in Paris is pleased to put all its rich material at the disposal of members of the EAAS and their students. It is possible to send books and magazines to certain European countries, and arrangements can be made for microfilming and photostating. The Library is also in a position to act as a clearing-house for information on American material located in other European libraries and will

supply bibliographical information on request. Naturally, the Library and its Director will be happy to welcome members of the EAAS when they are in Paris and open the resources of the Library for their use.

*Ian Forbes Fraser (Ph. D., Director).*

### THE «AMERIKA-INSTITUT» IN FRANKFURT

On June 15, 1954 the «Amerika-Institut» was officially inaugurated as an integral part of the Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität in Frankfurt-on-Main.

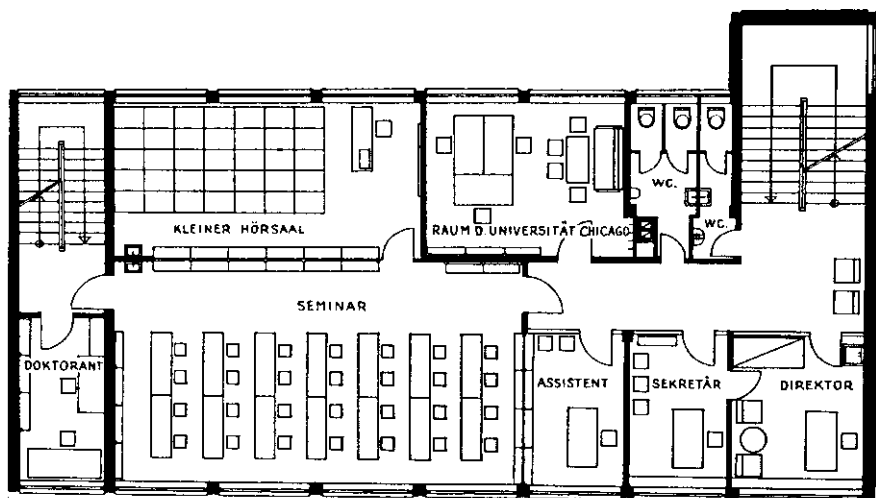
The plan for such an Institute was developed immediately after the war by Professor Dr. Theodor Spira, Head of the English Department. The present writer was assigned as an assistant to Prof. Spira for the establishment of the Institute. The work was begun in the premises of the U.S. Information Center, where suitable rooms and, most important, a nucleus of an American library was available; later the collections were moved to the English Department. The work consisted mainly in the building up for the Institute of a library of its own on strictly scholarly principles, and, also, in the giving of courses dealing with American literature. Only the smaller part of the books were purchased with a very modest budget. By far the larger part consisted of gifts and donations obtained from American sources after long labours and very often unsuccessful pleas on the part of the Institute.

Conditions in the much too crowded English Department demanded imperatively the establishment of a new building. After many careful considerations the plan matured to take the English Department out of

the main university building and to house it together with the «Amerika-Institut» in a separate building thus devoted to the study of the English speaking countries. No money for the building came from American sources. It was planned and built by the University itself, in its own construction offices and with its own money. Meanwhile a conception of the function of the Institute had also been developed, in many experiments and after careful considerations.

In 1948 a constitution was finally adopted by the Senate of the University. Thereby the task of this Institute is to be research and instruction in various aspects of American culture, especially literature, law, history, and society. In its organization it is based on an inter-departmental cooperation and consists of the American sections of various departments. The Institute is governed by a board consisting of the heads of the participating departments and elected university teachers, including American visiting professors and independent scholars. It is headed by a managing director.

This organization is reflected in the practical plan of the building. It is a modern building in steel and concrete of 4,257 cubic meters, the cost of which, inclusive of all equipment, has amounted to DM 496,000. On the ground floor is a large lecture hall with a seating capacity for nearly 200 persons; there are also the most modern installations for heating, ventilation, lighting, and the recording of speeches. On the first floor the English Department is located comprising four rooms for administration, a room for journals, one room for seminar sessions, and the library



*Second Floor of the Amerika-Institut. (Architect: Ferd. Kramer.)*

of the English Department which is a reference library. The entire second floor with the same amount of space, the same number of rooms, and an additional smaller classroom with seating capacity for 35 persons is the home of the «Amerika-Institut». There is also one room allocated to the guest professors from Chicago University, with which an exchange of professors and a common research program has been arranged. This exchange has been initiated by the presidents of both universities and is run by a committee with five professors of Chicago and five professors of Frankfurt University. The third floor will complete the representation of the English speaking world by a prospective Commonwealth Department. An interesting asset to the «Amerika-Institut» is a speech laboratory with a seating capacity for 36 students and seven booths with magnetic recording machines, namely four «Electro-Duals», two «Soundmirrors», and one German model. In this room linguistic work will be done in the field of pro-

nunciation of the different kinds of English and American speech, including the dialects.

