

THE WOMAN'S COLLECTION
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Editor: Diane Pritchard

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Ethics: **Lost** or Forgotten?

When Francesca asked me to do her column for this issue of the Networker, we were in the midst of the most distasteful political campaign I could remember. On the California ballot alone the subject possibilities seemed endless: the state Supreme Court, propositions on English only, AIDS, pay limitation, *etc.*, ad nauseam. Now the election is over and though the bigots and zealots were only partially successful, the bad taste of unethical behavior lingers on.

There have been, everyone will agree, many things to deplore and bemoan in campaigns of recent years, but my reflections on the matter seem to continually focus on one idea. Recent news events in Washington, Contragate, combined with, of all things, the season of term papers, have reinforced my conclusions. A sense of ethics seems to be drifting further and further away from the accepted mode of behavior.

Even more distressing is that ethics, once an intrinsic part of one's character, is no longer a given. Politicians who "stretch" the truth are excused by the cliché "everyone does it." Businessmen who make questionable deals and profits are often simply viewed as the ones who "happened" to get caught. And much closer to home, students who plagiarize papers are honestly amazed that they are expected to give credit to their sources and acknowledge borrowed words with quotation symbols.

Granted, the leap from Contragate to a ten-page research paper may seem great. Nevertheless, it is a correlation that bothers me (and probably you) more and more, semester after semester. When the school newspaper ignores accuracy for the sake of journalistic drama, I begin to ask when journalism classes are going to start teaching ethics. When the business school accepts large donations from IBM or another corporation and alters its classes to reflect the training needs of that company, lights flashing "ethics" go off in my head. In other words, the lack of ethical behavior in the political and public sectors is reinforced for students on their own campus daily.

Teaching ethics has traditionally been the domain of philosophy. The rest of us have tried to reinforce those teachings by failing students who cheat on examinations or doling out "Fs" for plagiarism. Reinforcement is no longer enough. We all know the difficulty students have applying the theories or teachings of one

discipline to other areas. (How often have you listened to the complaints of a student who didn't know you were going to grade a history paper for literacy?) Our profession gives us the opportunity and in my opinion, the responsibility to teach ethical behavior. We probably all do so, to one degree or another and in a variety of ways. Maybe we can do more — somebody must!

— Jackie **Barnhart**

The WAWH extends a warm welcome to the following new members:

Rochelle Gatlin: San Francisco State University and the California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco, CA, U.S. Women's History, women and work, history of sexuality.

Judith Ishkanian: University of California, Santa Barbara; Antebellum South in U.S. History

Elizabeth Leonard: University of California, Riverside; U.S. History, Latin American History — women's studies.

Lucy **Magruder**: English and American Women Writers in 18th and 19th Centuries.

Melissa McDonald: University of California, Santa Barbara; Women's History, public policy.

Cassandra W. Potts: University of California, Santa Barbara; Ancient History, Medieval History, particularly Normandy 911-1087 A.D.

Linda Przybyszewski, Linda CA: Stanford University; 19th Century American Intellectual and Social History.

Julie A. Reuben: Stanford University; U.S. Intellectual and Education History.

Nina Silber: University of California, Berkeley; U.S. History - late 19th Century and early 20th Century.

Mary E. Odem: University of California, Berkeley; American Social History and Women's History.

It's easy to join WAWH! Just send your dues check to Georgiana Davidson, **Secretary/Treasurer**, 1623 Francisco Street., Apt B, Berkeley, CA 94703. Please include a little information about your research and teaching interests, and if you have an academic affiliation, let us know that too. A current phone number is also appreciated. Dues are: \$15.00 full-time employed; \$10.00 part-time employed; \$5.00 grad. students and independent scholars.

REDISCOVERING CALIFORNIA WOMEN

A Survey of California History Texts

The demand for a more balanced representation of women and minorities in California's school curriculum has come from every quarter in the last two decades. Public policy, curriculum goals, and textbook guidelines have been changed to ensure that the contributions of both men and women in all types of roles are represented in the social studies curriculum. But good intentions, as always, are not so easily implemented.

