

The Association for Mormon Letters

1346 South 18th East
Salt Lake City, Utah
84108

Vol. 2, No.1

Newsletter

December 1977

SECOND ANNUAL SUCCESS

By Neal A. Lambert,
A.M.L. President

In its second annual symposium the Association for Mormon Letters clearly demonstrated that it is alive, well, and certainly flourishing. The sessions this year were held on October 8, in the Marriott Library Auditorium on the University of Utah Campus. The sections were both well attended and well received, giving solid evidence that the individual feelings and personal impulses which first gave rise to our organization were true manifestations of a broad interest and a genuine need for the reinforcement and encouragement such an association can provide.

Richard Cummings, program chairman this year, brought together papers that covered a wide variety of topics: from particular studies of Halldór Laxness and Richard Wright to general statements about Mormon autobiography and personal essays. As a group, the papers were solid, stimulating, and interestingly presented (no small matter for any scholarly symposium).

Certainly one of the highlights of the day was the moving and eloquent luncheon address of Herbert Harker as he talked about his own experiences and the problems and potentialities that a Mormon writer confronts. For those who could not attend the symposium, and for others who may be interested, the officers of the association are now exploring the possibilities for publishing the proceedings and making copies available to the members of the AML.

As a follow-up session to the symposium, the AML sponsored a joint meeting with the 1977 annual meeting of the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association in Las Vegas, Nevada on October 20. By previous invitation, I presented the paper for this session, "The Representation of Reality in Mormon Autobiography." Again the attendance at the session was gratifyingly large, indicating once again that the organization not only has a genuine reason for existence, but that it is well underway.

MONEY!

Members of the Association will be interested to learn of the establishment of two prizes to be awarded annually by the Association: One will recognize the best imaginative writings, the other the best scholarly writings published during the year. Details of the award will follow in subsequent editions of the Newsletter.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Amendment to the AML constitution, proposed and adopted at the business meeting, makes the immediate past president a member of the executive council of the association for the year following his or her term. It is felt that such a change will add continuity and the benefit of experience to the AML programs.

A CALL FOR PAPERS

A call for papers to be presented at the 1978 fall symposium of the Association is hereby made. Abstracts of papers should be sent to Prof. Donald K. Barton, 154-E Orson Spencer Hall, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah 84112 no later than March 15, 1978. The authors of papers selected for presentation will be notified of the date by which papers in final form will be required no later than April 15, 1978. In addition to papers on general topics, stylistic or comparative studies of Mormon discourses, literary approaches to the scriptures, and investigations of personal writings--letters, journals, diaries, memoirs--will be especially welcome. Proposals involving the oral presentation of imaginative writing--poetry, drama, or fiction--are also particularly invited; it is suggested, however, the readings of poetry be limited to ten minutes, and those of drama and fiction to twenty minutes.

CHARTER MEMBERS

In 1976, when the viability of an Association for Mormon Letters was a gamble, forty-eight ardent souls contributed more than was asked of regular members. These, the now healthy and growing Association acknowledges as its Charter Members and honors with thanks: Linda H. Adams, Marilyn Arnold, Leonard J. Arrington, Kathryn R. Ashworth, Maureen U. Beecher, Davis Bitton, Wayne C. Booth, Mary Bradford, Juanita Brooks, William and Marilyn M. Brown, Bruce B. Clark, Marden Clark, William Conway, Richard Cracroft, Marshall Craig, Richard J. Cummings, Lavina Fielding, Mary B. Firmage, Edward Geary, John S. Harris, Linda Harris, Edward L. Hart, Jeri Lu Johnson, Bruce W. Jorgensen, Neal A. Lambert, Clinton F. Larson, Dr. and Mrs. Jon C. Lloyd, T. Edgar Lyon, Elaine S. and Barrie G. McKay, Lena Marie Pack, Jeri Parker, Levi Peterson, Dr. Candadai Seshachari, Dr. Neila Seshachari, T.E. Shoemaker, Steven P. Sondrup, Stephen L. Tanner, George S. Tate, Douglas H. Thayer, Emma Lou Thayne, Robert K. Thomas, Gwen Webster, William Wilson, Glenna D. Wood.

