PERSONALLY SPEAKING

For the historian, it is always encouraging to find someone from another discipline who acknowledges the importance of thinking in historical terms. The distinguished English geneticist J. B. S. Haldane acknowledged just that in concluding his book *Heredity and Politics*, published on the eve of the Second World War. Wrote Haldane:

If we hope to be successful in any political or social endeavour, there are two prerequisites besides good will. We must examine the system with which we have to deal, and we must examine ourselves. We must find out what we take for granted in the field of social science, and then ask ourselves why we take it for granted, a much more difficult question. We must remember that the investigator, whether a biologist, an economist, or a sociologist, is himself a part of history, and that if he ever forgets that he is a part of history he will deceive himself.

Haldane's splendid statement may well serve as an inspiration for historians to keep up their good work. Haldane's words do not imply, however, that historians themselves are necessarily exempt from self-deception. Little more than a decade ago, historians in this country, like most other academics in the liberal arts, gave little thought to the possibility that continued university growth, bountiful career opportunities, and burgeoning student enrollments might not always be the normal state of affairs. The last decade, needless to say, has led to a reevaluation of the situation. While it is natural to lament the change in circumstances, it is necessary at the same time to respond creatively to the new environment. Without reviewing in detail this department's response to date or prospects for the future, we can at least make one optimistic observation. The ability of a group to adapt successfully to changing conditions is generally a function of the vigor and diversity of the group's members. If the Department of History at the University of Illinois still has decisions to make about its course over the next several years, it is at least clear that the individual members of this department during the past year have displayed considerable creative energy in a wide variety of ways.

The scholarly record of the faculty over the past year is highlighted by William Widener's receipt of the Frederick Jackson Turner Award and the publication of books by Joseph Love and Clark Speno. Other faculty have books in press (Fredric Jaffé, Evan Melhado) or accepted for publication (Walter Arstein, Vernon Burton, Caroline Hilliard), and numerous important articles have been published in the last twelve months by department members. Joseph Love and Winton Solberg have received national grants to support their researches next year; C. Ernest Dawn will be a fellow of the Institute for Advanced Studies of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem; and Lloyd Eastman, Paul Schroeder, and Ronald Toby have been awarded research appointments at the University of Illinois Center for Advanced Study.

On the teaching side, the department, which enjoys a generally excellent reputation on campus for the quality of its instructional efforts, had the opportunity this year to present the first annual George S. and Gladys W. Queen Excellence in Teaching Award (to Paul Schroeder). Individual faculty members have also carried their pedagogical talents beyond the normal confines of local classrooms, teaching as far afield as Russia (J. Leonard Bates) and Japan (Winton Solberg) or offering their insights as lecturers or commentators in continuing education and public-service courses, on public education broadcasts, or at the University's annual Alumni College. Vari...

(Continued on page 2)

BURKHARDT NAMED TO HEAD DEPARTMENT

When Professor Bennett D. Hill announced his decision last fall to complete his period of service as department chairman on December 31, 1980, and to go on leave of absence thereafter, Richard W. Burkhart, associate chairman since August, was the logical person to take on the position of acting chairman. After the customary series of individual interviews with members of the department, Director Nina Baym of the School of Humanities and the department executive committee recommended a regular two-year appointment for Professor Burkhart effective this summer.

A native Bostonian who grew up in Indiana, Professor Burkhart returned to Harvard University for his A.B., A.M., and Ph.D. degrees. He has been a member of the University of Illinois faculty since 1972. Since 1976 he has served not only as associate professor of history but also as director of the University's program in the history and philosophy of science. Even with his new responsibilities in the Department of History, he remains codirector of the renamed Program on Science, Technology, and Society. His book, *The Spirit of System: Lamarck and Evolutionary Biology*, was published in 1977 by the Harvard University Press. He is also the editor of six articles, of which the most recent, "Lamarckism in Britain and the United States," was published in 1980 in Ernst Mayr and William B. Provine, eds., *The Evolutionary Synthesis* (Harvard University Press). In the course of the past year he also contributed a review to *Ibis*, and in April 1981 he spoke on "The Emergence of Ethology as a Scientific Disciplined" at the University of Minnesota. He has been asked to chair the Schuman Prize Committee of the History of Science Society and he has been named to the editorial board of the *Journal of the History of Biology*. He has also been named history of biology editor for Macmillan's forthcoming *Dictionary of the History of Science*. Professor Burkhart is married and the father of two sons. His wife Jane is currently a student in the UI College of Law.

