

NOTICES

Calendar-year 1991 dues were due on January 1.

Paid-up members of AAH are entitled to a \$12.80 (20% discount) annual subscription rate to the *American Journal of Ancient History*. Write to: AJAH, Dept. of History, Robinson Hall, Harvard Univ., Cambridge, MA 02138.

Members with new books out, honors, or positions should notify me at the return address on this Newsletter. My reportage is largely determined by what you submit.

— Jack Cargill

SECRETARY-TREASURER RE-ELECTED

Following well-established precedent, the AAH members attending the annual meeting re-elected the incumbent Secretary-Treasurer unopposed to a second three-year term, to expire at the 1994 meeting. I appreciate this apparent indication of satisfaction with my efforts.

AAH MEETINGS

1992: May 22-24 (Fri. - Sun.), hosted by Loyola University of Chicago. Specific paper topics and panels will appear in Newsletter 56 (January). Meanwhile, for information, contact Prof. G.J. Szemler, Chair of the Organizing Committee, Department of History, Loyola University, 6525 N. Sheridan Rd., Chicago, IL 60626.

1993: May 13-15 (Thurs. - Sat.), hosted by the University of Calgary, with sessions in Calgary and in Banff. For information, contact Prof. Waldemar Heckel, Department of Classics, University of Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2N 1N4.

1994: Dates TBA, hosted by Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio. For information, contact Prof. Janice Gabbert, Dept. of Classics, Wright State Univ., Dayton, OH 45435.

1995: Dates TBA, hosted by Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee; arrangements tentative. More information available at 1992 meeting.

A CONTINUING PROBLEM

Colin Wells sent me the following letter prior to the May meeting in North Carolina, asking that the issue be raised there. It was, but rather than asking for immediate action, Pres. Burstein suggested that I print the letter and call for serious discussion of the issue in Chicago in May of 1992. Except for its heading and sign-off, Prof. Wells' letter follows verbatim:

The new AAH Newsletter provokes a personal lament. Please could you convey it to the membership at the AGM, since I shall not be there, and if the current trend continues, I fear I may never be able to attend another meeting. The problem is the date.

I know that the argument for putting the meeting date well on into May is that it is for some institutions the earliest date at which residences are free. But look where it gets us: May

17-19 this year, May 22-24 next. Any of us who are archaeologists are likely to have left the country already. Maybe we are too few to worry about, but I am concerned. How did it happen? The last meeting I attended was the one in Salt Lake City, and if I remember correctly, the question of date was discussed (it was certainly discussed at McMaster), and a majority voted to stick where possible to the first or second week in May. I really do not think we should go later, except most exceptionally, and certainly not for two or three years running.

Anyway, since I cannot be there again this year, please could you convey my sentiments?

I believe that this matter should be on our agenda in Chicago, although the problem may well prove insoluble. To get it officially on the agenda, some member(s) should formally propose it, either to me or to Stan Burstein, in advance. We are also interested in hearing from members who usually do *not* attend the meetings — especially if the date is the primary reason they do not.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE AAH

We have sent a check to University Press of America for the members' copies of PAAH 3, Arther Ferrill, *Roman Imperial Grand Strategy*, and its distribution to paid-up AAH members should be imminent. There will be very few extra copies. Please make sure that your mailing address (see label) is current; book-rate packages are not forwarded. If I have to forward your copy because your address was out-of-date, I will charge you for postage and handling.

Copies of PAAH 1 (Chester G. Starr, *Past and Future in Ancient History*) are available for new members, one per person, by request, and there will be a \$3 postage and handling fee. It will be sent only to paid-up members, i.e., only to those paid through 1991.

Unfortunately, no more members' copies of PAAH 2 (Alan E. Samuel, *The Shifting Sands of History: Interpretations of Ptolemaic Egypt*) are available; this may be purchased from University Press of America.