A survey of California history texts at all levels suggests that writers and publishers have made a genuine effort to improve their discussion of the impact of women on the state's history. But a more careful look at the content of these texts reveals that the parameters of the discussion have changed very little. When women's names are added to the discussion, they are very often the wives or former wives of public figures. As a result, Jane Wyman has assumed her place next to Lola Montez — a questionably significant figure in historic terms, but one who is invariably included in conjunction with her undulating Tarantula dance.

In fact, of the increased number of women's names gracing the indexes and picture captions of California history texts, only twenty belong to the eighty-eight California women whose biographies appear in the highly respected reference *Notable American Women* (Harvard University Press).

One explanation for this breach between the demands for change and their implementation lies in the difficulty of gaining access to women's history. The achievements of women in our society have by and large been undocumented; the evidence of their accomplishments recorded in artifact rather than record books or newspapers. California's history is often described in terms of trailblazers, robber barons and election campaigns.

Even more importantly, the traditional framework of most historians has had a decidedly masculine bias. Analyses of labor productivity have ignored the unpaid work of female householders. Even the same kinds of activities are often described with dramatically different terms. For example, one author of a United States history text refers to suffragists as members of the "bloomer brigade" but creates a very different portrayal of Revolutionary patriots protesting "taxation without representation."

The existence of such deep and fundamental biases of perspective is certainly no surprise, but it begins to explain things like the continual inclusion of Lola Montez among the state's historic personae and the exclusion of such historically significant women as agriculturalist and irrigation expert Harriet Strong and education innovators like Susan A. Miller Dorsey and Sarah Ingersoll Cooper. Certain token figures have been repeatedly incorporated into the state's history because tradition has deemed them representative of the female presence.

Since gender in our society is as much a social distinction as it is a biological one, it must be remembered that every issue, every trend, every significant historical event carries with it perspectives unique to men and to women. To recognize women's perspectives can only enrich our understanding of the time and the events.

Women's voices, for example, have not been silent in matters affecting the development of state policy. Although they were frequently excluded from political office, they spoke out, through their clubs and church groups and in the privacy of their homes, especially with regard to conservation, education, child labor, and minority rights.

Greater consideration of the role of the family in California's social history cannot help but show women's influence as pivotal. Within the nuclear unit, women have played key roles in schooling society's young in the rituals and expectations of the culture. Considerations of the family and the role of the family highlight crucial differences between the various cultures that shaped California's destiny.

The process of changing the traditional historical framework has indeed begun, but the real revision of California history will come when both authors and readers begin to scrutinize texts with an eye to what has been omitted as well as what has been emphasized. We will have to refine our understanding of women's contributions and women's role in history. The result will be a more realistic picture of the California experience.

— Gloria Ricci Lothrop

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Help in the Planning

For as long as any of us can remember the dates of the WAWH conference have come in conflict with other events forcing some unhappy choices for members. April is filled with the OAH, British studies, American studies, Medieval studies, Easter, Passover, etc., etc. Late May means finals and graduation ceremonies most of us must attend. That leaves the second weekend in May which, of course, means a Mother's Day conflict. There are a couple of alternatives: a Fall conference (Oct./Nov.), or a Thursday night, Friday, Saturday meeting. The latter would mean canceling our Friday classes but most of us have to do that anyway for travel. It is too late to make changes for the 1987 conference but please take the time to check off your choice or offer a brilliant alternative and have a voice in the decision rather than a complaint after the fact.

- Keep conference days the same
- Change to Thursday through Saturday
- Change to Fall Conference
- Brilliant alternative suggestion to be discussed at 1987 Business Meeting

Please clip and return to: Jackie Barnhart, History Dept., Calif. State Univ., Chico 95929.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The 40th annual California History Institute will be held on April 24 - 25, 1987. The theme of the 1987 conference will be "Hispanic California Past and Present," underscoring the Hispanic heritage in its many dimensions from early explorers to modern barrios.

The 30th Annual Missouri Valley History Conference will be held March 12 - 14, 1987 in Omaha, NE. For further information contact Michael Tate, Program Coordinator, Dept. of History, U. of Nebr., Omaha, NE 68182.

ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE 1989

As many of you know the WAWH will celebrate its 20th Anniversary in 1989. If everything goes as planned the conference will be held at Asilomar where the organization first met. Given the fact that we have not only survived for twenty years but have grown and prospered it is time, perhaps past time, that we begin to put together a history of the Association. With that goal in mind I would like to contact founding members and former officers of the Association. If you were an early member, an officer, or know where any of the "lost" officers are please send me names and addresses and I'll be in touch. Contact Jacqueline Barnhart, History Dept, Calif. State University, Chico, Calif. 95929.

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Coalition for Western Women's History announces "The Women's West: Race, Class and Social Change," a national conference on the roles of women in American western history, Seven Hills Conference Center, San Francisco State University, August 13 - 16, 1987. The coalition invites proposals on any of the following topics:

- 1) The diversity of western women's history, focusing on ethnicity, class, sexual preference and social activism;
- 2) Important concerns of western women: the land, property, education, poverty, violence — from an historical and comparative perspective;
- 3) Integrating western women's history into the K-12 curriculum;
- 4) Media presentations which explore race, class, culture and/or social change in western women's lives;
- 5) Media presentations on any of the above themes which are useful to K-12 teachers.

CWWH urges primary secondary, post-secondary teachers and scholars of Western Women's history to submit proposal and requests: 1) four copies of a two-page summary of your presentation; 2) four copies of a one-page resume of presenter, 3) a stamped, self addressed envelope be sent to CWWH, Women Studies Program, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164.

1987 SIERRA AWARD

The Western Association of Women Historians will award the 1987 Sierra Prize of \$500 for the best monograph by a WAWH member at its annual meeting in May 1987. Authors must be members of the WAWH, the book must be a monograph based on original research (not an anthology or edited work); the prize is open to all fields of history. Send one copy no later than March 1, 1987 to each of the following: Linda S. Popofsky, Chair, Sierra Prize Co., Dept. of Social Sciences, Mills College, Oakland, CA 94613; Joanna Cowden, Dept. of History, California State University, Chico, CA 95929; Rosalie Schwartz, 4161 Olympic Ave., San Diego, CA 92115.

1987 WAWH ARTICLE PRIZE

All members of the WAWH are encouraged to submit articles published in 1985 and 1986 to the article prize committee. All fields of history will be considered; submissions should include full scholarly apparatus. The prize will be announced at the Presidents' Dinner at the annual conference. Inquiries and submissions should be directed to Professor Louise Wade, Department of History, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon 97403. The deadline for submissions is March 1, 1987.

WAWH GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIP 1987

The WAWH Graduate Student Fellowship is open to graduate student members of the WAWH who have completed all work toward the Ph.D. degree except the dissertation. The current award is \$500. For guidelines and further information, please contact Fellowship Chair Elizabeth Griego, Mills College, Oakland, California 94613.

WAWH GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER PRIZE 1987

The WAWH invites all graduate students who hold membership in the organization to enter scholarly papers in this competition. Papers should be appropriate for presentation at the annual conference. Three copies of each paper should be submitted to the prize committee by January 15, 1987. Winning papers will be read at the WAWH annual spring conference May 8-10, 1987 at the University of California, Davis. The association offers an award of \$50 to the author of each paper selected for presentation by the prize committee. The committee may choose as many as three papers. Additional information may be obtained from, and papers submitted to, Prize Committee Chair M.K. Veloz, Department of History, California State University, Hayward, CA 94524.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The University of Iowa has announced that the Department of History is seeking candidates for a **tenure-track** appointment at the rank of Assistant Professor in Latin American History (any specialization except Modern Mexico and Russian History (the history of Imperial Russia, 17th Century to the **1917** Revolution). Applicants to the latter should have a secondary field in the Soviet period. Candidates should have a proven record of teaching and scholarly competence. **Ph.D.** required. Send **credentials**, letters of recommendation and substantial sample of writing to Alan B. **Spitzer**, Department of History, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA **52242**.

