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University of Massachusetts Boston

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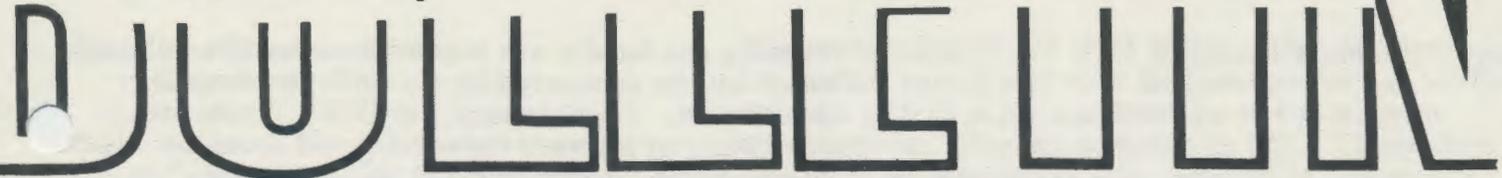
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University of Massachusetts at Boston



The Garrison Letters

Professor Louis Ruchames (History), who is the editor of The Letters of William Lloyd Garrison with Professor Walter Merrill of Drexel University, has produced a monumental scholarly service to historians with accurate texts of the abolitionist leader's letters, the annotations, and the biographical directory of the antislavery movement in the United States and Great Britain. Three reviews of the letters in the Journal of American History, the Journal of Southern History and the Journal of Negro History indicate that historians of the antislavery movement will benefit immeasurably from the analysis of the organizational crisis that afflicted the movement, the clarification of major issues in abolitionist history, and an acute identification of the "Who's Who" among other New England reformers. The reviewers hailed the Ruchames-Merrill project as superbly edited. Professor Ruchames is now at work on the fourth volume of the series which is published by the Belknap Press of Harvard University.

Problems of the Aging

Two UMass-Boston psychologists are advancing knowledge about the problems of the aging. Professor Paul T. Costa, Jr., delivered a paper on some of his preliminary findings from his research on the "Ego Strength in the Elderly" at the 25th annual meeting of The Gerontological Society. Professor Robert Kastenbaum, in a critique of population statistics in Gerontology at the same meeting, demonstrates that between six and eight times as many older people end their days in nursing homes than what the usual pronouncements in the field would have it. The implication is that all problems already identified with nursing homes--especially the lack of comprehensive care for terminally ill--are of a greater magnitude than previously believed.

Incidentally, Professor Kastenbaum is still the editor of Aging and Human Development. The Bulletin recently identified that chore in the past instead of present tense. He is also editor of Omega, the journal of death and dying.

College I Sociology Lectures

Students and faculty are invited to attend two colloquia which will be sponsored by the College I Sociology Department. On February 1 at 12:30, Professor Gary Marx of Harvard University will speak on "Agents, Provocateurs, Informants and Social Violence" in Room 615 in the Main Building.

On March 1st at 12:30, Professor Everett Hughes of Boston College, one of the most respected sociologists in the nation, will speak on "Colonies, Colonization and Colonialism."

Alternatives to the Property Tax

Professor Raymond Torto (Economics) and Professor Elliot Sclar of Brandeis University are heading up the Massachusetts Public Finance Project, financed by the Office of Economic Opportunity, which is doing research on the interaction of increasing property taxes and deteriorating municipal services. Why and how this happens and what are the viable alternatives are the subject of the Torto-Sclar research.

The Project will be looking into various questions on how the state and local system of taxes and services affect low-income communities. These include: how the tax burden is distributed in the state and within low-income communities; how services are distributed; how the availability of jobs and housing are affected by the system of taxes and services; and how various tax reform proposals will affect low-income communities.

The information collected on these questions will be made available to the Community Action Agencies and other community organizations throughout Massachusetts in forms usable by people doing community education and organizing work. In addition, the Project staff will provide research assistance and analysis on specific (local) tax and service situations to groups that are working on these issues.

The South End Chamber Series

The South End Chamber Series, sponsored by faculty and alumni of UMass-Boston to help supply endowment funds for the Year of Study in France, will begin its 1973 season on Friday, January 26 and Sunday, January 28 with Professor John MacCombie (French) and Marie Partamian who will present the initial concert. Pianist MacCombie is a former piano student of Nadine Desouches in Paris has given many recitals in the New England area. Mezzo-Soprano Partamian has recently given concerts in Boston and New York and is a student in the opera department at the Boston Conservatory of Music. They will perform works of Chopin and MacCombie.

