

A C L A N

AMERICAN COMPARATIVE LITERATURE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

VOL. II, No. 1

Spring-Summer 1968

Editor: Wolfgang Bernard Fleischmann

Associate Editors: J. William Hunt
Sally N. Lawall

Regional Editors: Evelyn Bristol (Midwest)
Calvin S. Brown (South-Southwest)
Robert J. Clements (Northeast-Middle Atlantic)
Eva Kushner (Canada)
Thomas G. Rosenmeyer (West-Northwest)

Editor of C.L.
Concerns in the
Secondary Schools: George S. Weiler

ACLAN is published twice yearly, in May and November.

Editorial Offices: 320 South College, University of Massachusetts,
Amherst, Massachusetts 01002

Mailed gratis to members of the American Comparative Literature Association.

Subscription Rate: \$4.00 per year

Single Copy: \$2.00

TABLE OF CONTENTS

A Word from the Editor	P. 1
National ACLA News (Burton Pike)	P. 3
C.L. Events in the New England and Middle Atlantic Regions (Haskell M. Block and Robert J. Clements)	P. 4
Appendix A (Irving Massey on the Buffalo Program)	P. 6
Appendix B (W.B.F. on the Massachusetts Program)	P. 6
C.L. Events in the Midwestern Region (Evelyn Bristol) ...	P. 8
Appendix A (Peter Salm on the Case Western Reserve Program)	P. 12
C.L. Events in the Western- Northwestern Region (Thomas G. Rosenmeyer)	P. 13
The Teaching of General and World Literature in the Secondary Schools of Western and Central Massachusetts (George S. Weiler)	P. 15
Diversa	P. 18
<u>AN URGENT PLEA TO ACLA MEMBERS</u>	P. 19

A WORD FROM THE EDITOR:

We are alive again, thanks to the generosity of Harry Levin and of Chandler Beall, past and present presidents of the American Comparative Literature Association and of Moyer Hunsberger, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. In order to attain financial security, however, we need subscriptions- notably from institutional libraries (cf. "URGENT PLEA TO ACLA MEMBERS," last page, this issue).

For our lateness, we apologize. In future years, this issue will, unless further bad luck haunts us, appear in May. The substance of its contents will, as is the case here, consist of reports on Comparative Literature activities in various regions of the United States, as well as in other countries of the American Continents, for the April to April period preceding. In addition, ACLAN will carry news of developments in the instruction of general and world literature in American secondary schools.

Before APRIL 1 of any given year, these last should be sent to the Editor for C.I. Concerns in the Secondary Schools, Mr. George S. Weiler, c/o the ACLAN Editorial Office, 320 South College, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Mass. 01002 College and university news should be given to ACLAN's Regional Editors no later than the LAST WEEK OF MARCH. These editors' regions and addresses are:

Midwest	Professor Evelyn Bristol	Dept. of Slavic Languages and Litera- tures U. of Illinois Urbana, Ill. 61801
South Southwest	Professor Calvin S. Brown	Comparative Literature Dept. University of Georgia Athens, Ga. 30601
Northeast Middle Atlantic	Professor Robert J. Clements	Comparative Literature Program Graduate School of Arts and Sciences New York University Washington Square New York, N.Y. 10003
Canada	Professor Eva Kushner	Comparative Literature Carleton University Ottawa, Ont., Canada

West
Northwest

Professor Thomas G. Rosenmeyer Comparative Literature
Dwinelle Annex
University of Calif.
Berkeley, Calif.
94720

Until at least one Latin American Regional Editor has been appointed, we should welcome hearing pertinent news at our office in Amherst.

How does ACLAN define Comparative Literature "news"? In part, the contents of the present issue yield a definition: Records of achievement and progress from old and new instructional programs in the discipline, word of important new staff appointments, notice of Comparative Literature lectures, symposia, and special events. The Fall issue, to be in subscribers' hands by November of this year, will complement the general survey pattern of the Spring issue by bringing detailed information of Comparative Literature Programs for the use of prospective graduate students and of their advisers, results of a questionnaire to be mailed out to Comparative Literature chairmen in mid-September. The pattern of a generally retrospective Spring issue and of a Fall issue specifically informative for the academic year to follow is expected to be repeated annually.