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CHARTER MEMBERS
(continued)

Henceforth membership in the Association will be renewable annually, its year running from October to October, dating from the annual symposium and business meeting. All memberships will automatically expire at the end of each year, with the exception of new memberships received during the year. New members thus enrolled will remain in good standing until the annual meeting following the first full year of their enrollment.

MEMBERSHIP

Following is a list of the members of the Association as of October 31, 1977. Although memberships run from October to October, new members are welcome at any time.

Linda Hunter Adams Salt Lake City, Utah	Wayne C. Booth Chicago, Illinois	William Conway Rexburg, Idaho
Penelope Allen Bountiful, Utah	Mary Bradford Springville, Utah	Rebecca J. Cornwall Salt Lake City, Utah
Lavina Fielding Anderson Salt Lake City, Utah	Juanita Brooks Salt Lake City, Utah	Richard Cracroft Provo, Utah
Stanford Andrew Logan, Utah	Benita Brown Logan, Utah	Marshall Craig Provo, Utah
Marilyn Arnold Provo, Utah	William and Marilyn Brown Provo, Utah	Richard J. Cummings Salt Lake City, Utah
Leonard J. Arrington Provo, Utah	H. Elaine Burnham Salt Lake City, Utah	Kathy O. Czerny Salt Lake City, Utah
Pat Ashby Salt Lake City, Utah	Scott Cameron Salt Lake City, Utah	Sybil Lee Dabel Afton, Wyoming
Kathryn R. Ashworth Provo, Utah	David Canaan Provo, Utah	Afton J. Day Annandale, Virginia
Susan H. Alyworth Chico, California	Marilyn M Capell Rexburg, Idaho	George F. Day Cedar Falls, Iowa
James R. Bartlett University, Miss.	Susan Carter Sandy, Utah	W. Decco Belgium
Donald K. Barton Salt Lake City, Utah	Kris Cassity Anchorage, Alaska	Jill M. Derr Alpine, Utah
Maureen Ursenbach Beecher Salt Lake City, Utah	Venda Castleberry Provo, Utah	Leslie V. Donaldson Salt Lake City, Utah
Elouise M. Bell Provo, Utah	Bethany Chaffin Salt Lake City, Utah	Richard G. Ellsworth Provo, Utah
Francine Bennion Provo, Utah	Julie G. Christensen Salt Lake City, Utah	Eugene & Charlotte England Provo, Utah
Sherilyn C. Bennion Salt Lake City, Utah	Steve Christensen Centerville, Utah	Ron Esplin Salt Lake City, Utah
Davis Bitton Salt Lake City, Utah	Bruce B. Clark Provo, Utah	Mary B. Firmage Provo, Utah
Mae Blanch Provo, Utah	Marden Clark Provo, Utah	Franklin Fisher Salt Lake City, Utah
Bonnie Bobet Concord, California	Aileen Clyde Springville, Utah	Anne M. Forsness Silver Springs, Maryland

MEMBERSHIP
(continued)