HISTORIA, HERMES DISCOUNT OFFER TO AAH MEMBERS

The Franz Steiner Verlag in Stuttgart offers to AAH members a 20% discount on subscriptions to *Historia* and *Hermes*. Each journal appears four times a year. The discount subscription rate for each journal (DM 134) currently is equivalent to \$76.80 but may fluctuate with the exchange rate. The discount offer is valid for the supplement volumes (*Historia* and *Hermes Einzelschriften*) as well. Please send your order directly to the publishers (Franz Steiner Verlag, Birkenwaldstr. 44, P.O.B. 101526, 7000 Stuttgart 10, Germany) and include your credit card number (VISA, Mastercard, American Express, Diner's Club), expiration date and signature (payment by credit card only).

BOOKS

Michael C. Alexander, *Trials in the Late Roman Republic, 149 BC to 50 BC* (Univ. of Toronto Press 1990)

Marie Sally Cleary, *The Bulfinch Solution: Teaching the Ancient Classics in American Schools* (Ayer Company Publishers, Salem NH 1990)

John K. Evans, *War, Women and Children in Ancient Rome* (Routledge, London 1991)

Antony Molho, **Kurt Raaflaub**, Julia Emlen (eds.), *Athens and Rome, Florence and Venice: City-States in Classical Antiquity and Medieval Italy* (Stuttgart: Steiner and Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press 1991)

Gordon S. Shrimpton, *Theopompus the Historian* (McGill-Queen's University Press, Montreal 1991)

J.P. Sullivan, *Martial: The Unexpected Classic* (Cambridge University Press 1991) and (co-ed. with A.J. Boyle) *Early Imperial Latin Poetry: Translations by Different Hands* (Penguin 1991)

Susan Treggiari, *Roman Marriage. Iusti coniuges from the Time of Cicero to the Time of Ulpian* (Clarendon Press, Oxford 1991)

PERSONALIA

Deborah Boedeker (College of the Holy Cross) and Kurt Raaflaub (Brown University) have been appointed co-directors of the Center for Hellenic Studies in Washington (effective July 1992). During their directorship, both will maintain part-time appointments at Brown University.

Meyer Reinhold writes to inform me that his longtime friend and co-editor Naphtali Lewis, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of the City University of New York, has been made a Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy, as of July 4, 1991.

Sara J. Denning-Bolle has accepted a position as Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion and Humanities in the Department of Religion at Reed College, Portland, Oregon.

POSITION AVAILABLE

The Department of Classics of Brown University has been authorized to appoint a Visiting Assistant Professor whose specialty is **Ancient History**. Preference will be given to candidates with research or at least substantial teaching experience in Roman History, especially the history and epigraphy of the Roman Empire. The Ph.D. is required. The appointment is for three years and is renewable. Please send dossiers (including samples of research and three letters of recommendation) by November 15, 1991, to Prof. Kurt A. Raaflaub, Chair, Search Committee, Ancient History, Department of Classics, Brown University, Box 1856, Providence, RI 02912. Brown University is an Affirmative Action-Equal Opportunity Employer.

THE EXODUS: EGYPTIAN EVIDENCE

The Department of Egyptology, Brown University, announces a conference, with a public session on Saturday, April 25, 1992, 9:00 to 1:00, in List Auditorium, College St. (between Benefit and Prospect Sts.), admission at door \$5.00.

Participants will include Drs. Ahlstrom, Dever, Frerichs, Goedicke, Magness, Malamat, Redford, Ward, Weinstein, and Yurco.

The conference will be sponsored by Brown University's Departments of Egyptology and Religious Studies, Programs in Judaic Studies and Ancient Studies, and the Center for Old World Archaeology and Art; it will be funded by the Brown Lectureship Committee, the Grody Israel Family Fund, and the Charles E. Wilbour Fund.

For information, contact the Conference Organizer: Prof. Leonard H. Lesko, Dept. of Egyptology, Box 1899, Brown University, Providence, RI 02912 (phone 401-863-3132).

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

The NEH 25th Annual Report is available, free (single copy), by writing NEH 1990 Annual Report, Room 406, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20506.