Yet the editors also understand by Comparative Literature "news" whatever should be accessible to the ACLA membership by way of information pertinent to the discipline, but not usually available in other publications. A brief survey on the teaching of general and world literatures in the secondary schools of Western and Central Massachusetts, published here, is a case in point as will be a brief article on "Byzantine Studies and Comparative Literature" by Paul Alexander (California, Berkeley) and an essay on the St. John's Language Tutorial by Elliott Zuckerman (St. John's, Annapolis), both scheduled for the Fall issue. Hopefully, the ACLA membership, for whose benefit ACLAN in the main exists, will come up with many new ideas on what Comparative Literature "news" beyond the bread and butter informative record we should be featuring from year to year. My colleagues and I cordially invite correspondence and suggestions on this subject.

W.B.F.

Burton Pike, A.C.L.A. Secretary, reports
NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONAL NEWS

At the third triennial meeting of the A.C.L.A. in Bloomington, Indiana, April 18-20, 1968, Professor Chandler Beall (Oregon) was elected President of the A.C.L.A., Professor Horst Frenz (Indiana) Vice-President, Professor Burton Pike (Cornell) Secretary, and Professor A. Bartlett Giamatti (Yale) Treasurer. The newly elected Advisory Board of the organization consists of Professors A. Owen Aldridge (Illinois), Anna Balakian (NYU), Haskell Block (CUNY), Calvin Brown (Georgia), Claudio Guillen (La Jolla), Eugene Joliat (Toronto), Thomas Rosenmeyer (Berkeley), Richard Vowles (Wisconsin), Frank Warnke (Washington), Bernard Weinberg (Chicago), and René Wellek (Yale).

Association accepted an invitation from Yale U. to hold the fourth triennial meeting at Yale in 1971. The International C.L.A. will be meeting in Bordeaux in 1970.

Upon the recommendation of the Advisory Board, the following motion was passed:

"The American Comparative Literature Association, at its third triennial meeting held at Indiana University on April 19-20, 1968 endorses the project "A History of Literature in European Languages" approved by the Congress of the International C.L. Association held in Belgrade in September of 1967.

"It invites American scholars interested in participating actively in this project to submit proposals and ideas to the American members of the co-ordinating committee (Professors Levin, Remak, and Wellek) as well as to the Institute of Literary History of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Budapest."

Haskell M. Block and Robert J. Clements report on the
NEW ENGLAND AND MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGION:

1967-68
Activities and Events

The City University of New York: Establishment of the Ph. D. Program in Comparative Literature at the Graduate Center. Haskell M. Block appointed Executive Officer, and Seymour L. Flaxman, Acting Executive Officer for 1968-69.

Lecture by Albert Gerard (Université de Liège): "From Mannerism to Baroque: Shakespeare's Troilus and Cressida and Lope's Fuenteovejuna," March 20, 1968.

Anna Balakian (New York University) served as Visiting Professor of French and Comparative Literature during the academic year.

The development of the doctoral program was the responsibility of a University Committee on Comparative Literature, consisting of Lienhard Bergel, Haskell M. Block, Seymour L. Flaxman, E. Allen McCormick, Helaine Newstead, William H. Stahl, and John D. Yohannan.

The Symposium of Dada and Surrealism: was sponsored by the City University of New York in conjunction with the Museum of Modern Art and took place between March 26 and 28 at the City University Graduate Center. The co-chairmen of this event were Professors Anna Balakian and Haskell M. Block. There were some 25 panelists and speakers from the various sections of the United States and Canada. Six panels, three seminars and two evening lectures explored the history, impact and repercussions of Surrealism in poetry, theater and the novel. The principal lectures were given by Marcel Jean (Paris) and Henri Peyre (Yale University).