Edward Geary Provo, Utah	Karen Lynn Provo, Utah	Susan E. Ream Provo, Utah
Ila Marie Goodey Salt Lake City, Utah	T. Edgar Lyon Salt Lake City, Utah	Robert Rees Los Angeles, Ca.
F. Charles Graves New York, New York	Thomas E. Marshall Salt Lake City, Utah	Patricia S. Roberts Independence, Missouri
Mary Jane R. Hansen Salt Lake City, Utah	Ruth May Salt Lake City, Utah	La Vell Rowley Minneapolis, Minnesota
Herbert Harker Santa Barbara, California	Steven L. Mayfield Kaysville, Utah	Patricia Russell Seattle, Washington
John B. Harris Provo, Utah	Barrie & Elaine McKay Bountiful, Utah	Walter S. Seiter Heber City, Utah
John S. Harris Provo, Utah	F. Mark McKiernan Independence, Missouri	Serial: University of Utah Salt Lake City, Utah
Linda Harris Provo, Utah	Marilyn R Miller Salt Lake City, Utah	Candadai Seshachari Ogden, Utah
Edward L. Hart Provo, Utah	Mabel Mitchell Midway, Utah	Neila Seshachari Ogden, Utah
Donald G. Hill, Jr. Knoxville, Tennessee	Beth S. Moore Kaysville, Utah	Elizabeth Shaw Salt Lake City, Utah
Mildred Hunt Sacramento, California	Linda K. Newell Salt Lake City, Utah	T.E. Shoemaker Sacramento, California
Donnell Hunter Rigby, Idaho	Max Nolan Western Australia	Linda Sillitoe Salt Lake City, Utah
Elinor Hyde Salt Lake City, Utah	Christine Norman Salt Lake City, Utah	Erin Silva Provo, Utah
Briant S. Jacobs Provo, Utah	Susan S. Oman Salt Lake City, Utah	Alice C. Smith Logan, Utah
Heber Jacobsen Salt Lake City, Utah	Lena Marie Pack Salt Lake City, Utah	Dennis V. Smith Alpine, Utah
Dorla R. Jenkins Rexburg, Idaho	Jeri Parker Salt Lake City, Utah	Ervine F. Smith Pacific Palisades, Ca.
Janet Jenson Spanish Fork, Utah	Elinore Partridge Salt Lake City, Utah	Steven P. Sondrup Salt Lake City, Utah
Clifton Jolley Orem, Utah	Jaynan Morgan Payne Provo, Utah	Paul & Sharon Lee Sorenson Salt Lake City, Utah
Bruce W. Jorgensen Provo, Utah	Virginia H. Pearce Salt Lake City, Utah	Stephen L. Tanner Moscow, Idaho
Eileen G. Kump St. Joseph, Missouri	M. Diane Pederson Salt Lake City, Utah	Charles D. Tate Provo, Utah
Neal A. Lambert Provo, Utah	Janet F. Peterson Sandy, Utah	George S. Tate Provo, Utah
Clinton F. Larson Provo, Utah	Levi Peterson Ogden, Utah	Lucile C. Tate Centerville, Utah
Glen M. Leonard Bountiful, Utah	Ole Podhorny Norway	Douglas Thayer Provo, Utah
Jon & Jackie Lloyd Pittsburgh, Penn.	Sharon Pugsley Irvine, California	Emma Lou Thayne Salt Lake City, Utah
Arnold Logie Provo, Utah	Lenet H. Read Tulsa, Oklahoma	Robert K. Thomas Provo, Utah

MEMBERSHIP
(continued)

Lorraine Towles Garland, Texas	Laura Wadley Provo, Utah	Marilyn D. Whipple Provo, Utah
Ken Tucker Bountiful, Utah	Maurine Jensen Ward Midvale, Utah	William Wilson Provo, Utah
Lourel Ulrich Durham, New Hampshire	Christine Waters Salt Lake City, Utah	Sue Ellen G. Winmill Pleasant Grove, Utah
Neal & Sue Van Alfen Providence, Utah	Gwen Webster Salt Lake City, Utah	Glena D. Wood Provo, Utah
		Ruth R. Yeaman Salt Lake City, Utah

CURRENT BOOKS

Edited by Eugene England and Clifton Holt Jolley

Herewith we begin a regular section of short reviews, notices, and information about special developments in the field of Mormon letters. Readers are cordially invited to contribute any information they may have on reviews or criticism of Mormon literature and on any new works that are published. Suggestions on how this section might be most useful to those interested in Mormon literature would also be appreciated. Information and suggestions should be sent to Professor Eugene England, English Department, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah 84602.

CRITICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY PLANNED

By Clifton Holt Jolley

It may not be axiomatic, but it seems to be generally true that the first scholarly attention a community receives is likely to come from outside that community. Perhaps that is the way it should be; certainly it is understandable: Roman schoolboys, playing in the Piazza Navona, unaware of the fountains, find themselves too close to the phenomenon to be persuaded of its significance or too familiar with it to be convinced of their own ignorance.

And so it has been with the Mormons. Although an occasional prophet or apostle has spoken of "Miltons and Shakespeares of our own," and in spite of the roadshows and poetry competitions and personal journals and the faith-promoting stories sent to Church publications, Elder Boyd K. Packer is certainly right in suggesting we have not given our own literature the amount and quality of attention it deserves. (See "The Arts and the Spirit of the Lord," *Brigham Young University Studies*, Summer, 1976, p. 584.)

