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# University of Massachusetts at Boston

Volume 10, No. 19

January 18, 1977

## The Art of Reviewing

If one were to count the days and the ways of English Professor Shaun O'Connell's reviews of books in the Boston Globe, you might come up with a book called The Elements of Style. But, of course, that is the name of a little book by E. B. White, a sage from Maine who toiled for decades writing translucent testimony about the fun and foibles of the Big Apple for his New Yorker readers.

There is a matchup here, because O'Connell was the Globe reviewer of Letters of E. B. White, FFI, collected and edited by Dorothy Lobrano. "We all owe him," writes O'Connell, "one long blast on the valve trumpet..." in his fealty to the man who wrote the "clearest guide to proper prose."

The only thing amiss about O'Connell's review was that it was neither long enough nor expansive enough --due, no doubt, to the editorial restrictions that may have been placed upon him.

In the same January 9 issue of the newspaper published at Morrissey Boulevard, Prof. O'Connell reviewed two new books on Ireland. One is a New History of Ireland: Early Modern Age, 1534-1691 Vol. III), edited by T.W. Moody, F.X. Martin, and F.J. Byrne, a tome of 736 pages. The other is a bright and breezy 189-page effort by Fordham University Professor Edward Wakin, Enter The Irish-American.

O'Connell asks prospective readers to consider that the history of Early Modern Ireland deals with the loss of power by the Irish to the English and Wakin's book tells another story, the regaining of power through emigration to America between the days of the Potato Famine and World War I.

"I can hardly suggest the richness of this experience or do more than hint at the various virtues of each of the books at hand," he says in his brief review. "However, I urge you to read both."

## Marxist Study of Freud Now Available in English

A major Marxist study of Freud's Psychoanalytical doctrine has been made available for the first time to non-Russian speaking readers. V.N. Volosinov's Freudianism: A Marxist Critique has been translated into English by Irwin R. Titunik of the University of Michigan and edited in collaboration with Neal H. Bruss of UMass-Boston. Since its original publication in 1927, few copies have been available in Russia, and none (either in Russian or English) in the United States until now.

Volosinov vanished sometime after 1934, presumably in the Russian purges, and today his fate is either unknown or not being made public. There is additional controversy about this volume--Soviet philologist V.V. Ivanov claimed in 1973 that all of Volosinov's key writings were in fact the work of M.M. Baxtin, a Soviet intellectual.

## Characteristics of Freshmen: A National Study

The January 10 issue of The Chronicle of Higher Education published the results of a survey of more than 215,000 men and women who entered Freshman classes this Fall. The survey was made by the Cooperative Institutional Research Program of the Graduate School of Education at UCLA and was sponsored by the American Council on Education.

In response to the question about their probable major field of study, the survey revealed:

Agriculture (incl. forestry) .....	3.6%
Biological sciences .....	6.2%
Business .....	20.9%
Education .....	9.3%
Engineering .....	8.5%
English .....	1.0%
Health professions .....	6.9%
History, political science .....	3.1%
Humanities (other) .....	2.2%
Fine arts .....	6.1%
Mathematics and statistics .....	1.0%
Physical sciences .....	2.7%
Social sciences .....	5.6%
Other technical fields .....	7.5%
Other non-technical fields .....	10.7%
Undecided .....	4.7%

Their probable career occupation response was:

Artist (incl. performer) .....	6.8%
Businessman .....	16.4%
Clergy or religious worker .....	0.6%
Doctor (M.D. or D.D.S.) .....	4.8%
Educator (college teacher) .....	0.4%
Educator (secondary) .....	3.7%

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Characteristics of Freshmen:  
A National Study  
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Educator (elementary) .....	4.3%
Engineer .....	7.8%
Farmer or forester .....	3.0%
Health professional (non-M.D.) .....	7.3%
Lawyer .....	4.3%
Nurse .....	4.6%
Research scientist .....	2.4%
Other occupation .....	23.3%
Undecided .....	10.3%

Their reasons noted as very important in deciding to go to college were:

Relatives' wishes .....	29.3%
Could not find job .....	5.7%
Wanted to get away from home .....	9.1%
Able to get a better job .....	71.0%
Gain general education .....	64.0%
Improve reading-study skills .....	35.1%
Nothing better to do .....	2.6%
Become a more cultured person .....	32.8%
Able to make more money .....	53.8%
Learn more about things .....	72.9%
Meet new and interesting people .....	53.3%
Prepare for graduate school .....	43.9%

Aquinas Lecture

The Campus Ministry will sponsor its annual Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas Faculty Luncheon-lecture January 28 with guest speaker Rev. John Padberg, President of Weston School of Theology.

Fr. Padberg, before taking his present position in Cambridge, was the Executive Vice-President of St. Louis University. He is the author of *College in Controversy* published by Harvard University Press.

If you plan to attend the luncheon, please inform the Campus Ministry Office by January 24.

Luncheon will begin at 12:30 in the Building 020 Faculty Dining Room.

Snow

Advance and be recognized ye members of the Physical Plant, Auxiliary Services, Security, and Administration and Finance staffs who faced the slanting spears of snow, rain and sleet on January 7, January 8, January 9, and January 10.

Our ear muffs are doffed in your behalf. What more can be said: You did a beautiful job.

## Extended Day Program

Starting January 24th, approximately 750 FTE students will be attending classes during the late afternoon and evening at the Harbor Campus in the College of Liberal Arts and the College of Professional Studies. To make this experience as pleasant and rewarding as possible, the office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs has made the following arrangements:

All classes will be held in Building 020 where students and faculty will also have access to the Office of Academic Support Services/Advising and the Extended Day Office (located next to the Lounge). Other facilities also open during evening hours in Building 020 are as follows:

- Athletics facilities
- INFO Center
- Cafeteria (snack service in Building 020; full cafeteria in Administration Building)
- Health Services (a nurse will be available in the Academic Support area)

Other services available during evening hours:

- Library: will be open until 9:00 p.m.
- Registrar
- Cafeteria (Administration Building)
- Bookstore

For any problems or questions that may come up during the evening hours, please contact the appropriate offices or Ms. Malissa Roberts, Coordinator of Extended Day. Her office is located in the Academic Support Services area in Bldg. 020; Ext. 2180. Please keep her informed of any developments, and call on her for assistance. With your cooperation and feedback, a solid beginning towards a viable and lively evening schedule will be made.

## Optional Life Insurance

You are reminded by the Personnel Office that the limited period to enrollment for additional amounts of "Optional Life Insurance" for eligible employees runs out on February 18th.

Please refer to the letter and flyer sent to you last week by David Edmonds for complete details about the life insurance program. If you have any questions, call Patricia Rochette, Ext. 2270, at the Personnel Office.