Harvard University: Courses by Visiting Professor Alexandre Mavrocordato (Université de Nantes): Comp. Lit. 160, The Legacy of the Symbolists, and Comp. Lit. 235, Aspects of Anglo-French Literary Relations (1660-1720).

Speakers at the monthly Comparative Literature Conference: Harry Levin, Kenneth Burke, Jorge Luis Borges, Noam Chomsky, W. M. Frohock, I. A. Richards, Gerorge Steiner, and René Wellek.

The Renato Poggioli Memorial Lecture in European Literature: "Henry James and the English Scene," by Lord David Cecil, Goldsmith's Professor of English Literature, Oxford University, May 2, 1968.

The Harvard Studies in Comparative Literature, Volume 28.
The Icelandic Family Saga: An Analytic Reading by Theodore M.
Andersson (1967).

State University of New York at Binghamton: On March 18
Professor René
Wellek visited to lecture on the "Name and Nature of Comparative
Literature."

The Program is new and next year should have about 10
students, mostly candidates for the doctorate. It is directed
by Professor Seymour Pitcher.

New York Regional Comparative Literature Conference: The Fifth
Annual

New York Regional Comparative Literature Conference was held
Saturday, March 9, at New York University's Loeb Student Center,
from 2:00-5:30 P. M. The Conference was sponsored by N. Y. U.
in cooperation with Columbia University and the City University
of New York.

"The Confrontation of Western and Oriental Literatures"
was the topic for the first hour, with Professor Maurice
Valency of Columbia as moderator. Participants included Mrs.
Bonnie Crown, of the Asia Society, and Professors A.K. Ramanujan,
University of Chicago, and Edward Seidensticker, University of
Michigan.

The second panel included Mr. Robert Lowell, and Professors
Conor Cruise O'Brien and M.L. Rosenthal who discussed "The
Poet's Engagement with the Temper of His Day." Professor
Haskell M. Block of Brooklyn College served as moderator for
this panel.

N. Y. U. Colloquium on Comparative Literature: Once a month
this year from
20 to 30 distinguished scholars in C. L. have met at the
N.Y.U. Faculty Club to launch the first successful season of
the N.Y.U. Colloquium on Comparative Literature. Speakers
this year were: Professors A. Bartlett Giamatti (Yale),
Albert Sonnenfeld (Princeton), Haskell M. Block (C. U. N. Y.),
Herbert Blau (C. U. N. Y.), Rocco Montano (University of
Maryland), and Unicio Violi (Fairleigh Dickinson University).
Discussions have been lively and rewarding.

NEW ENGLAND AND MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGION
Appendix A, by Irving Massey:

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT BUFFALO
Program in Comparative Literature
Director: Albert S. Cook

The Comparative Literature Program at Buffalo stresses independence for its students and theoretical concerns for its faculty in the study of Western Literatures.

In addition to the staffs of substantial separate literature departments (Classics, English, French, German and Russian, Spanish and Italian) the Comparative Literature group comprises several people who have a doctorate in Comparative Literature or who publish actively therein: Lionel Abel, Albert S. Cook, Eugenio Donato, Leslie Fiedler, Angus Fletcher, Stefan Fleischer, Peter Heller, René Girard, Irving Massey, Sylvia Molloy, Anna K. Moses, Henry Popkin, William Sylvester.

Under the program a student is expected to offer one main literature and two subsidiary ones before writing a thesis which draws in some way on more than one literature. Because the combination is fairly rare of genuinely high competence in more than one literature with a genuine interest in literature as such (and not in area studies or "civilizations" in the sub-intellectual sense), the student who offers both is conceived to be someone to whom a great deal of independence may be permitted.