Application deadlines for NEH programs relevant to AAH members, with names of contact persons and phone numbers, are as follows:

January 15 Travel to Collections Kathleen Mitchell
202-786-0463

March 1 Directors and Participants, Summer Seminars for College Teachers Michael Hall 202-786-0463

June 1 Fellowships for University Teachers Maben Herring
202-786-0466

June 1 Fellowships for College Teachers and Independent Scholars Joseph B. Neville, Jr. 202-786-0466

July 15 Travel to Collections (see above)

August 15 Study Grants for College and University Teachers Clay Lewis 202-786-0463

FELLOWSHIPS IN MILITARY HISTORY

The United States Army Center of Military History offers two fellowships each academic year to civilian graduate students preparing dissertations on subjects relating to the history of warfare on land. Possible topics include military biography, campaigns, military organization and administration, policy, strategy, tactics, training, technology, logistics, and civil-military-social relations. Each fellow receives an \$8000 stipend and access to the Center's facilities and technical expertise. Applicants must be American citizens and have completed by September 1991, all requirements for the Ph.D. except the dissertation. Contact Dr. Clayton Laurie, Executive Secretary, CMH Dissertation Fellowship Committee, U.S. Army Center of Military History, S.E. Federal Center, Bldg. 159 - 5th Flr., Washington, D.C. 20374-5088, telephone (202) 475-2589/7868. The deadline for applications and supporting documents is February 1, 1992. EOE

DIRECTORY OF CANADIAN CLASSICISTS

The third edition (1991) of *Classics in Canadian Universities* is now available, for CAD 4.00 in cheques or money orders payable to "Dept. of Classical Studies, Trent University", sent to K.H. Kinzl, Otonabee College, Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario, Canada K9J 7B8.

SUMMER SESSIONS, 1992

The American School of Classical Studies at Athens invites applications for two six-week Summer Session programs, running June 15-July 29 and June 22-August 5, directed by Profs. Eugene Lane (Univ. of Missouri) and Clayton Lehmann (Univ. of S. Dakota), each involving three weeks in Athens and three weeks touring Greece and Crete. High school and college teachers, graduate and upper-level undergraduate students are eligible; the \$2500 fee covers tuition, room, and partial board (but not transportation to and from Greece); students may make arrangements for credit from their home institutions. A limited amount of scholarship support is available through the School, including Fulbright scholarships; secondary school teachers in appropriate fields are urged to apply for the Katherine Keene Fellowship, which provides a full scholarship and a stipend. Several regional classical associations offer scholarships. For application kits, write Department J-92, Summer Sessions, American School of Classical Studies, 41 East 72nd Street, New York, NY 10021. Completed applications, including transcripts and three letters of recommendation, must be returned by February 1, 1992.

The American Academy in Rome invites high school teachers and serious students of Latin, Ancient History, and the Classics to apply for its annual Summer School, June 22-August 1, featuring frequent excursions within Rome and field trips to major sites in Latium and Etruria. The director is Prof. James Anderson, Dept. of Classics, Univ. of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602. Tuition, fees, room, and board will total approximately \$3000 (not including round trip airfare and personal expenses). Scholarships are available from regional and state classical associations and — only until October 15, 1991 — from the Fulbright Commission (call the Fulbright Teachers Exchange Program, 202-619-4556). For information and application forms, contact American Academy in Rome, 41 East 65th Street, New York, NY 10021-6508. The deadline for applications is March 1, 1992.

CALLS FOR C.A.A.S. PAPERS

The Classical Association of the Atlantic States, in conjunction with the Department of Classics, Villanova University, invites papers from teachers and advanced graduate students on all aspects of the Classical world and on new methods and resources for improved teaching, for its **Spring Meeting**, April 24-25, 1992, at Villanova, PA. Proposals for panels on special topics are encouraged. Abstracts of about 300 words, in triplicate and nameless, should be sent to Prof. Edward F. Jaworowski, Dept. of Classical Studies, Villanova University, Villanova, PA 19085. Length of papers should be no more than 14 minutes. Abstracts and proposals for panels should be submitted as soon as possible, but no later than December 20, 1991. Include a very short CV, for introducing speakers. CAAS membership is not required.