There has been a beginning of interest in Mormon literature, however, a beginning of which this newsletter is only one evidence. What the research and criticism will prove as to the weight and merit of this body of literature is yet to be seen, but what already has been discovered is that there is precious little by way of critical tools that can be used in assessing the literary value of Mormon literature.

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CRITICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY PLANNED
(continued)

To satisfy the needs of the scholar-critics of Mormon literature and to challenge those not previously interested in Mormon literature, Eugene England has set about compiling a comprehensive, annotated bibliography which will include a set of critical essays intended to broaden awareness in the Mormon community of who the writers have been and are, and of the contributions their works have made and continue to make.

This column will provide progress reports on the project. The task is large and assistance is needed. Information concerning little-known Mormon authors, reviews, collections, published or unpublished bibliographies, as well as other suggestions should be sent to Eugene England, English Department, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah 84602.

LIVING PROPHET

Edward L. Kimball and Andrew E. Kimball, Jr. *Spencer W. Kimball*. Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, 1977. 438 pages. Reviewed by Lavina Fielding Anderson.

This first-rate, lively biography of a living prophet is a landmark in Mormon writing about Church leaders for its combination of completeness, honesty, and full appreciation. The authors have apparently had unlimited access to President Kimball's journals and letters; thus, the sense of intimacy is strong. Anyone who loved President Kimball before will love him more after reading this book. Page after page reveals his unflagging sense of duty, the feeling that he was not accomplishing enough that spurred him into grueling labors, the will-power that enabled him to ignore many kinds of physical suffering, and his unfailing kindness in dealing with others.

MORMON WONDER WOMAN

Shirley Sealey. *Beyond This Moment*. Provo, Utah: Seventies' Bookstore, 1977. 206 pages. Reviewed by Roy K. Bird.

Take a dazzlingly beautiful, astonishingly intelligent, overwhelmingly modest, outrageously wholesome young Mormon damsel. Send her from Zion (American Fork sector) into the Big Bad World (New York, of course) to recover from the shock of losing her fiancé in an accident on the eve of their wedding. Introduce her to a non-member uncle, an inactive aunt, a couple of intemperate cousins, and a handsome knight in shining armor disguised as a cynical, disillusioned, woman-hating non-Mormon. While stirring in every cliché you have ever heard, read, or dreamed about Mormon life, agitate the whole concoction into a lather of accidents, journeys, and conversations. Simmer the brew slowly in thick, sugary syrup for 200 pages and you will have Shirley Sealey's *Beyond This Moment*. It may be hard to swallow, but it sells like hot cakes.

GUIDE TO AUTOBIOGRAPHIES

Davis Bitton. *Guide to Mormon Diaries and Autobiographies*. Provo, Utah: Brigham Young University Press, 1977. 417 pages.

This most welcome volume contains excellent descriptions and historical annotations for nearly 3000 items that form a core body of Mormon literature.

President: Neal A. Lambert
President Elect: Richard J. Cummings
Vice President: Donald K. Barton
Executive Secretary: Steven P. Sondrup

Council: Lavina Fielding Anderson
George S. Tate
Linda Sillitoe
Maureen Ursenbach Beecher

READING GROUPS TO FORM

Here's the next best thing to an evening with an author: an evening with a manuscript. If you are interested in hosting a literary evening in your locale, the Association for Mormon Letters will mail you a set of manuscripts by a Mormon writer worth thirty to forty minutes of reading. We suggest reading the manuscript aloud (copying violates copyright law), followed by discussion. The Association and the author would like to know your response, so an evaluation form will be included with the manuscript.

We hope soon to have a long list of authors who are willing to share their work with groups throughout the world. As a beginning, we are offering selections by four Mormon poets and one fiction writer. If you are interested, please fill out Part I of the form below, and send it to Linda Sillitoe at the address indicated.

The first selection of authors available is geographically limited: from Salt Lake City to Payson. Obviously, the Association will not be able to reach all Mormons involved in creative work. If you are an author, or know one, willing to make manuscripts available, please let us know. To apply to have work considered for distribution, fill out Part II of the form below, and send it with two copies of thirty to forty minutes (read orally) of work to Linda Sillitoe at the address indicated. Include an author's copyright line on the manuscript.