So far the three students who have been in the program have all published, and all hold faculty positions (at Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Texas). The fourth, now beginning work in Comparative Literature, is on fellowship in Italy. The program will remain moderately small, and each student will receive individual attention, though the interests of the professors, whether phenomenological, anthropological, structuralist, formalist, psychological, linguistic, or other, will not necessarily determine the student's orientation. Each student will be expected to develop his own program, while drawing at need on the strengths of the department.

Appendix B, by W.B.F.

As of September, 1968, the University of Massachusetts at Amherst is offering the M.A. and Ph.D. in Comparative Literature. Initial programs are centered upon Occidental literatures: Students may concentrate upon European and American Literature of the Eighteenth to Twentieth Centuries.

Each doctoral student is expected to do work in three literatures, one of which may be English, and to have, in addition, a reading knowledge of one great classical language, usually Latin or Greek. He will concentrate upon one historical sphere (Middle Ages, Renaissance, Enlightenment, Romanticism, Modern, or Contemporary), while attempting to gain a comprehensive knowledge of his major language-literature area. In addition, he will do some work in the methodology of Comparative Literature, as well as in the history and theory of Literary Criticism.

The program is staffed both by full-time appointees in Comparative Literature (W.B. Fleischmann, Don Eric Levine, C. William Moebius, Henry Schroeder) and by members of other departments of language and literature giving part of their time to Comparative Literature studies: Robert Taylor, Irving Rothberg, Thomas Cassirer, Paul Mankin, Sarah N. Lawall, Jack W. Deaver (Romance Languages), Eva Schiffer (Germanic Languages), as well as Alex Page, J. William Hunt, and Eric M. Beekman (English).

In the course of 1967-68, the Massachusetts program initiated a series of special events meant to be paradigmatic for future years: A symposium upon literary translation, calling upon the talents of Visiting Professor Willis Barnstone (Indiana) and translator Richard Winston, as well as upon those of literary translators locally in residence, was followed by a lecture series featuring René Wellek (Yale), Robert Hollander and Albert Sonnenfeld (Princeton), and Walter Dietze (University of Leipzig). In addition, the Graduate English Club at the University assembled a panel on "The Uses of Comparative Literature to the Graduate Student of English," which brought in the outside voice of Barry Jacobs (Harvard) beyond the voices of local participants.

Academic 1968-69 will likely see fifteen graduate students of Comparative Literature at the M.A., Ph.D., and postdoctoral levels in residence. Some of these will be involved as teaching assistants in sophomore level courses of general and world literature admissible as electives for the fulfillment of the humanities core requirement in the College of Arts and Sciences, and administered by the Program in Comparative Literature.

Evelyn Bristol reports on the
MIDWESTERN REGION

1967

Indiana University

Professor Harry Levin of Harvard University spent six weeks on the campus during February and March as the twenty-eighth Patten Foundation Lecturer. Professor Levin's six lectures on "The Myth of the Golden Age in the Renaissance" were well attended and well received. They will eventually be published jointly by the I.U. Press and Faber and Faber, London.

A two-semester Freshman-level Comparative Literature course entitled "Major Themes and Characters in World Literature" was introduced. The courses meet three times each week, once in a large lecture section, twice in small discussion groups. The lectures were given by Alexander Rainof, who joined the staff from the University of Michigan as a joint appointment with French and Italian; the discussion sections were handled by Graduate teaching associates. In the first semester, students read works from different periods and traditions dealing with Electra, Tristan, Faust, and Don Juan; in the second semester the readings dealt with Joan of Arc, Julius Caesar, Napoleon and the French Revolution (the last include Peter Weiss' Marat-Sade). One special feature of the courses is that students with advanced language abilities are invited to join special sections which make use of original language texts.

Also introduced was a two-semester undergraduate-graduate course in African literature taught by Charles Larson, who came under a Ford Foundation Grant from American University.