WILLIAM C. WIDENER WINS PROMOTION AND TURNER PRIZE

William C. Widener's book, *Henry Cabot Lodge and the Search for an American Foreign Policy* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1980), has won him plaudits from reviewers in publications as disparate as the *Times Literary Supplement*, the *New Republic*, and the *Boston Globe*. In April 1980 it also won him the Organization of American Historians' Frederick Jackson Turner Award as the author of the best "first" book to be published in American history in the course of the year. More recently, the book gained him promotion to the rank of associate professor with tenure.

A native Pennsylvanian, Professor Widener received his A.B. degree from Princeton University before embarking upon an eight-year career in the American foreign service. Thereupon he returned to graduate school, and he joined the University of Illinois Department of History in 1975, the same year that the University of California at Berkeley conferred the Ph.D. degree. His courses in American foreign policy have led to his repeated naming as an "excellent teacher" in the surveys released by the Office of Instructional Resources and in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Senior Survey. At the same OAH meeting at which he received the Turner Award, he addressed a session on "The Role of Electoral Politics in Foreign Policy Formation." In the course of the past year, Professor Widener also spoke on American foreign policy under the auspices of the campus YMCA-YWCA Forum and at a Russian and East European Studies Center Roundtable devoted to "The Grain Embargo."
next three decades were spent at the State University of New York at Binghamton. His Ph.D. thesis, written under the direction of the late Professor Frederick Stanley Root, has been published under the title "The Growth of the Russian Revolver," but, as Dr. Queen wrote to Professor Bennett D. Hill last November, "I soon turned my energies to improving my little vegetable garden and undergraduate field trips." He will continue to live in the Clark-Lindsley apartment complex at 101 West Windsor Road, Urbana.

(Continued from page 1)

our faculty members have also been engaged in regular intellectual interactions with members of other departments. This includes the significant number of faculty who play important roles in University-wide studies committees. In addition to the programs and also those faculty members who were granted released time in order to broaden their expertise by studying in disciplines other than their own, we trust that the intellectual activities of the department will also find expression in the departmental colloquium series. This has been scheduled for next year. The colloquium will be held regularly on a Wednesday basis and will feature distinguished guest speakers as well as department faculty. Readers of this newsletter who would like to receive the colloquium schedule starting in 1972 may do so by requesting a copy from the department.

In closing, it is worth reiterating what previous chairmen of the department have often emphasized: the quality of this department is reflected not only in its present faculty and students and in the accomplishments of its graduates, but also in the accomplishments of those who have been associated with the department in the past. We would like very much to hear from graduand and past faculty and staff about their activities. Indeed, if the news is sufficiently exciting, this may entice Walter Aronsen, to whom the department is greatly indebted, to write us for the first time in the past several years, in the role of newsletter editor for a while longer. Richard C. Burkhart

ALUMNI GEORGE AND GLADYS QUENTIN EARN UNIVERSITY TEACHING AWARD

Dr. George Sherman Queen, who received his M.A. degree from the University of Illinois in 1953 and his Ph.D. degree from the University of California, Berkeley, and his wife, Gladys, who received her B.S. in Education degree here in 1951, have established an Excellence in University Teaching Award in honor of their alma mater. The award is open to full-time instructors who are employed in any of the University's schools and colleges. The prize of $1,000.00 is to be awarded annually to the most outstanding young instructor who has been teaching at least three years and who has demonstrated outstanding teaching ability and commitment to the University. The award was established in 1970 and is administered by the University's Office of Academic Services.

PROMOTIONS FOR RANSEL, HIBBARD, AND M. L. SPENCE

David L. Ransel, a member of the department for over 30 years, will receive a promotion to Associate Professor Emeritus. Ransel's research in the fields of Russian History, Soviet History, and the History of Modern Europe. He has published numerous articles and books on these subjects and is currently working on a book on the Russian Revolution. His contributions to the field of Russian History have been widely recognized, and he has been awarded several grants and fellowships for his research. Ransel's work has been influential in shaping the study of Russian History and has contributed significantly to our understanding of the political, social, and economic developments in Russia.