Papers for the **Fall Meeting**, in co-operation with the Classical Association of the Empire State, on October 23-24, 1992, at Poughkeepsie, NY, are also invited. Requirements are the same, with a deadline of June 1, 1992. Send abstracts, etc., to Dr. John C. Traupman, CAAS Conference Coordinator, 201 Tower Lane, Narberth, PA 19072.

VIDEO ON *BLACK ATHENA* CONTROVERSY

I have been allowed to preview a videotape that may be of interest to AAH members. It deals with Volume I (1987) of Martin Bernal's controversial book *Black Athena: The Afroasiatic Roots of Classical Civilization*. Bernal is allowed to present his own arguments, and footage is also devoted to many who offer criticisms or modifications of his views, ranging from Sir John Boardman, Richard Jenkins, John Ray, Sarah Morris, James Weinstein, Molly Levine, and others who in varying degrees see him as having gone too far, to Leonard Jeffries, who believes that he has not gone far enough. The VHS tape runs 52 minutes, rents for \$75, and sells for \$195. Contact California Newsreel, 149 Ninth Street / 420, San Francisco, CA 94103.

Never before in my tenure as Secretary-Treasurer have colleagues submitted obituaries for as many as three recently-deceased AAH members for one Newsletter. I find it particularly poignant because two of the three were, in their different ways, professional and intellectual mentors of mine.

EDWARD W. KASE, 1918-1989

Edward W. Kase, Professor Emeritus of History at Loyola University of Chicago, died on March 31, 1989. Born in Huntington, Indiana, he attended Valparaiso University from 1936 to 1940. During World War II he served in the U.S. Navy in the Pacific Theater of Operations, where he commanded point vessels at several amphibious landings, including the landing at Iwo Jima. In shallow waters just below Mt. Suribachi, under murderous enemy fire, Lt. Com. E.W. Kase directed the combined fleet's naval bombardment on February 18 and 19, 1945, in preparation for the landing of the Fifth Amphibious Marine Corps. He was wounded, decorated, and discharged in 1947 after a lengthy hospital stay.

Married and the father of four, he became, after the war, sales manager and executive vice-president of a major Chicago corporation, yet still found time to satisfy his broad interests and insatiable quest for knowledge. He joined and participated in many scholarly organizations—the Egyptian Exploration Society, the American School of Oriental Research, the American Research Center in Egypt, the Archaeological Institute of America, and others—as well as the Association of Ancient Historians. As an active member of the Oriental Institute of Chicago, he studied systematically the history of the ancient Near East and Egypt under the late John A. Wilson and the history of ancient Greece and Rome at Loyola University. He received his M.A. in 1970 and his Ph.D. in winter of 1972-73. From 1971 until his retirement he taught at Loyola's Water Tower Campus, where he was a demanding, yet sought-after and popular teacher, with full enrollments in his upper-level courses in Egyptian, Near Eastern, and Greek history and archaeology.

A meticulous, even pedantic, researcher and a man of vision and ideas, he argued in the *American Journal of Archaeology* 75 (1971) 205-6 and 77 (1973) 74-77 that in prehistoric times a

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major route of passage connected northern and southern Greece. His subsequent discovery that a route existed by virtue of a natural corridor through which were found remains of an ancient road system was the genesis of Loyola University's Phokis-Doris Expedition. As its director, he led the exploration of one of the wildest areas in central Greece. In roughly ten full seasons, the Expedition—with the co-operation of various experts and the Hellenic Archaeological Service—discovered, located, and identified several ancient sites, and mapped the area and its sophisticated ancient road system, one that bypassed the famed "Gates" at Thermopylai and has been used from the earliest times to the present. The discoveries necessitated the full or partial reinterpretation of many historical events that occurred in the area. This necessity of reinterpretation is, I believe, Ed Kase's lasting contribution to scholarship concerned with the history of north-central Greece.

His unexpected sickness and death prevented him from seeing the first volume of the Expedition's final publication, *The Great Isthmus Corridor Route: Exploration of the Phokis-Doris Expedition* (Dubuque 1991), dedicated by the editors to E.W. Kase, a friend and scholar.