Several books by members of the Comparative Literature Program appeared. Writers of the Western World by Hibbard and Frenz appeared in a new edition; Wu-Chi Liu's Readings in Contemporary Chinese Literature, Vol. III, was published by Yale; Mouton and Company released Dorrit Cohn's The Sleepwalkers: Elucidations of Hermann Broch's Trilogy; Ulrich Weisstein's study of Max Frisch appeared in the Twayne World Authors Series; Visiting Professor Frank Jolles' A. W. Schlegels Sommernachtstraum in der ersten Fassung vom Jahre 1789 was published by Vandenhoeck and Ruprecht; Indiana University Press releases Harry Geduld's edition, Film Makers on Film Making: Statements on Their Art by Thirty Directors; Merritt Lawlis' critical edition, Elizabethan Prose Fiction, came out this fall, as did Will Barnstone's Spanish Poetry Before the 20th Century (Oxford University Press).

A number of honors also came to members of the Program. Henry Fischel was appointed to the Board of Founders of the New American College in Jerusalem; Mr. Liu was awarded one of the Senior Fellowships for 1967-68 from the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities; Norman Pratt became President of the American Classical League, a national association of university, college, and secondary-school teachers of Classics; Mr. Frenz was asked to join the Advisory Board of two new periodicals, Comparative Drama and Modern International Drama. Of special interest was the performance of Harry Geduld's documentart play, Warsaw, Year Zero, in the spring of 1967.

University of Minnesota

Professor Robert Stange, Chairman of the Committee of Comparative Literature, has left the university and is now at Tufts University in Boston. Professor Stange has been replaced by Professor Gerhard H. Weiss of the Department of German.

The Comparative Literature Program has been happy to welcome Professor Peter Firchow of the Department of English as one of its members. He is currently teaching the Comparative Literature Seminar.

Purdue University

The Comparative Literature Program is now in its third year. Two special case Ph.D. candidates are enrolled in the program in addition to eleven M.A. candidates.

University of Wisconsin

Professor Richard B. Vowles went as a Visiting Professor of Scandinavian Literatures, a research appointment, to the University of Helsinki. He is also making arrangements for the next fifteen volumes of the series of modern Scandinavian classics published jointly by the University of Wisconsin Press and the Nordic Cultural Commission, representing all five of the Scandinavian countries.

University of Illinois

The Comparative Literature Program had approximately forty graduate students.

In the fall of 1967 Professor A. Owen Aldridge was appointed Professor of Comparative Literature. He is editor

of Comparative Literature Studies, which is now published by the University of Illinois Press.

This academic year 1967-68 was marked at Urbana by the centennial celebration of the University. On this occasion Professor Aldridge organized a symposium on "The Art of the Narrative." Participants were Professors Victor Lange, Princeton University; Harry Levin, Harvard University; Georges May, Yale University; Gordon Sacks, University of Chicago; and Chandler Beall, University of Oregon.

Seven faculty members of the university participated in the Fifth Congress of the International Comparative Literature Association in Belgrade last summer.

1968

Indiana University

The American Comparative Literature Association, meeting in the Middle West for the first time, held its conference in Bloomington, April 18-20. A special alumni get-together during the convention took place. Much of the fall activity in the Program was directed towards the ACLA meeting.

Professor Roy Battenhouse is Visiting Professor of English at Notre Dame during the spring semester.

Kenshiro Homma will remain as visiting professor from Doshisha University, Japan, to teach the Japanese-Western Literary Relations course. He will be joined on the visiting faculty by Frank W. Jolles, Magee University College, Ireland, who will teach Anglo-German Literary Relations and Studies in the Enlightenment.

The Graduate Committee has been discussing the establishment of a major in Medieval studies. A student electing such a program would operate under the existing requirements, but his minor would include courses in Fine Arts, Music, History, etc. In addition, the major would include work in medieval Latin, and one or two medieval vernaculars.

Members of the Program continue to edit the Yearbook of Comparative and General Literature.