The Family of Imperial Russia, New Lines of Historical Research, 1881-1914 (Yale University Press, 1975) and editor of the

First QUEEN EWA AWARD TO PAUL SCHEIDER

The first George S. and Gladys W. Queen Educational Award for Teaching in History was given to Professor Paul W. Schiedler on the occasion of the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of the History of the Civil War in America at the Hotel Roamer in April 1981. The Queen Award is given to an instructor who has made outstanding contributions to the field of American History. The winner is selected by a committee of five faculty members from the University of Illinois. The award includes a cash prize of $1,000.00 and a plaque.

WALLAR LEAVES DEPARTMENT TO BECOME DEAN AT CLEMSON

One of the largest department gatherings of the year took place on Sunday, March 29, 1981, at the annual Grant, to pay tribute and to extend good wishes to Robert A. Walle and his wife, Jean, who were appointed Assistant Professor in the Department of History at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The Walle's appointment as Assistant Professor has been confirmed by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. He has been teaching at the University of Illinois since 1975, where he was a member of the History Department.

Walle was born in Chicago in 1952 and received his B.A. degree in History from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1974. He then pursued graduate work at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he earned his M.A. degree in History in 1977. In 1980, he received his Ph.D. degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he was a member of the History Department.

Walle's research interests include the history of the American West, particularly the history of the American Midwest. He has published several articles and book chapters on these topics, and his work has been widely cited by other historians. Walle is currently working on a book about the history of the American West, which is scheduled for publication in 1983.

Walle is married to Jean, and they have two children, Charles and Thomas. Walle enjoys playing golf and tennis in his free time. He is also a member of the American Historical Association and the Society for the History of the American West.

Walle is looking forward to his new position at the University of Illinois and to the challenges it will present. He is especially excited about the opportunity to continue his research and teaching in the field of American History, and he is eager to make contributions to the University's academic community.

One of the highlights of the Walle's career has been his involvement in the development of the History Department at the University of Illinois. He has served as a member of the faculty since 1975 and has been instrumental in shaping the department's curriculum and programs. Walle has also been actively involved in the History Department's national and international connections, and he has served on several committees tasked with overseeing the department's growth and development.

Walle is a native of Illinois and has been an active member of the University community since his undergraduate years. He received his B.A. degree in History from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1977. Walle has been an enthusiastic and dedicated member of the History Department since that time, and his contributions to the department have been widely recognized.

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The Secretarial Staff
In addition to providing secretarial clerical support to the department faculty in its threefold mission of teaching, research, and publication, the Department's secretarial staff is responsible for the following duties:

1. Answering and forwarding all incoming phone calls and mail to the department.
2. Preparing and distributing all departmental communications.
3. Maintaining all departmental records and files.
4. Assisting in the preparation of all departmental reports.
5. Assisting in the preparation of all departmental budgets.
6. Assisting in the preparation of all departmental grants.

The secretarial staff is responsible for the efficient operation of the Department and its continued growth and development.

The Secretarial Staff is composed of highly skilled and experienced professionals who are committed to providing the highest level of service to the department faculty.

Visitors to the Campus
The Department of History is located in the historic and beautiful campus of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The campus is a beautiful blend of traditional and contemporary architecture, with a variety of museums, libraries, and other cultural institutions.

The Department of History is committed to providing a welcoming and inclusive environment for all visitors. Visitors are encouraged to take advantage of the many cultural and educational opportunities available on campus.

The Department of History is proud to be a part of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, a top-ranked public university in the United States. The University is committed to providing a world-class education to its students, and the Department of History is proud to be a part of this tradition.

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to my surprise, I saw that she was at almost 1:00 in the morning in a Prefectural office on the second floor of the building next to the school. It is a whole different world, in a sense, from the Tang. Later, I discover that both he and another Tang literature student, Professor Peng, have only recently been allowed to return to China after two years of detention, during which time they had been "sent down" and forced to do manual labor in the southern provinces of China. It took more than a year of internment during the Cultural Revolution of the late 1960s and early 1970s. The Cultural Revolution and its destructive impact is a recurrent topic of conversation among the students and faculty members who travel through China during the next three months.

I was reading one of the books that Professor Xu, my English teacher, recommends. A Berenrooth's charcoal is the story of his life in China, which includes his life in Pipa, his education at Tsinghua University, and his experiences in China. He describes his life in China vividly, with great insight and sensitivity. His book is a must-read for anyone interested in Chinese history and culture.