G.J. Szemler
Loyola University, Chicago

AL. N. OIKONOMIDES

Aloysius N. Oikonomides died on February 1, 1991, in the city of his birth, Athens. At the time of his death, he was the owner of Ares Publishers, Inc. in Chicago and the executive editor of two scholarly journals, *The Ancient World* and *The Classical Bulletin*. Al (as he preferred to be called) began his academic career at the University of Athens under the guidance of Stephanos Koumanoudes. He served in the Greek Archaeological Service as assistant curator in the museums of the Acropolis, Epidauros, and Attica. He participated in a number of excavations and later continued his studies as a fellow of the Council of Europe in France and England, before coming to the U.S. His academic career was interrupted by the Greek Civil War. During the conflict, Al served as a captain in the king's cavalry. After the war he studied briefly in London and then continued his academic pursuits at the University of Chicago under the late Stewart I. Dost. He received his graduate degree from the Classics Department of Loyola University of Chicago under the tutelage of the late Fr. Raymond V. Schoder.

Al's accomplishments included field work at several ancient sites, most recently at Antibes (ancient Antipolis) in France, and the publication of many books and hundreds of articles. His books include *The Speeches of Hyperides* (1956), *Sounion* (1957), *Greek Epigraphy* (1960), *The Two Agoras in Ancient Athens* (1964), *Mithraic Art* (1975), and *The Coins of Alexander the Great* (1981). He was well respected in the field of Greek epigraphy, which eventually led him into the areas of numismatics and papyrology. At the time of his death, Prof. Oikonomides was preparing manuscripts on the epigraphical testimonia of Athens and a collection of Greek erotic graffiti. As his friend and colleague, I have taken over both of these projects, as well as the management of Ares Publishers and the editorship of the journals, and any inquiries regarding Prof. Oikonomides of Ares

Publishers should be directed to me at Ares.

Although Al was never reticent about expressing his opinions (regardless of the topic), he will be sorely missed by all of his friends and colleagues, who came to love and respect this unique scholar.

Martin C.J. Miller
Loyola University, Chicago

MORTON SMITH, 1915-1991

Morton Smith, Professor Emeritus of Ancient History at Columbia University, died on July 11, 1991, at his home in Manhattan. He was 76 years old. Smith was born on May 28, 1915, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He attended the Academy of the New Church in Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania and went on to receive a B.A. (1936) and an S.T.B. (1940) from Harvard University. After study and research in Jerusalem, he earned a Ph.D. in classical philology from Hebrew University (1948) and later, having studied under A.D. Nock, Werner Jaeger and Robert Pfeiffer, he received a Doctor of Theology from Harvard in 1957. He taught 1950-1951 at Brown University and at Drew 1956-1957, then joined the faculty at Columbia University and remained in the History Department as Professor of Ancient History to his retirement in 1987, after which he continued until his death as a special lecturer in Columbia's Department of Religion.

Smith's scholarly expertise was succinctly but completely described in the title of the festschrift dedicated to him on his 60th birthday in 1975: *Christianity, Judaism and Other Greco-Roman Cults*. His numerous publications display the range of his knowledge, from the *Ancient Greeks* (1960), to his idiosyncratic yet challenging and fresh *The Ancient History of Western Civilization* (with Elias Bickerman, 1976); from Judaism in *Palestinian Parties and Politics that Shaped the Old Testament* (1971; 1987), and hero cults in *Heroes and Gods* (with Moses Hadas, 1965; 1970) to early Christianity in *Clement of Alexandria and a Secret Gospel of Mark* (1973), its popular edition *The Secret Gospel* (1974, and the 1985 British edition's important "Postscript") and *Jesus the Magician* (1978). All these and his numerous articles and reviews display Smith's exacting scholarship, his knowledge of the ancient languages and the primary source materials of the time, and his ability to see beyond the gloss of orthodox and pseudorthodox interpretations to a new synthesis. Only the foolhardy among his professional detractors dared deny the brilliance and knowledge which went into each of his publications and lectures; Smith's wit could be devastatingly accurate. His life was consciously and completely devoted to his craft. At the time of his death he was planning a major study of St. Paul's life and career and, of course, he was continuing his collection of materials on magic in the Mediterranean world. That we will see neither of these works is a great loss to scholarship.