The University of Iowa also announces a position in German Cultural History as follows: Tenure-track Assistant Professor, possibly Associate Professor of comparative Literature, with joint appointment in another academic unit such as Art History, Film, German, History or Philosophy. Candidates should have a strong commitment to theory as well as teaching abilities and research interests in German literature and culture. Evidence of scholarly productivity and teaching excellence required. Undergraduate and Graduate teaching: **2** courses per semester. **Ph.D.** by August **1987** starting date. Send letter, CV and dossier to Prof. Rudolf **Kuenzli**, Chair, Search Committee, Comparative Literature, **425 EPB**, the University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA **52242**.

Purdue University is seeking candidates for a tenure track position of Assistant Professor of Roman History. Duties will be to teach upper division courses in Roman history and sections of the ancient history survey, develop dual level offerings in Roman and ancient history. The appointee will be expected to undertake independent research, publish results of that research, and to teach with distinction. **Ph.D.** preferably in history. **ABD's** will also be considered although successful undergraduate teaching experience is required. Salary: **\$21,000 - \$22,500** for the academic year depending on qualifications and previous teaching experience. Please send letter of application, curriculum vita and confidential placement file to Professor John J. Contreni, Dept. of History, University Hall, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN **47907**.

The University of Iowa recently announced a tenure-track appointment in American Intellectual history. The field will be considered broadly and include history of science or medicine and other interest not suggested by general rubric. The appointment will be for assistant **professor**, duties to begin fall semester **1987**. **Ph.D.** required. Primary responsibility will be to offer instruction in American intellectual history at both graduate and undergrad levels, two courses each semester. For further information or to apply contact Sydney V. James, Department of History, **205** Schaeffer Hall, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA **52242**.

Medieval European History. Tenure-track position at assistant professor level beginning September **1987**. **Ph.D.** required by September **1987**. Send application letter and curriculum to Henry **Horwitz**, Dept. of History, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA. Screening to begin January **15, 1987**.

The Department of History of The George Washington University plans to make a senior-level appointment of a scholar specializing in the impact of war and the military on modern and contemporary history. The successful candidate will be designated the Kayser Professor of History. Appointment to begin September **1987**. To apply send dossiers including names of three references to William H. Becker, Department of History, George Washington University, Washington, DC **20052** by January **31, 1987**.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

A grant from the Radcliffe Research Support Program will allow **FRANCESCA MILLER** to pursue her study, "The International Relations of Women of the Americas: Issues of Gender and Foreign Policy in the **Western Hemisphere** from **1880 to 1986**" at the Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America at Radcliffe College. Francesca also presented a paper, "Latin American Feminism and the Transnational Arena" at the American Studies Association in Boston on October **24**.

GAIL GREENWOOD continues her work in the popular arena by announcing her recent appointment as contributing editor to *Sacramento Magazine*. She will write a monthly feminist column called "Conversations," in which she occasionally "interviews" an historical figure such as Eleanor Roosevelt (March **1986**) or Helen of Troy (September **1986**).

CAROLA O'CONNOR was recently promoted to the rank of Professor at Utah State University. We are delighted to read she is the first female full professor in the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, but saddened to note she is one of but five women who are full professors at Utah State. Professor **O'Connor** is also the recipient of an NEH summer stipend for **1987** for a project on urbanization along the Wasatch Front in Utah.

KATHRYN KISH SKLAR has produced her own videotape interview "A Talk with Genora Johnson Dollinger: A Founder of Industrial Unionism" about the role of women in the great sit-down strike at Flint, Michigan in **1937**. The tape is available for rental or purchase from Instructional Media Library, UCLA, LA, CA **90024**. Dr. Sklar will also serve as president of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Society in **1987-88**.

CAROLINE WALKER BYNUM was awarded the **MacArthur** Fellowship in July **1986**.

SANDRA SCHACKEL has been awarded the Walter **Rundell** Graduate Student Award for dissertation research.

ALEX OWEN will assume a one year position as a **1986-7** research associate and visiting lecturer at **Harvard** University Divinity School in September **1986**. She is at work on a forthcoming book entitled *Subversive Spirit: Women and Nineteenth Century Spiritualism*.

ALISON KLAIRMONT LINGO will be instructor in the General Studies Department at California College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland, CA, beginning January 1987.

BARBARA BENNETT PETERSON is currently at work on Volume II of *Notable Women of Hawaii*, published by the University of Hawaii Press. This volume will include women who have died since 1984. She was also recently appointed to the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women.