Part I

To: Linda Sillitoe
1718 Lake Street
Salt Lake City, Utah 84105

Please send a manuscript by _____ Dennis Clark (poetry)
_____ Clifton Holt Jolley (poetry)
_____ Linda Sillitoe (poetry)
_____ Emma Lou Thayne (poetry)
_____ Béla Petsco (fiction)

to (name) _____

(address) _____

I agree to abide by all copyright laws and pay return postage.

(Signature)

Part II

To: Linda Sillitoe
1718 Lake Street
Salt Lake City, Utah 84105

Author _____

Address _____

Type of manuscript: Poems _____ Fiction _____ Play (scene[s]) _____ Essay _____

Other _____

I am willing to read from my work for groups in the following areas:

The Association for Mormon Letters

1346 South 18th East
Salt Lake City, Utah
84108

Vol. 2, No. 3

Newsletter

June 1978

THIRD SYMPOSIUM ON MORMON LETTERS

SCHEDULED

The 1978 Symposium on Mormon Letters will be held at the Auditorium of the Marriott Library at the University of Utah on Saturday, October 7, 1978. Hopefully, the scheduling of the Symposium on Saturday rather than a weekday will once again prove convenient to the membership of the Association

As in the last two years, papers will be presented in a morning and an afternoon session. Promised for the morning are papers dealing with major autobiographical works of Eliza R. Snow, the identity crisis in L.D.S. missionary fiction, and the writings of Claude T. Barnes, one of Utah's early naturalists. The session will be chaired by Prof. Edward Hart, Department of English, Brigham Young University. During the afternoon session, speakers will discuss the folklore in The Giant Joshua, Samuel Taylor's novel Heaven Knows Why, and a moral approach to literary criticism. The session will be chaired by Prof. George S. Tate, Department of Comparative Literature, Brigham Young University. A new feature of the 1978 Symposium will be an evening session at which a number of well-known Mormon writers will read from their work in progress.

A luncheon will be held in the Panorama Room of the Olpin Student Union Building, a room that will easily accommodate all participants in the Symposium. The luncheon speaker will be Prof. Neal Lambert, president of the Association. It is anticipated that his presentation will be in the form of a presidential address, discussing at least in part the state of the Association.

Advance registration forms as well as details of the program will be included in the next newsletter scheduled for September 1st. All members of the Association are cordially invited to register for and attend the Symposium. Guests and prospective members of the Association will be, as always, most welcome.

READING GROUP TO BE HELD

A reading group at which Levi S. Peterson will read from his own fiction will be held at the home of Lavina Fielding Anderson, 1519 Roberta (240 East) Salt Lake City on Saturday, June 24th from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. All members of the Association are cordially invited.

Members of the Association who may wish to sponsor similar reading groups are reminded that a variety of manuscripts are available from Linda Sillitoe, 1718 Lake Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84105. The Association suggests reading the manuscript aloud (copying violates copyright), followed by discussion. The Association and the authors would like to know your response, so an evaluation form will be included with the manuscript. Authors currently available are Dennis Clark (poetry), Clifton Holt Jolley (poetry), Linda Sillitoe (poetry), Emma Lou Thayne (poetry), and Béla Petsco (fiction).

MONEY

Members of the Association are reminded of the establishment of two prizes to be awarded annually by the Association: one will recognize the best imaginative writings, the other the best scholarly writings published during the year. Members of the Association are invited to bring works to the attention of the award committee by addressing nominations or copies of the work to: The Award Committee, Association for Mormon Letters, 1346 South 18th East, Salt Lake City, Utah 84108.

NEW MEMBERS

Mikal and Ilene Lofgren
Salt Lake City, Utah
Douglas D. Alder
Logan, Utah
Larry Y. Wilson
Walnut Creek California
Robert Christmas
San Dimas, California

Dale LeCheminant
Salt Lake City, Utah
Dennis and Valeri Clark
Salt Lake City, Utah
Jay F. Bodine
Lexington, Kentucky
Colin Douglas
Provo, Utah

To:
The Association for Mormon Letters
1346 South 18th East
Salt Lake City, Utah 84108

Note: This application is included for the convenience of any who may want to join the association.