As a teacher Smith was as demanding of his students as he was of himself. He took his role as an advisor seriously and each paper or work given over to him was returned with meticulous notes and suggestions which showed how carefully he had read them. He viewed his job as being both a teacher and a guide, and he watched over the career of his students guardedly and without sentimentality and often, again, with humor—his depiction of a fully armed hoplite in his undergraduate survey of

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ancient history was legendary at Columbia and some of his less guarded comments could be scandalous. He was not afraid of criticizing; if you did not work at the level of your capability, you knew it. Yet this criticism was always directed at the performance, not at the individual. And if you showed progress and dedication, he congratulated you with guarded warmth. When there was a need, he defended against the less scrupulous of his colleagues. He was as honest in this role as he was in his scholarly, public garb.

All this was the public Morton Smith. As a friend, the private Morton brought all of these qualities and more to bear. In those rare times when he rested from his constant scholarly research activities, he was fond of good music and good food and showed himself to be a witty raconteur. He could talk of his own experiences and of his acquaintances for hours but was equally interested in hearing the same from his friends. He was supportive of their efforts and actively looked out for them. Above all, however, Morton paid his friends the ultimate respect by being honest, and he did not spare his friends when the choice was between friendship and his passion—his scholarship. Morton was very much his own man in his life and at his death, and this quality, his friendship, support, and generosity expressed without sentimentality are what I respected and will miss most.

Both the public and the private Morton Smith would no doubt be amused and perhaps embarrassed by all this orthodox interpretation; he would most probably wait for the pseudorthodox and iconoclasts to have their say and then pen his own delightfully devilish reply—one additional reason for regret at his leave taking.

AAH MEMBER INFORMATION FOR MAILING LIST

Check boxes that apply:

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* Only students, retired professors, and non-residents of the United States or Canada are eligible for Associate Membership (\$3 per year); all others pay the Regular full rate (\$5 per year).

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Send to return address on back page

I can think of only one memorial which would be suitable for Morton Smith. He consistently maintained that his works presented his own conclusions based on examination of all the known evidence about the given problem and he invited and awaited, often in vain, scholarly argumentation of the matter. Now that the man is gone, the time has come to re-examine the extensive corpus of his works and to debate his conclusions in a non-personal, scholarly manner. His friends, students, and many of his colleagues will sorely miss his presence.

Levon Avdoyan
Library of Congress

MAILING LIST INFORMATION

Your mailing label is printed from AAH's computerized database, and automatically includes your most recent year of paid-up dues. The list on disk is constantly updated, but it is printed out only three times a year, i.e., for each Newsletter mailing. Copies of our mailing list are sent to the editor of *AJAH* and to the organizers of annual meetings, and occasionally to others for bona fide scholarly purposes. These lists are up to date when they are sent (as of the most recent Newsletter), but by the time you receive mail from such persons the lists may be somewhat out of date (they may not show the correct year of your paid-up dues, for example). Do not be concerned unless something incorrect occurs in the label on a Newsletter or on a letter directly from me.

If you find a mistake in your address or in the spelling of your name, please send me a correction, using the AAH Member Information form on this page. Please realize that my computer program allows me a maximum of four lines in the address and limits the length of individual lines; do not "correct" an adequate address merely because it is abbreviated.

I try to keep costs down by recycling book mailers and avoiding all pro forma letter-writing. Thus no acknowledgement is sent when potential Newsletter items are received, although such items will indeed be included in the next Newsletter, if there is room and they have not become out of date. Nor are receipts sent for dues received: a receipt costs just as much to send as a Newsletter, cancelled checks will reach dues-payers anyway, and changes in current year paid are evident on subsequent Newsletter mailing labels.