Michigan State University

The Comparative Literature Program will be suspended at the close of the 1967-68 academic year, because of increasing burdens on the language and literature departments which have hitherto supported the Program. Although no new candidates

are being accepted, those already enrolled will be permitted to earn the degrees for which they are candidates. Certain of the courses of the Program will continue to be taught as parts of the course offerings of the various language and literature departments of the College of Arts and Letters.

University of Minnesota

The Comparative Literature Program invited a guest Professor for Spring Quarter of 1968.

Professor Renée Lang is at the Minneapolis Campus to teach two seminars in Comparative Literature.

Northwestern University

Professor John Thorlby, of the University of Sussex, England, will be visiting during 1968-69, and will be offering several courses in Comparative Literature.

Purdue University

A new Assistant Professor, James M. Nee (Ph.D. Michigan), will join the Comparative Literature staff in the fall of 1968.

University of Wisconsin

Professor Richard B. Vowles completed a round of Strindberg lectures in England--at Newcastle, Manchester, East Anglia, Cambridge, and Bristol. He lectures in Copenhagen in late June and in Paris in early July.

Sometime in the summer a collection of comparative essays edited by Professor Vowles and Professor S.G. Nichols will be published by Blaisdell Press. The title: Comparatists at Work. Comparatists at Play will follow.

University of Illinois

Professor P. Lal, Calcutta University, is a Visiting Professor during the spring semester.

Professor Rocco Montano, University of Maryland, has accepted a position as Professor of Comparative Literature and Italian beginning in the fall of 1968.

MIDWESTERN REGION

Appendix A, by Peter Salm

Although an average of three courses in Comparative Literature has been taught for some years, Case Reserve is now offering for the first time a full Ph.D. program under the direction of Peter Salm. Undergraduate courses such as "Landmarks in Western Literature," will be given, although the only degree offered at present is the Ph.D. The program is one of several in the Division of Inter-disciplinary Studies. A systematic lend-lease arrangement with language departments, including English, has been instituted.

A beginning allotment of three fully supported graduate assistantships has been made to the program; all graduate student appointments of '68/69 have been made. For 1969/70, an additional faculty appointment in Comparative Literature is planned.

Professor Salm received his Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from Yale in 1959. His publications include a translation of Goethe's Faust I (Bantam Books) and a volume published in June '68, entitled: Three Modes of Criticism: The Literary Theories of Scherer, Walzel, and Staiger. (The Press of Case Western Reserve University)

Thomas G. Rosenmeyer reports on the
WESTERN-NORTHWESTERN REGION:

In addition to the Departments of Comparative Literature at the University of Oregon, the University of Southern California, and the University of California at Berkeley which awarded its first Ph.D. in 1965 and now lists 21 members of professorial rank, a number of other departments or committees have started or revitalized programs in CL.

The University of Washington at Seattle has severed its program from its former association with the Department of English. Under the chairmanship of Frank J. Warnke, a graduate faculty of 20 serves a full schedule of courses, leading to the degrees of B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. At present there are 32 undergraduate majors and 38 candidates for advanced degrees.

The University of California at Irvine started its program in CL in the fall of 1965; it is under the direction of Donald Heiney. The first M.A. was granted in the spring of 1967; the first Ph.D., will, it is expected, be awarded some time this year. The special characteristics of the program are a strong critical orientation and an emphasis on literary translation. An attractive booklet outlining courses and requirements, and containing a Sample Comprehensive Examination, is available upon request.

A proposal for a Ph.D. program in CL has been cleared at the San Diego campus of the University of California, and is about to come before the statewide coordinating council, where it is likely to be passed by the time this newsletter goes to press. The prospective program will be administered by a core staff of 7, assisted by the other 22 members of the Department of Literature. It is strictly a graduate program; no course of studies leading to the B.A. is contemplated.