Name(s) (please print) _____

Affiliation (if applicable) _____

Mailing Address _____

Enclosed please find _____ (\$4.00) dollars for _____ membership(s) in The Association for Mormon Letters.

Signed _____

President: Neal A. Lambert
President Elect: Richard J. Cummings
Vice President: Donald K. Barton
Executive Secretary: Steven P. Sondrup

Council: Lavina Fielding Anderson
George S. Tate
Linda Sillitoe
Maureen Ursenbach Beecher

The Association for Mormon Letters

1346 South 18th East
Salt Lake City, Utah
84108

Table recommended
✓ 1. Elaine Scamm
✓ 2. Peggy H. ...
✓ 3. Century II
✓ 4. BYU Studies
✓ 5. Mike Saffron
✓ 6. BYU Press
✓ 7. Experimental II
September 1978
✓ 8. ...

Vol. 2, No. 4

Newsletter

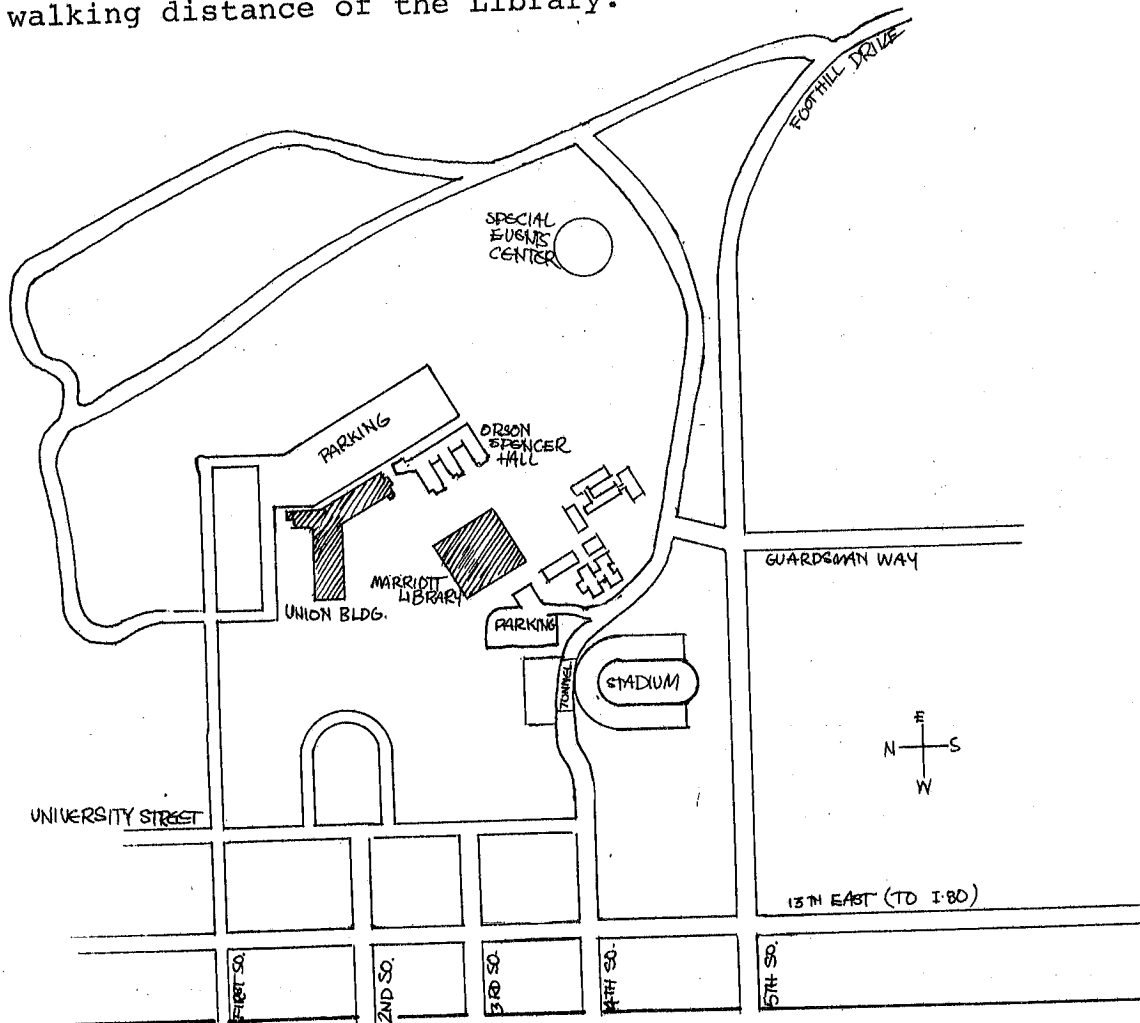
THIRD SYMPOSIUM ON MORMON LETTERS SCHEDULED

