TLE TO MEET WITH ALA IN NEW YORK

Documentation and Creativity in the American Musical Theatre is the theme of this year's Theatre Library Association Summer Meeting to be held in conjunction with the annual American Library Association Conference in New York City on Saturday, June 28th. The program's objective will be to explore the uses of and contributions to theatre collections and archives by creative people in the area of musical theatre.

The activities will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Bruno Walter Auditorium of The New York Public Library at Lincoln Center (111 Amsterdam Avenue at 65th Street) with a panel discussion on "The American Musical: Today's Playbill is Tomorrow's Documentation" with panelists Gerald Bordman, collector and author of The American Musical Theatre and a forthcoming biography of Jerome Kern; Stanley Green, author of The World of Musical Comedy, Encyclopedia of Musical Theater and Starring Fred Astaire; Robert Kimball, critic, author of Cole and co-author of The Gershwin and former Curator of the Yale University American Musical Theatre Collection; and Alvin Klein, critic for WNYC and The New York Times Long Island Edition.

Immediately following the panel discussion will be a program entitled "Creating the Musical" with speakers Ralph G. Allen of the Department of Speech and Theatre at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, author of the sketches for the current Broadway hit Sugar Babies and of the forthcoming book on burlesque Gaiety and co-author with Joshua Logan of the musical (Continued on page 3)
ACQUISITIONS
FROM THE FIELD

BREAD AND PUPPET THEATER: The papers of the Bread and Puppet Theater of Glover, Vermont for the years 1962-1972 have been acquired by Bailey Library at the University of Vermont in Burlington 05405.

HARRY HORNER: The Charles K. Feldman Library of the American Film Institute recently acquired Harry Horner's art direction materials from The Driver (1978) and Moment by Moment (1979). Horner, an Academy Award-winning production designer, has included in the collection his personal location notebooks, original sketches and designs, set lists, continuity sketches, blue prints and other architectural plans. These items will be added to materials from his earlier films Black Bird, Harry and Walter Go to New York and Audrey Rose.

MAGICIANS PHOTOGRAPHS: The Irving Desfor Collection of photographs of magicians has been acquired by the American Museum of Magic (107 East Michigan Avenue, Marshall, Michigan 49068). Assembled by magician-photographer Desfor over a period of forty years the collection is estimated to contain over 40,000 photographs, the first being those of Harry Blackstone, Sr., when he appeared at the Strand Theatre in Brooklyn in 1937. According to Museum Director Robert Lund the collection will be maintained as the Desfor Photographic Library, and as time allows, will be cataloged and made available to scholars and researchers.

RADIO BROADCASTING: Some 200,000 papers tracing the career of Edwin Howard Armstrong, inventor of FM radio, have been placed in Special Collections at Columbia University affording historians of broadcasting an unusual new source of documentation. Mr. Armstrong's correspondence with many of the leading figures in the arts and sciences is part of the collection along with numerous legal papers and documentation of his inventive work. The entire collection has been cataloged.

JEROME ROBINSON: Special Collections of the University of California, Los Angeles, has processed a gift of some ten thousand photographs and more than twenty thousand negatives, the work of theatrical photographer Jerome Robinson. The collection consists of live-action shots of theatrical performances in New York and Los Angeles from about 1930 to the mid-1950's. Mrs. Jerome Robinson donated the collection to the library.

GARRICK EXHIBITION

David Garrick (1717-1779) is commemorated by a British Library exhibition in the British Museum from 30 November 1979 to 11 May 1980. The bicentenary exhibition draws on the Library's own resources, supplemented by extensive loans from public and private collections, to illustrate Garrick's career as an actor and manager and his achievements as a playwright and book collector, as well as his life-long attachment to his idol, William Shakespeare. Garrick bequeathed to the British Museum his fine collection of early English plays, now in the British Library, together with the statue of Shakespeare by Roubiliac which stands in the King's Library. Rare editions of plays, some of them unique copies, are on display together with manuscripts (including Garrick's will), portraits, drawings, ceramics and medals.