As we continued our travels, we were struck by the beauty of the Chinese countryside, particularly the rural areas. We were amazed by the abundance of natural resources and the variety of crops grown. We visited several rural areas, including a small village near Beijing, where we saw fields of wheat, rice, and soybeans. We were also impressed by the local culture, which is rich in tradition and history. We visited several ancient sites, including the Great Wall of China, and witnessed the stunning views of the mountains and valleys.

One of the highlights of our trip was a visit to the Forbidden City in Beijing. It was a fascinating experience to witness the grandeur and splendor of the imperial palace, with its intricate architecture and beautiful gardens. We were also able to see some of the ancient treasures that have been preserved there for centuries. It was a reminder of the rich cultural heritage of China and the importance of preserving our heritage for future generations.

As we moved towards the end of our trip, we became more aware of the challenges facing China today. We were struck by the rapid pace of change and the economic growth that has transformed the country in recent years. At the same time, we were concerned about the environmental impact of this growth and the need for sustainable development.

In conclusion, our trip to China was a memorable experience that opened our eyes to the richness and diversity of Chinese culture. We were struck by the kindness of the Chinese people and the hospitality we received everywhere we went. We are grateful for the opportunity to have visited China and hope to return someday to continue our exploration of this fascinating country.

(Rats continued)

(Brown continued)

(Brown continued)
October 1980, he was elected to a two-year term as president of the Midwestern Conference on British Studies. He remains a member of the Chicago Humanities Committee.

With her weekly column on the history of Illinois in the Sunday issue of the Chicago Sun-Times and a monthly column, "The History Corner," in Illinois State Journal, Miss Klein has been able to make the history of Illinois accessible to a wide audience. She has also given a number of talks and presentations to local historical societies as part of the educational component of her work.

She has received two Fulbright Awards for her work in this area, one in 1978 for research on the history of Illinois and another in 1981 for research on the history of Illinois. She has also received the Distinguished Service Award from the Illinois History Center and the Illinois Historical Society.

Her column is syndicated and appears in newspapers throughout the state and beyond. She has been recognized for her contributions to the field of Illinois history and has received numerous awards and honors for her work.

In addition to her work as a historian and writer, Miss Klein is also an active member of the Illinois Historical Society and the Illinois State Historical Society. She has served on the boards of several cultural organizations in Chicago, including the Chicago Historical Society and the Illinois State Historical Society.
ALUMNI NEWS

Robert R. Baetz, professor of history emeritus at Wurtsac Michigan University (Hillsdale), continues to take an active interest in events sponsored by his department and to puzzle over the failure of the 1979/80 decade in economics to learn from past history.

1981
Fred Kellum Hendrickson, professor of history emeritus at Trinity College (San Antonio, Texas), has completed the manuscript of a biography of southwestern Texas Methodist Hospital.

1935
Sidney N. Fisher, professor of history emeritus at the Ohio State University, has published a biography of Robert Denniston, a noted Ohio poet.

1981
Sadly, he has also travelled to France, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Yugoslavia, and Greece.

1937
John Kenton, professor of history emeritus at Arizona State University, is the author of "The Founding of the Salt River Waters User's Association" in the January 1978 issue of Journal of the West. He has also been awarded the Phi Eta Sigma Distinguished Service Award.

1939
T. A. Larkin, professor of history emeritus at the University of Wyoming, has been elected to the Ward Wellman State House of Representatives. He is a member of the Appropriations Committee.

1939
Joseph B. James, who retired in 1980 as Callaway Professor of History and Political Science at Wesleyan College (Macon, Georgia), has been named a trustee of the Callaway Foundation.

1939
Robert O. Dumas, distinguished professor emeritus at the University of Arkansas, has been elected to the Phi Beta Kappa Society and received the annual Distinguished Alumnus Award for the University of Arkansas.

In the 1980s and 1990s, the University of Illinois continued to be a center of excellence in the humanities, sciences, and social sciences. The Alumni News section highlights the achievements and contributions of its past students, including those who have made significant contributions to history, economics, and other fields. The coverage includes important milestones and events in the life of the university, as well as the contributions of its alumni. The section provides a glimpse into the rich history and diverse activities of the University of Illinois, emphasizing the role of its alumni in shaping the future.
has been accepted for publication by the University of Illinois Press, and an article has been accepted by the *Journal of Psychohistory*.

1979

Jeffrey P. Brown’s appointment as visiting assistant professor of history at the University of Northern Iowa (1980-81) has been renewed for a second year. His article, “Samuel Huntington: A Connecticut Aristocrat on the Ohio Frontier,” appeared in the Autumn 1980 issue of *Ohio History*. In April 1981 he spoke to the Great Lakes History Conference on “Anti-War Sentiment in Ohio, 1812-1815.”