From what has been said so far about the growth of the Institute it will have become clear that it grew out of the English Department. Its plan, the so-called Frankfurt Plan, rests on the main idea that American Studies at a university in Germany have to be conducted in a scholarly fashion by integrating research and teaching in the various disciplines with literature and language as its fundamental core, representing its prerequisite on the one hand and its final integration on the highest level of values on the other. The work in the «Amerika-Institut» is therefore closely connected with that in the English Department, and this not merely for the practical reason that it is especially the student of English who has to cover American literature as well in the final examination. In his inaugural speech on «American Studies and English Philology», Prof. Th. Spira emphasized that English Philology like other philo-

logies, and especially Classical Philology, does not restrict itself to the treatment of Language and Literature: it deals with the country in its entire life in history. Language, Literature and all other aspects of its culture are one inseparable whole.

Since America and Europe together are units of Western Civilization, which is only to be understood in the light of universal history, American Literature, for example, is taught as a part of English Philology. So are American Studies, but as part of English Philology in the wider sense, commonly used in Germany, as embracing all aspects of the culture, reaching far beyond Language and Literature through integration into the realm of absolute values in philosophy and metaphysics, ending with a hierarchy of values in theology.

The necessity for a union catalogue of all Americana in Frankfurt became apparent very early. In the course of many years a catalogue was compiled which lists Americana available in Frankfurt in the university institutes and seminar libraries, the U. S. Information Center, and the University Library, especially in the fields of literature and language, history, the social sciences, geography, ethnology, and the fine arts. Whereas this catalogue lists about 15000 titles (rough estimate), the library of the «Amerika-Institut» itself contains only about 2,500 books, mainly on American literature; but it also contains basic publications in almost all fields except natural sciences and medicine. Special emphasis lies on the source material of Literature and History, Literary History, and the New Criticism, as well as a representa-

tive nucleus of American linguistic publications.

From the point of view of teaching, literature and language is the field most developed. In American literary history a survey course covering in eight semesters the entire period of American literature from the beginnings to the present day, including literary criticism, has been established within the curriculum. At regular intervals a course on the American language is given and in the speech laboratory ear training with recording machines is conducted with regard to British and American pronunciation.

American history is dealt with in a course extending over two semesters. A special course in geography is devoted to the American scene as a background for American Studies. In law and social sciences lecture and seminar courses are offered from time to time, mostly by American guest professors.

Research is naturally conducted in all the fields represented within the Institute by the individual scholars. In literature, for instance, theses have been written on Hawthorne and Henry Adams. Others are in progress on E. A. Poe and Mark Twain. In history, for instance, theses deal with the German concept of America during different periods of German history. For a detailed list of the research programs and publications see the «Mitteilungsblatt der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Amerika-Studien», No. 1, 1954.

A summer school for American Studies was held for the first time this year in the premises of the «Amerika-Institut» in Frankfurt, on which school there is a separate report printed in this issue.

*Dr. Fritz Meinecke.*



## CURRENT BIBLIOGRAPHY, 1950—54

### I.

The present Bibliography is supposed to present a current list of European books, monographs, and printed doctoral dissertations, in research or serious criticism, relating to the various aspects of American Civilization. The list also includes a limited selection of more general works on the United States, which may be of interest as specimens of European opinion. Collections of essays are listed if a considerable part of the book is devoted to American material; anthologies and translations if, by scope, introduction or presentation, they represent an original contribution. Text books for schools and universities are listed if, for some reason, they seem to be of general interest. The same holds good of the numerous economic productivity reports on the United States published in most European countries since the war.