Costumes worn by Garrick on and off stage are also on show, with other personal mementoes, such as the casket made from the wood of Shakespeare's own mulberry tree, given him in 1769 with the freedom of Stratford-upon-Avon.

METRO NEWS

New members in the Free Interchange of Photocopies Program of the New York Metropolitan Reference and Research Library Agency (METRO) are the American Academy of Dramatic Arts and the Fashion Institute of Technology. Staff from the more than fifty libraries that participate in the program should add these libraries to their lists. Through the Free Interchange of Photocopies Program participating libraries adopt simple administrative procedures and save costs. To join or obtain further information, write or call the METRO office at 33 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036. Telephone: (212) 398-0290.

MUSICAL THEATRE IN AMERICA CONFERENCE

A conference devoted to musical theatre in America is being planned as a joint project of the American Society for Theatre Research, the Music Library Association, the Sonneck Society, and the Theatre Library Association. The conference will be held at the C. W. Post Center of Long Island University, April 2-4, 1981. The Program Committee, comprised of representatives of each of the four organizations, is interested in papers and/or presentations in the following areas: 1) Historical perspectives, 2) Critical perspectives, 3) Writing of book, lyrics and music, 4) Stage, costume and lighting design, 5) Production and stage direction, 6) Choreography for the musical theatre, 7) Genres, such as vaudeville, opera, operetta, burlesque, dance and minstrelsy, 8) Preserving the heritage - live, in sight and sound and in archives.

Persons interested in participating in the program, either with a paper or presentation, are urged to write Dean Julian Mates, Chairman of the MTIA Program Committee, School of the Arts, C. W. Post Center, Long Island University, Greenvale, New York 11548. The deadline for proposals is June 30th, 1980.

Z39

Librarians, curators, information specialists and publishers wishing to obtain information on the American National Standards' Committee Z39 and the standards it is developing for the library, information services and publishing communities may write free of charge to the following address for a brochure describing ANSI Z39, the standards it has published, the member organizations and the methodology Z39 employs: Z39 Brochure, ANSI Z39, U.S. Department of Commerce, National Bureau of Standards E120, Washington, D.C. 20234.

The scope of Z39, a standards-developing committee organized under the procedures of the American National Standards Institute, Inc. (ANSI), is to develop standards relevant to information systems, products and services and publishing.
WHO'S WHO IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES

An ambitious project is now under way to produce the new Who's Who in Library and Information Services. This long-awaited biographical directory will be published by K. G. Saur Publishing, Inc. under the editorial direction of the American Library Association.

Questionnaires were recently mailed to members of library, information and archival associations throughout North America. Candidates to be included in the directory will be chosen from among librarians, information scientists, educators, trustees, archivists, subject specialists and others active in the information community in the United States and Canada.

Individuals are encouraged to participate in this important project by completing and returning the questionnaire promptly. Those who did not receive a questionnaire are urged to request one from: The Editors, Who's Who in Library and Information Services, K. G. Saur Publishing, Inc., 45 North Broad St., Ridgewood, N. J. 07450.

CINEMA LIBRARY CLIPS

The Fall issue of Cinema Librarians Newsletter reports that a union list of film periodicals for Northeastern United States is in the offing. Any individual or institution having separately published lists of film periodicals, with or without holdings, either free or for purchase, may write to Anna Brady, Bibliographer for Communication Arts and Sciences, Paul Klapper Library, Queens College, Flushing, N. Y. 11367.

ACRL Cinema Librarians' Discussion Group program chairperson, Eileen Sheahan, welcomes suggestions for a "super-informative and exciting" program to be held in conjunction with ALA in New York next summer. Her new address is Reference Department, Vanderbilt University Library, Nashville, Tennessee 37203.