Randall E. McGowan is the coauthor of “The Mid-Victorians and the Two-Party System” in *Albion* 11 (Fall 1979). He spent the 1980-81 year as a participant in an NEH Seminar at Brown University devoted to modern American and European social history. In the course of the year, he presented papers to Peter Hay’s seminar at Yale University and to the OAH convention in Detroit in April 1981. In May 1981 he chaired a session on Victorian crime at the annual conference of the Midwest Victorian Studies Association in Chicago. He has been appointed by Middlebury College (Vermont) as visiting assistant professor of history for 1981-82.

Robert J. Rice is beginning a third year as assistant professor of history at Trinity Christian College (Palos Heights, Illinois). He teaches introductory and advanced courses in British and in continental European history. He and his wife Gall have also become “dorm parents” of a residence hall for female students.

### STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

During 1980-81 the Epsilon Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta once again sponsored its annual spring banquet, this year choosing the Patio Room of the Ramada Inn for its location. The guest speaker, Professor Evreux of German Henri Stegemeyer, entertained those present with a colorful talk and slide show on the evolution of German culture (religious, economic, and social) since the Middle Ages as reflected in the tradition of handwrought tavern signs—each proving to be a work of art in itself.

In the course of the year, the Epsilon Chapter initiated twenty-eight new members and once again sponsored a profitable book sale. The organizer was the treasurer, Kevin Kropp. Three members of the chapter—Rodney Bohac, Patrick Lavey, and Kevin Kropp—presented papers at the regional Phi Alpha Theta Conference held in April on the Mundelein College campus (Chicago). They spoke respectively on “Historical Research in the USSR; Using Soviet Archives to Study the Nineteenth Century Russian Peasantry”; “Major Roman Catholic Periodicals and the Issue of Social Justice, 1900-1914”; and “The Lincoln-Douglas Debates of 1858.”

The Epsilon chapter plans to organize a departmental picnic in the fall of 1981. The 1981-82 president will be Larry Thornton.

The History Graduate Student Association (HGSA) continued to advise new students and to recommend student members to department committees. Edward Carroll served as president during 1980-81. Alesia Maltz has been elected his successor for 1981-82.

During 1980-81, the British History Association sponsored a number of evening programs; a majority of them were combined with dinners in private homes. During the fall the organization sponsored a reception for Anthony Fletcher of the University of Sheffield (England), who gave a talk on campus on the English Civil War. It also heard Jack Stillinger of the University Department of English on the surviving versions of John Stuart Mill’s autobiography and Jerrold Ziff of the University Department of Art History on “From the Royal Academy to the Victoria and Albert: Remarks on Galleries, Artists, and Museums.” During the spring Susan Westbury, a History Department graduate student on the verge of completing her Ph.D., spoke on British involvement in the eighteenth century slave trade; and Professor Albert A. Hayden of Wittenberg University (Ohio) spoke on “British Studies from the Editor’s Point of View.” Association prime minister, James W. Perry III, was assisted by Lawrence Iles, Kevin Kropp, and Wendy Hamand. The 1981-82 officers are Scott Myerly (prime minister), Lawrence Iles, Kevin Kropp, Wendy Hamand, and Shamsul Huda.

### STUDENT AWARDS

At the 1981 Department of History banquet, the Michael Scher Award for the most original undergraduate paper or project went to Dean Gramlich. The Martha Belle Barrett Prize for the highest grade-point average in history for graduating seniors was shared by Douglas Godfrey, Paul Kramer, and Patrick Ruberry. The Martha Belle Barrett Prize for the outstanding senior honors thesis was won by Sandra Altschuler. The Frederick S. Rodkey Prize for the outstanding graduate student in Russian history went to Helen S. Hundley, and the Laurence Marcellus Larson Prize for the best graduate student in English or Medieval history was awarded to Ellen Kittell. Michael Perlowski and Richard Spall shared the Joseph Ward Swain Prize for the best term paper written by a graduate student.

In the course of the year, the following department graduate teaching assistants were named on the campus List of Excellent Teachers (based on student questionnaires): Wendy Hamand, Kevin Kropp, Richard Spall, and Thomas Taylor.

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**Department of History**  
**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**  
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**Urbana, Illinois 61801**

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