Even within these limits the compilation of an inclusive current bibliography for all European countries is extremely difficult. So is the necessary selection from the material, since in most cases the publications themselves could not be looked into. The editors will appreciate constructive criticism of the principles of selection, as well as reference to works, general or specialized, that have been omitted, and that may be useful to scholars in other European countries. Such material will be included in following issues.

The present list was compiled with the generous assistance of a number of specialists and institutions, and comprises books issued from January 1, 1950 to the Autumn

of 1954, in the following countries (the name of the bibliographer added in parenthesis): Belgium (Professor Michel Woitrin, University of Louvain), Denmark (The Royal Library, Copenhagen and Professor Sigmund Skard, Oslo), Eire (Professor T. W. Moody, Trinity College, Dublin), Finland (Mrs. Ann-Mari Mickwitz, University Library, Helsingfors), France (The American Library, Dr. Ian Forbes Fraser, Paris), Great Britain (Dr. R. H. Pear, London School of Economics and Dr. D. R. Wightman, University of Birmingham), Holland (Dr. J. Gerritsen, The Hague and Professor R. W. Zandvoort, University of Groningen), Italy (Professor Aldo de Maddalena, Luigi Bocconi University, Milan), Norway (Professor Sigmund Skard, Oslo), Sweden (Docent Gert Hornwall, University Library, Uppsala), and Yugoslavia (Professor Slavo Klemencic and Dr. Janez Stanonik, University, Ljubljana). In some cases the Editors have omitted from, or added to, the submitted material without being able to consult the bibliographer in question.

Material for other countries, particularly for Austria, Germany and Switzerland, is being prepared for the next issue. *Scholars are urgently requested to submit to the Editors review copies or titles of publications that should be included in the Bibliography.*

### PERIODICALS

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*Newsletter of the European Association for American Studies.* Editor: Sigmund Skard; Assistant Editor: D. R. Wightman. Year 1955 — Membership fee: 60 Austrian Schillings for two years. Seminar in American Studies, Schloss Leopoldskron, Salzburg, Austria.

*Zeitschrift für Anglistik und Amerikanistik.* (Deutscher Verlag der Wissenschaften, Berlin.)

#### GENERAL WORKS

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*Amerikaans cultureel perspectief.* [American cultural perspective.] (Utrecht, W. de Haan, 1954.) 269 pp. Fl. 4.90.

*Barzini, Luigi, Jr.:* Gli Americani sono soli al mondo. [The Americans are alone on the earth.] (Milano, Mondadori, 1952.) 153 pp. L. 800.

*Bjøl, Erling:* U. S. A. bag façaden. [The U. S. A. behind the façade.] (København, Hirschsprung, 1952.) 144 pp. Kr. 9.50. Swedish ed.: Stockholm, Bonnier, 1953. 160 pp.

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*Cartier, Raymond:* Les quarante-huit Amériques. [The 48 Americas.] (Paris, Plon, 1953.) 440 pp. FF 990.

*Chadourne, Marc:* Quand Dieu se fit américain. [When God became American.] (Paris, Fayard, 1950.) 413 pp. FF 400.

*Faber, H.:* Wat heeft Amerika ons te zeggen? Een bundel Amerikaanse reisindrucken. [What has America to tell us? A collection of American travel impressions.] (Delft, W. Gaade, 1951.) 158 pp. Fl. 4.40.

*Flanagan, John T.:* The American way. Aspects of American civilization. (Groningen, J. B. Wolters, 1953.) 74 pp. Groningen Studies in English: 4. Fl. 1.90.

*Gosset, Pierre & Renée:* L'Amérique aux Américains. [America for the Americans.] (Paris, Julliard, 1953—1954.) T. I FF 690, T. II FF 690.

*Grevillot, Jean-Marie:* L'Amérique expliquée. [America explained.] (Paris, Editions du Monde Nouveau, 1951.) 268 pp. FF 325.

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*James, Leslie:* Americans in glass-houses. (London, Falcon Press, 1950.) 123 pp. 8/6.

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*Siegfried, André:* Tableau des Etats-Unis. [Picture of the U.S.] (Paris, Colin, 1954.) 343 pp. FF 970.

*Simon, Yves:* La civilisation américaine. Avec la collaboration de J. Cort, Leo R. Ward, Willis D. Nutting, Benjamin T. Crawford, etc. (Paris and Bruges, Desclée de Brouwer, 1950.) 270 pp. FF 450, BF 60.

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