I cannot process checks for Canadian dollars, or checks for U.S. dollars drawn on a Canadian bank, or some kinds of Canadian money orders, without being charged collection fees that generally exceed the value of the checks or money orders themselves. Fortunately, many Canadian banks have U.S. branches, and their money orders, bearing an "American Banking Association" number on their faces, can be deposited as if they were U.S. checks. Canadian Postal Money Orders can be cashed at U.S. Post Offices, but the "payee" line should include my name in addition to "AAH". Cash is acceptable, too.

A One-Time-Only Problem, I hope: My department's mailroom was ransacked by vandals during the night of June 28, 1991. If your dues check could have been in my mailbox at that time, and you have never received your cancelled check, and you see some discrepancy in the last year paid on your mailing label, please let me know, so we can straighten out our records.

Please let me know if you have a current address for any of the following AAH members: John C. Cooper, Gregory Dundas, Cynthia Patterson.

“OF MAKING MANY BOOKS THERE IS NO END...”

I am at a loss as to what I should do about the numerous books sent to me for review in the Newsletter. Readers of it know that it is usually only four pages long (six on rare occasions), and the rising costs of producing and mailing it — not to mention your unpaid editor's lack of time — make lengthening it unrealistic. In this format, I do well to publish one or two book reviews a year, and I sometimes find myself unintentionally renegeing on assurances to authors who have asked their publishers to send me a review copy. Obviously I have no right to treat unreviewed books as my own, but I am certainly not going to spend my own money to return them, and I see no justification for spending the Association's either. About a dozen of the books currently in my possession date from 1987 and 1988. I think it is already too late for reviewing these, even though they include such useful and interesting works as A.B. Bosworth's study of Alexander, *Conquest and Empire*, whose excellence I find myself consistently praising both in teaching and in print; Anton Powell's thoughtful and provocative *Athens and Sparta*, cross-referenced in my review of another book in Newsletter 49; and the equally interesting and provocative *Peasant-Citizen and Slave*, by Ellen Meiksins Wood. For these books, the few words here must serve as my “review”: it is just too late for more.

Of 1989 publications in my possession, I especially regret not having found time or space for reviews of two useful collections of articles, *Boiotika*, ed. by Hartmut Beister and John Buckler, and *Classics: A Discipline and Profession in Crisis?*,

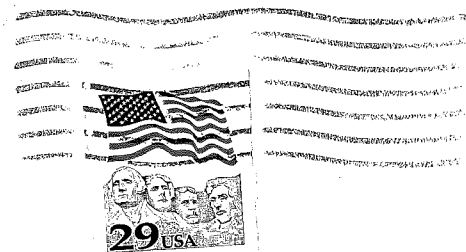
ed. by Phyllis Culham and Lowell Edmunds. But at least fifteen books published in 1990 and 1991 have already reached my desk, and soon the 1992 books will begin pouring in. Built-in obsolescence is a continuing process. Certainly I would like to publish reviews of Richard Mitchell's *Patricians and Plebeians*, Robert Littman's *Kinship and Politics in Athens 600-400 B.C.*, David Halperin's *One Hundred Years of Homosexuality*, Page duBois' *Torture and Truth*, Leonard Curchin's *Roman Spain*, Dorothy Watts' *Christians and Pagans in Roman Britain*, and others. But where am I to find the space?

A newsletter, it seems to me, must emphasize *news*, i.e., announcements of recent or future events that may be of interest and importance to its readership, or of opportunities available (prizes, fellowships, job openings), or of members' accomplishments (including their recent publications). Obituaries, although of the saddest kind, are also “news” and, as such, they too take precedence over book reviews. Even repetitious information that bores long-time members must be included for the benefit of new and potential ones — and to prevent my having to write dozens of individual explanatory letters to convey the same information to separate persons.

I welcome members' suggestions as to what I should do about the book-review backlog. I will *read* every suggestion sent, even if I do not find the time to *reply* to every comment. In the meantime, I plan to muddle on as before, squeezing in a review here and there when possible — hoping that publishers (and authors) understand that I cannot possibly get to many of the books received in a sufficiently timely fashion to warrant printing a review.

ASSOCIATION OF ANCIENT HISTORIANS

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1991
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