The CL program of the University of Southern California, the oldest on the west coast, continues to flourish. In July 1967 it organized a successful First Annual CL Conference. The chairman of the program, David H. Malone, was recently, at the annual meeting of the Philological Association of the Pacific Coast in Victoria, B.C., elected chairman of a committee charged with the preparation of the charter for a new Comparative Literature Association of the Western States. The committee hopes to plan the program for a first meeting of the new organization, to be held in conjunction with the next annual meeting of the PAPC in Phoenix. Anyone in the western states who is interested should get on the mailing list by writing to Mr. Malone.

A proposal for a Ph. D. program in CL has just been submitted to the Graduate Council of the University of Utah. In all likelihood it will be in effect from September 1968 on. The chairman is Robert E. Helbling.

Increased offerings in CL are planned at the College of the Pacific in Stockton, which is adding two graduate courses and one undergraduate course to its holdings. The chairman is Clair C. Olson.

The California State College at Fullerton has had a CL program leading to the B.A. degree since 1962. The chairman, Paulina J. Salz, predicts that a course of studies leading to the M.A. will be added soon.

The California State College at Long Beach, which has had a thriving Department of CL for some years, is planning to hold its Third Annual CL Conference on April 27, 1968, under the chairmanship of Peter Carr. The theme of this year's conference will be "East/West"; the influence of Oriental philosophy on Western literature, art, music, and drama will be under discussion.

CL studies have been pursued in fact, though not in name, under various auspices, such as the Asian Studies Program at the California State College in Long Beach, and the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at the University of California at Los Angeles.

George S. Weiler reports on the teaching of
GENERAL AND WORLD LITERATURE IN THE SECONDARY
SCHOOLS OF WESTERN AND CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS:

Do you at present have a Humanities and/or World Literature course in your school? Is this program available to all students? Briefly, describe the approach and the content of the course, e.g., world culture, culture epoch of western world, great books, great ideas, aesthetics. These statements are representative of the type of information prepared and presented in a humanities questionnaire disseminated by the National Council of Teachers of English. Writing to humanities specialists, James R. Squire, Secretary of the NCTE, stated: "Concerned about the need for greater direction and assistance for the growing humanities programs in schools, the National Council of Teachers of English is conducting a survey of current practices within humanities courses in progress."

In view of this growing interest in Humanities programs on the secondary level, Dr. Wolfgang Bernard Fleischmann, Chairman of the Comparative Literature Department at the University of Massachusetts suggested that the Western Massachusetts English Council probe the High School English teaching in parts of Western and Central Massachusetts in order to ascertain what, if anything, is being taught by way of the humanities.

Actually, the results of the probe were extremely enlightening. One hundred and fifty-five copies of the humanities questionnaire were distributed at the Spring Conference of the WMEC. Approximately thirty-two secondary schools were involved in this poll.

Out of the one hundred and fifty-five questionnaires given out, only five claiming a full-fledged humanities program and four claiming programs for the gifted were returned. Of the sixteen questionnaires returned three of the schools were large regional high schools; one large urban community had two high schools: one was a parochial school with a humanities program for the gifted; the other a public high school was without any humanities program, but with plans to start one in the Fall. Of the remaining schools two well-known private preparatory schools claimed limited humanities studies; while six other high schools responded that they were in the process of instituting some kind of program. For purposes of completeness the results of the poll are indicated and totaled on a copy of the questionnaire included on the next page.

HUMANITIES QUESTIONNAIRE

16 Total Return

Circle one

1. Yes No Do you at present have a Humanities and/or
9 7 World Literature course in your school?
2. Yes No Is this program available to all students? 5
If not, for whom is it intended? gifted 4,
terminal _____, slow achievers _____.
3. How is your program scheduled?
4 Incorporated into regular English course
____ Substituted for English course
5 Elective course during regulat school year
____ Volunteer outside of regular school program but during
the school year
____ Summer school program
1 Part of other course, e.g. art, music, etc.
____ Other (Explain) Incorporated into French, Spanish,
and German courses