The 1978 Symposium on Mormon Letters will be held at the Marriott Library Auditorium at the University of Utah on Saturday, October 7, 1978. The following schedule has been established.

- 9:00-10:00 Registration.
- 10:00-12:00 The Search for Self in Mormon Letters.
Maureen U. Beecher: The Diary and the Autobiography of Eliza Roxey Snow: A Study in Three Genres.
Lavina Fielding Anderson: The Identity Crisis in L.D.S. Missionary Fiction.
Davis Bitton: Utah's Thoreau: Claude T. Barnes.
Chairman: Edward Hart.
Commentary: Eugene England.
- 12:15 - 1:45 Lunch: Panorama Room, University of Utah Student Union Building.
Chairman: Richard J. Cummings.
Speaker: Neal A. Lambert.
- 2:00 - 4:00 The Mormon Novel, Folklore, and Moral Criticism.
William Wilson: Folklore in *The Giant Joshua*.
Richard Cracroft: Samuel Taylor's *Heaven Knows Why*.
Stephen L. Tanner: A Moral Approach to Literary Criticism.
Chairman: George S. Tate.
Commentary: Levi S. Peterson.
- 4:00 - 5:00 Business Meeting.
Reports.
New Officers.
Other Business.
- 7:00 - 9:00 Poetry and Prose in Progress: Mormon Writers Read From Their Work.
(Location: To Be Announced.)
Chair: Elouise M. Bell.
Participating: Linda Sillitoe.
Dennis Clark.
Don Marshall.
J.R. Bartlett.
Emmalou Thayne.
Elouise M. Bell.

Members of the Association planning to attend the Symposium are encouraged to pre-register and, if desired, to make reservations for the luncheon. A pre-registration/reservation form is included with the Newsletter for the benefit of those wishing to take advantage of this option. The registration fee is \$1.00 and the price of the luncheon is \$4.65. Although the registration fee may be payed at the door, luncheon tickets will, unfortunately, not be available after Wednesday, October 4, 1978. The form together with the appropriate remittance should be sent to The Association for Mormon Letters, 1346 South 18th East, Salt Lake City, Utah 84108. Members who have pre-registered will be able to claim their packet of registration material at the door on the morning of the Symposium.

The Auditorium in the Marriott Library is on the second floor. Those entering the Library from the west will see the Auditorium immediately in front of them. Those entering from the east, though, will need to go down one floor and through the door immediately to the left following the corridor to the main entrance of the Auditorium. University of Utah parking restrictions do not apply on Saturdays, so all of the parking area surrounding the Marriott Library will be available to Symposium participants. As can be seen from the map below, the Union Building, where the luncheon will be held, is within easy walking distance of the Library.



ASSOCIATION TO MEET IN PHOENIX

The Association for Mormon Letters is planning a special symposium session in conjunction with the annual conference of the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association in Phoenix, Arizona in the Curtis Room of the Hyatt Regency Hotel from 9:00 until 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 28, 1978. The session will be chaired by Maureen U. Beecher. The two presentations that have been scheduled are: Bruce Jorgensen: "Element and Glory: Reflections and Speculations on Mormon Verbal Imagination" and Steven P. Sondrup: "The Psalm of Nephi: A Lyric Reading."

All members of the Association are cordially invited to attend. Guests will be, as always, most welcome.

PROCEEDINGS PUBLISHED

The Proceedings of the Second Symposium of the Association held in October 1977 in Salt Lake City have been published in *Dialogue* Vol. X, No. 2 Summer 1978. In addition to the presentations given in the morning and afternoon sessions, Herbert Harker's luncheon address and Neal A. Lambert's paper delivered at the Association meeting held in conjunction with the R.M.M.L.A. Conference in Las Vegas are also included.