LISA RUBENS has received a grant from the California State Department of Education to develop curriculum based on her 1983 poster-photo-history "California Women," published by the California Historical Society.

Lisa Rubens, "Charlotte Anita Whitney: Introduction to a Patrician Radical," *California History* (Sept/October 1986). "Politics Within the Suffrage Movement," *California Historical Courier*, Vol. 27, No. 4, 1986.

Dorothy W. Hewes, "The Kindergarten as an Assimilation Program for Immigrants to the United States, 1880 to 1900," *Historia Infantia - International Annual of Early Childhood Education*, Vol. 2, 1986.

Rochelle Gatlin, *American Women Since 1945* (London: Macmillan). To be published in February 1987.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Gerda Lerner, *Women Are History: A Bibliography in the History of American Women*, 4th Revised Edition. \$5.00. Obtain from The Graduate Program in Women's History, History Department, University of Wisconsin, Madison, 3211 Humanities Bldg. 455 North Park Street, Madison, WI 53706.

Yung, Judy, *Chinese Women of America: A Pictorial History* (Seattle: U. of Wash. Press, 1986).

Ruth-Ellen B. Joeres and Mary Jo Maynes, eds., *German Women in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries: A Social and Literary History* (Indiana University Press, 1986).

Kathy Peiss, *Cheap Amusements: Working Women and Leisure in Turn-of-the-Century New York* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1986).

Jane Hunter, *The Gospel of Gentility: American Women Missionaries in Turn of the Century China* (New Haven, Yale University Press, 1984).

The July issues of the *Western Historical Quarterly* contains a major article by William Cronan, Howard LaMar, Katherine Morrissey and Jay Gitlin, "Women and the West: Rethinking the Western Survey Course."

Jacqueline Barnhart, *Fair But Frail: Prostitution in San Francisco 1849 - 1900.* (Reno: U. of Nevada Press, 1986).

Alice Goldfarb Marquis, *Hopes and Ashes, The Birth of Modern Times* (New York: The Free Press/Macmillan, 1986).

Kathryn Kish Sklar, ed. *Sixty Years: The Autobiography of Florence Kelley* (Chicago: Charles Kerr Publishing Company, 1986) \$7.95.

Caroline Walker Bynum, "The Body of Christ in the Later Middle Ages: A Reply to Leo Steinburg," *Renaissance Quarterly* (Autumn 1986). "Gender and Religion: On the Complexity of Symbols" (Boston: Beacon Press, 1986). *Holy Feast and Holy Fast: The Religious Significance of Food to Medieval Women* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1986).

POTPOURRI

Representatives of the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History, OAH, and the National Park Service are in the early stages of planning a women's history landmark project, "Reclaiming Our Past: Landmark Sites of Women's History." The proposed three year national project will be funded privately and will provide the NPS with appropriate theme study essays integrating the tangible resources of women's past with recent scholarship on women's history. It also will identify existing sites on the National Register of Historic Places which are of national significance to women's history and will nominate new sites which bring into accurate perspective the role of women in the history and culture of the United States. The NCC and the OAH are welcoming any suggestions for sites that should be considered for the project. Write Dr. Page Putnam Miller, Director, NCC, 400 A Street S.E., Washington, CD 20003.

The Women's Heritage Museum is co-sponsoring an exhibit with the California History Center at De Anza College in Cupertino celebrating this year's 75th anniversary of women voting in California. The exhibit opened October 11 to commemorate the date of the election 75 years ago in which women were allowed equal voting privileges. The Women's Heritage Museum will also dedicate a new state historic plaque at the homesite of Sarah Wallis on that date, the first president of the California Woman Suffrage Association. If you wish to become a member of the museum or subscribe to their news bulletin, contact them at 1509 Portola Avenue. Palo Alto, CA 94306.

New Deal arts in San Francisco is the focus of an exhibit which opened October 14 at the Labor Archives and Research Center. San Francisco State University. The Center was established in 1984 to serve as a repository of the historical documents of the Bay Area's labor unions and working people. It is located at 480 Winston Drive and is open Monday through Friday from 1 - 5 p.m.

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