The Cinema Librarians Newsletter is providing a new service in the allocation of space for job postings. To advertise cinema-related library or teaching positions, send descriptions to Nancy Allen, Editor, 122 Gregory Hall, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois 61801.

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY THEATRE HISTORY CONFERENCE

The 1980 Ohio State University Theatre History Conference has been scheduled for May 29th through May 31st with "Shakespeare on Stage" as its theme. The conference is the sixth annual meeting to be sponsored by the OSU Theatre Research Institute. Its exploration of Shakespearean stage production through papers, panels, and samples of actual productions will coincide with the Department of Theatre's production of King Lear to be staged by Professor Donald R. Glancy.

Professor Glancy, a specialist in period acting styles and classical theory, has previously directed Hamlet, Romeo and Juliet, and Taming of the Shrew. Complimentary tickets to King Lear will be made available to those registered for the conference. Plans are underway to show films of several other versions of the play as well as staged readings of earlier adaptations of Shakespearean tragedy.

Further information, including housing arrangements and a preliminary program, are available from the conference coordinator, Deborah Richwald, Theatre Research Institute, 1089 Drake Union, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio 43210.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Lee Ash has been appointed Editor-in-Chief of the new quarterly, Special Collections, to begin publication this Fall by Haworth Press. A subject-oriented journal, the quarterly "will provide in each issue a definitive guide to and description of collections that have significant and unique holdings in a specific subject field."

Dr. Joseph Mersand was awarded the 1979 National Council of Teachers of English "Distinguished Service Award" on 22 November 1979. Dr. Mersand, head of the English Department at Jamaica High School, New York, until his retirement in 1972, was president of the National Council of Teachers of English in 1959. The award was instituted in 1950.

Louis A. Rachow has been appointed to the Advisory Board of the new quarterly, Special Collections, to be published by Haworth Press under the General Editorship of Lee Ash. He will also serve as Guest Editor of the first issue, which will feature articles on major resources of theatre materials in American and Canadian libraries to be published in the Fall of 1980.

TLA - ALA

(Continued from page 1)

based on Rip Van Winkle; and Joshua Logan, director of Annie Get Your Gun and Fanny, director and co-producer of South Pacific and author of Josh and Movie Stars, Real People and Me.

The afternoon program will consist of backstage tours of the Metropolitan Opera House and the Vivian Beaumont Theatre and a general tour of The New York Public Library at Lincoln Center as follows: 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. the Metropolitan Opera House; 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. the Vivian Beaumont Theatre; 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. The New York Public Library at Lincoln Center. Tickets for these tours will be combined and limited to a total of 75 persons by advance registration. Send your request with the four dollar ($4) registration fee to Richard M. Buck, Performing Arts Research Center, The New York Public Library at Lincoln Center, 111 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10023 no later than May 15th, 1980 and enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope for mailing of tickets by early June.

Concluding the day's activities will be a reception in the Vincent Astor Gallery of The New York Public Library at Lincoln Center. The entire program and reception portion of the TLA meeting is open to all registered ALA conferencees, but the capacity of the Bruno Walter Auditorium and Vincent Astor Gallery is limited to two hundred attendees.

--- Richard M. Buck

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American Library Association
An occasionally frustrating dividend from a theatre trip to London is the exposure to a number of new drama books — whether in bookstalls at the National or Aldwych Theatres or in bookshops such as Samuel French and Ballet Bookshop. With already overweight suitcases and dwindling funds, what is the theatre addict to do? If he is lucky, some of the appealing titles will be picked up by Drama Book Specialists (Publishers), as with the Evita libretto-documentation, or by other American publishers.

Some interesting new volumes, however, are not yet spoken for in the American market. These, once collectors know about them, may be ordered from such British mail-order booksellers as Blackwell’s or Foyle’s. Fortunately, two prominent publishers of theatre and drama works, Eyre Methuen and Heinemann, have now established American outlets making available a variety of new British plays which American publishers may be reluctant to issue. From Heinemann, for instance, comes three plays by Peter Barnes who wrote The Ruling Class — Laughter (Royal Court), Leonardo’s Last Supper and Noonday Demons (Open Space), and the astonishing The Bewitched (Royal Shakespeare). And available in Heinemann’s National Theatre Plays Series are Thomas Bernhard’s The Force of Habit, Robert Bolt’s State of Revolution, and Valle Inclán’s Divinas Palabras translated by Trader Faulkner.