4. Who specifically teaches the course?
5 Individual teacher for whole course
1 Succession of individual teachers for various units
or components
3 Team teaching throughout
5. Which department oversees or administers the program?
English 5 , Other (which one) _____, Combination
(which one) 1 Foreign Language and World Literature;
History, English, and Foreign Languages; Arts and Languages 2
6. Briefly describe the approach and the content of the course,
e.g., world culture, culture epoch of western world, great
books, great ideas, American studies, aesthetics
1- Great Ideas; 1- Form, Content, and Genre; 6-Critical
Analysis of World Literature

In closing it is interesting to note that Jacques Maritain has said "The humanities are those disciplines which make man more human, or nurture in man his nature as specifically human, because they convey to him the spiritual fruit and achievements of the labor of generations, and deal with things which are worth being known for their own sake, for the sake of truth or

the sake of beauty... Great poets and thinkers are the foster-fathers of intelligence. Cut off from them, we are simply barbarous."

If this statement is true, perhaps some of today's existential dilemma, namely, man's inhumanity to man, can be attributed to the fact that not much by way of the humanities is being taught, and whatever is being taught is perhaps not being taught humanistically. Indeed, as Walter J. Ong, S.J., said at the NCTE Humanities Conference: "Today more than ever before we need hard-nosed, historically informed and penetrating humanistic scholarship. But the organization of our knowledge, and especially of our knowledge of the past, must always be fresh. Thus the task of the humanities today more than ever before, is not a recuperative but a creative task."

DIVERSA

A. Graduate Programs Receiving National Defense Graduate Fellowships in Comparative Literature 1968-69

University of California Berkeley
University of California San Diego (Literature)
University of California Riverside
University of California Santa Cruz (Literature)
University of Southern California
University of Colorado
Yale University
Catholic University of America
University of Chicago
University of Illinois Main Campus
Indiana University
University of Iowa
Johns Hopkins University (Humanities)
Harvard University
Michigan State University Main Campus
University of Michigan
Washington University (General & Comp. Literature)
Princeton University
Rutgers the State University
City University of New York, All Inst
Columbia University Main Division (English & Comp. Literature)
Cornell University Main Campus
University of Rochester (Foreign & Comparative Literature)
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Oregon Main Campus
Brown University
Vanderbilt University
University of Wisconsin Madison

B. From the Boston Globe, Sunday, March 17, 1968

- Q. Madame De Stael once said to her husband, "Of all the men I don't love, I prefer you." My question: Who is Madame De Stael? Didn't she run a house of ill fame in New York in the 1940's? - K.L.T., Toledo, Ohio.
- A. Madame De Stael (1766-1817) was a French writer and the daughter of the famous financier Necker. A moneyed coquette whose physical virtues were large eyes and a large bust, she was ordered by Napoleon at one point not to reside within 40 miles of Paris. She had an assortment of lovers in her checkered life, and like her mother ran a literary salon, but never a house of ill fame.

AN URGENT PLEA TO ACLA MEMBERS

PLEASE ADVISE ACQUISITIONS LIBRARIANS AT YOUR INSTITUTION
THAT ACLAN IS IN BUSINESS AGAIN. . .
BUT THAT IN ORDER TO SURVIVE GRACEFULLY AND TO DO ITS JOB. . .
IT NEEDS INSTITUTIONAL SUBSCRIPTIONS. . .
AN ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FOR TWO ISSUES A YEAR COSTS ONLY \$4.00
YOU MIGHT PASS ON THE REST OF THIS PAGE TO YOUR LIBRARIAN.

----- (tear) -----

TO: W. B. Fleischmann
Editor
ACLA Newsletter
320 South College
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, Mass. 01002

Please send a subscription to ACLAN at \$4.00 per year, beginning
with Vol. II, No. 1 (Summer 1968) to:

___Check for \$4.00 enclosed.

___Please bill me.

ACLAN is the biannual Newsletter of the American
Comparative Literature Association. It offers
scholarly news of that discipline, in the broadest
sense. Ideally, it will furnish unique documentation
for the history of Comparative Literature in the
Western Hemisphere.