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The South End Chamber Series
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The performances are at 74 Waltham Street, Boston. The entire series will have fourteen performances on Fridays at 8:15 p.m. and Sundays at 4 p.m. with other artists. The subscription is \$20. The student subscription donation is \$10. Support of this enterprise is encouraged.

National Conferences

The Departments of Anthropology in Colleges I and II have been invited to be co-hosts with the Department of Anthropology, Boston University, of the annual meetings of the Society for Applied Anthropology, to be held in Boston in April 1974. Co-chairpersons for arrangements are Alan Harwood, Department of Anthropology, College I, and Reza Fazel, Department of Anthropology, College II.

Managua Communicators

Paul MacDonald, a freshman at UMass-Boston, would not consider himself a hero. But in our book he is. Over the Christmas holidays when the earthquake ripped the heart of Managua, when communications to the outside world were strangled, and when immediate responses to the disaster were desperately needed, people like MacDonald answered the call. He is a Ham radio operator and with his friend Chip Cohen, a senior at Milton High, mercy messages from the outside world were relayed by them to the ravaged city. They expedited supply shipments, brought relief to relatives who were able to learn about their loved ones, and demonstrated that in quiet ways heroism is still a reality in modern life.

Child Care Center

The University's Child Care Center will open on February 5. Full-time and part-time places are available, and applications for children between the ages of 2 years, 9 months and 5 years are being accepted. A sliding scale fee is based on family need.

Contact Sara Kelley, Director, at the 3rd floor of the Y.W.C.A., 140 Clarendon St., or by calling 536-7940, X89.

In addition to Director Kelley, the staff includes Susan Twombly, teacher, and ACTION staff members, Susan Dunleavy, Pat Girardin, and Susan Sharff.

Search Committee

Professor Thomas Brown (History) Chairman of the Chancellor Search Committee invites the UMass-Boston community to a reception for and an informal presentation by Dr. Ernest A. Lynton, Dean of Livingston College, Rutgers University, on Tuesday, January 30, at 4:30 p.m. in the Faculty Club. Candidate Lynton has his Ph.D. in Physics from Yale University, 1951. His bachelor and master's degrees are from the Carnegie Institute of Technology.

A Papal Encyclical

Professor Gordon Zahn (Sociology) is quoted in the Christmas issue of TIME commenting on a disclosure in the 12/15/72 issue of National Catholic Reporter that an unpublished encyclical of Pope Pius XI on anti semitism "would have broken the much criticized Vatican silence on the persecution of the Jews in Europe before and during World War II. Zahn, author of German Catholics and Hitler's Wars, wrote a full page commentary in the NCR, concluding that "All we know for certain is that this encyclical represents an opportunity missed. Let us hope that can now be converted into a lesson learned."

New Realities and New Directions: The University of Massachusetts, 1973

President Robert C. Wood at a January 18 press conference said: "Massachusetts needs to pioneer in new forms of teaching and learning, and new ways to link knowledge, planning, and public action. It needs to renew sources of scholarly strength overlooked in this decade of rapid growth and development. It needs to bring together the efforts of private and public institutions of higher learning and to find new resources for their improvement. And it must proceed on these tasks in the new context of the 1970's, a less expansive, more skeptical time for education.

"In response to these needs and within this context, I should like to outline what I see as the University's present status and its major directions for the next five years in the key areas of enrollment, program, planning, and management. I do so with particular awareness of four special priorities:

"--keeping our commitments and obligations to coming generations of students graduating from the secondary schools of this state;

"--matching our educational program and investment to the evolving needs of the Commonwealth;

"--renewing the sense of community within the University; and assuring fair play for all its members; and

"--assuring continued effective non-political management of the state's complex educational enterprises."

"Our building program could be adjusted to provide for an enrollment of 12,500 students while keeping open an option for further growth in future years, and without jeopardizing the high quality of educational programs which was the clear intent of the legislature in initiating the University's Boston campus.

"I therefore propose with the support of the Board of Trustees to limit construction at Columbia Point to that required for a campus of 12,500 students. I intend to make certain that this campus is planned to be as flexible as possible to provide for future program changes."