Methuen’s American outlet is offering an admirable series, useful for drama as well as fiction, called “The Critical Idiom.” In addition to thoughtful surveys of the standard genres such as Tragedy and Comedy, there are well studied volumes on Romanticism, The Absurd, Satire, Realism, Farce and Burlesque, all by competent scholars and critics. From Eyre Methuen in London comes a handsome four-volume cloth and paperback set of Noel Coward plays — not yet available in this format in America — edited with copious introductory notes by Coward’s longtime friends and bibliographers, Raymond Mander and Joe Mitchenson. The line-up of plays: Vol. 1: Hay Fever, The Vortex, Fallen Angels, Easy Virtue; Vol. 2: Private Lives, Bitter Sweet, The Marquise, Post-Mortem; Vol. 3: Design for Living, Cavalcade, Conversation Piece, Tonight at 8:30 (I); Vol. 4: Blite Spirit, Present Laughter, This Happy Breed and Tonight at 8:30 (II).

Among the more interesting recent British playwrights are Edward Bond, Howard Brenton and Barney Keeve. Their work has been seen in the States, mainly Bond’s, but they are not well known writers here. A Methuen “Theatrefile” study by Tony Coutil, The Plays of Edward Bond, helps illuminate Bond’s drama and ideology. (A longer more definitive work by Malcolm Hay is promised from Methuen in 1980). From Methuen’s “Theatrescripts” line come Brenton’s Sore Throats, a recent and very violent Royal Shakespeare Warehouse production, and Love and Opposition, as well as Keefe’s riveting, pathetic Frozen Assets.

Irving Wardle’s lively, fact-and-anecdote-packed The Theatres of George Devine, also from Methuen, but not yet published in the United States, is invaluable for anyone interested in recent British theatre, especially the Old Vic, the Young Vic, the Royal Court and the new National Theatre. Not only does Wardle, London Times drama critic, demonstrate Devine’s importance in and influence on the theatre, but he wonderfully evokes his human qualities as well.

Also recently published in Britain is Michael Darlow and Gillian Hodson’s Terence Rattigan: the Man and his Work. It comes from Quartet Books and offers a survey of Rattigan’s work counterpoised to his hitherto largely private life. It is illuminating, and the authors summarize effectively Rattigan’s real virtues, only now again emerging after the theatre frenzies of the 1960’s and 1970’s. (They refer to an American dissertation on Rattigan written by Holly Hill for a Columbia University Ph.D. Since this reviewer advised that project, not at Columbia but at the City University of New York Graduate Center, he is dubious about the care of some of the research.)

An especially interesting work, Theatre Lighting in the Age of Gas, by Terence Rees, is published by the Society for Theatre Research. It is not likely to be published in America, despite the increasing interest in restoration of 19th-century theatres, but it can be ordered from the Society ($24.50 including postage and packing), 21 Cooper Road, London NW 10 1BG. With many period illustrations and diagrams, it offers a thorough examination of the lighting instruments, lenses, Magic Lanthums, power sources, control systems, dangers, special effects (including memorable but safe fire-effects on stage), the assistance of “painted” light, and even the advent of early incandescent and lime-lights. One of the novelties described and depicted is the Sun-burner, one of which was restored to use this past summer in the historic Buxton Opera House, where it takes the place of the conventional chandelier in the center of the auditorium ceiling, providing not only lighting, but also a draft to draw stale air upward from the audience and out through roof-vents. A combination of lighting and air-conditioning in one fixture!

Glenn Loney

American Library Association

Americas greatest bargain the library