Subscriptions to and individual copies of *Dialogue* are available through Subscription Department, P.O. Box 1387, Arlington, Virginia 22210.

NEW MEMBERS

C. Ronald VanLeuven
Sandy, Utah

Mary Brewer
Tempe, Arizona

Vernon H. Jensen, Jr.
Roseburg, Oregon

Ruth Anne Lewis
Salt Lake City, Utah

PUBLICATIONS AND PRODUCTIONS

OF NOTE

Saturday's Voyeur: Roadshow 1978. Performed by the Salt Lake Acting Company. Actually not much of a roadshow, but an excellent parody of one by Micheal Buttars and Nancy Borgenicht.

Jenny: Her Incredible Journey through Hell and the Three Degrees of Glory. Gaye D. Horsley and Ron Simpson. A production currently on the boards in Salt Lake and Provo which, in the words of its producers, is "not recommended for children under five years of age."

Latter-day Ruth. Doug Stewart. Although it may not be the only problem, the title has recently been changed to *The Day the Rain Fell Up.*

Brigham (the New Version of the film). New Crickets, old problems!

Because of Elizabeth. Book by Moana Bennett; lyrics by Duane Hiatt; music by Larry Bastian. Produced in Nauvoo, Illinois, Summer 1978.

The Joy of Reading. Edited and Compiled by Robert K. Thomas. Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, 1978.

Closets: Poems by Linda Higham Thompson. Illustrated by Carol Diane Norby. Orem, Utah: The Orange Press, 1978. (The Orange Press, P.O. Box 1216, Orem Utah 84057.)

ON PRESSING ON . . .

Richard H. Cracroft

(Neal A. Maxwell. *Wherefore Ye Must Press Forward.* [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co., 1977], 141 pp.)

Anxiously engaged as the Church must be in proclaiming its message to a stolid world, it is expected that much of our literature concern itself with expounding gospel doctrines and teaching techniques of living basic gospel principles, as well as with praising stalwarts who exemplify our cause. With the increase of the sheep, however, it becomes necessary to pay more attention to the needs of those already folded, those who would endure to the end but who sometimes grow weary with watching and praying and wish that the Shepherd would hasten his coming--or put it off indefinitely. Elder Neal A. Maxwell's latest (his ninth) book, *Wherefore, Ye Must Press Forward*, speaks to just such flocklings.

Elder Maxwell frames his book around the individual phrases of 2 Nephi 31:20: "Wherefore, ye must press forward with steadfastness, in Christ, having a perfect brightness of hope, and a love of God and of all men." Assuming a desire on the reader's part to grow in committed discipleship, Elder Maxwell examines the process of "both progressing and enduring" in this discipleship and "remaining true to the decisions and covenants that have brought" the disciple this far. The book deals with the challenges of pressing forward and warns the reader that one can be "in the midst of knowledge and be insensitive to the implications, leaving it unsearched and unappreciated." Insisting that "there is *nothing* worldly that is really worth holding onto," Maxwell urges the disciple to eschew the world and to embrace the Church wholly, to avoid being one of those travelers who mills "about the dockside grumbling about the fare or questioning the seaworthiness of the vessel;" he asks us to take passage with the Church, intent on lasting the entire voyage.

Elder Maxwell examines how one initiates discipleship, learns obedience, develops hope, participates purposefully in the activities of the Church, learns love for his fellows, and endures to the end. He stresses in each chapter the role of the disciple in pressing forward and lists the numbers of problems which one can encounter in the press to perfection, problems which can discourage and sidetrack the traveler. He also lists in each chapter attitudes and actions which one can cultivate and take in order to foster obedience, faith, love, and endurance.

This book, dedicated to President Spencer W. Kimball, as one who "epitomizes pressing forward," is a thoughtful and highly readable reminder for anyone in the Church who has momentarily grown weary with the precarious balancing act which we undertake in the difficult in-yet-not-of-the-world tightrope stride of the Mormon-Christian. He reminds the reader that "all the easy things the Church has had to do have been done. From now on it is high adventure." After reading this book, a thoughtful reader-disciple is moved to hang on for just a little more high adventure. What greater praise can one give a book?

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Maureen Ursenbach Beecher